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## Reader Participation in Book Acquisition: A Comparative Analysis of Domestic and International Practices (Post-Print Edition)

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### Abstract

[Purpose/Significance] This study conducts a comparative analysis of the differences exhibited in domestic and international practices of reader participation in collection development, providing references for improving domestic models of reader-driven acquisition. [Method/Process] First, it analyzes the general state of research and practice on domestic reader participation in collection development. It then examines international models of reader participation in collection development through DDA projects that synchronize electronic and print books, as well as interlibrary loan ILL DDA projects. A detailed comparative analysis of the similarities and differences between domestic and international reader participation in collection development is conducted from the perspectives of workflow and efficiency, online reader recommendation methods, recommendation knowledge bases, offline models of reader participation in collection development, and the proportion of recommendation budgets. [Results/Conclusion] Domestic initiatives have actively explored reader participation in collection development with diverse recommendation methods and complete functional modules. Further improvements are still needed in integrating workflows, enhancing recommendation efficiency, combining online and offline approaches, improving recommendation knowledge bases, implementing intelligent book information push services, perfecting recommendation service rules, and establishing incentive measures.

### Full Text

## A Comparative Analysis of Domestic and Foreign Practices in Patron-Driven Book Acquisition

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**Abstract**

**[Purpose/Significance]** This paper compares and analyzes the differences between domestic and foreign practices in patron participation in acquisitions, providing references for improving patron-driven acquisition models in China. **[Method/Process]** The study first examines the domestic research and practice landscape of patron participation in acquisitions. It then analyzes foreign models through synchronous digital-print DDA projects and interlibrary loan ILL-DDA projects. A detailed comparative analysis is conducted across multiple dimensions: workflow and efficiency of patron participation, online recommendation methods, recommendation knowledge bases, offline modes of patron participation, and the proportion of acquisition funds allocated to recommendations. **[Result/Conclusion]** China has actively explored patron participation in acquisitions with diverse recommendation methods and comprehensive functional modules. However, further improvements are needed in integrating workflows, enhancing recommendation efficiency, combining online and offline approaches, improving recommendation knowledge bases, implementing intelligent book information 推送, refining recommendation service rules, and establishing incentive mechanisms.

**Keywords:** patron participation in acquisitions; demand-driven acquisitions; DDA; patron recommendation

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Libraries have long faced the challenge of low usage rates for monographs. To meet readers' personalized and specialized reading needs and fully embody the principles of demand-driven supply and user-centered thinking, libraries, publishers, and book vendors in Europe and the United States jointly launched "Demand-Driven Acquisitions" (DDA) programs. Chinese libraries have also introduced various patron participation methods, including online recommendations, book recommendation systems, WeChat recommendations, microblog recommendations, mobile app recommendations, and on-site book fair selections, making collection development as reader-centered as possible. Traditional acquisitions follow a "just-in-case" model. Research and practice in China over the past several years indicate that 50% of purchased books are used only once every ten years on average [1]. A survey conducted at Drake University Library abroad found that 66% of books acquired through traditional approval plans remain unused [2]. Usage surveys of monographs at Wake Forest University and Cornell University revealed that approximately half of their collections never circulate. These findings have led to questions about whether librarian-intuitive purchasing wastes labor and financial resources. Foreign "demand-driven acquisitions," also known as "patron-driven acquisitions" (PDA), represent a "just-in-time"

model that delegates part of the purchasing authority to readers. Libraries or book vendors provide predetermined book ranges or catalogs, allowing readers to participate in book selection.

## 1. Research Status of Patron-Driven Acquisitions

Libraries in the United States and other countries pioneered research on patron-driven acquisitions, conducting project implementations and data analyses. Numerous DDA pilot projects exist in foreign libraries, with most U.S. libraries having implemented DDA programs. DDA practices encompass not only e-books and print books but also journals, patents, and CDs. In 2011, Zhang Jia and Hu Xiaojing first introduced the concept of patron-driven library collection acquisition in China [1]. Since then, domestic scholars have begun researching patron-driven acquisitions, with some libraries and vendors conducting small-scale trials. However, these efforts have not truly achieved the patron-driven acquisitions implemented abroad. Due to a lack of understanding of DDA's essence, most practices have remained superficial. This paper selects libraries in Europe and America for comparative analysis with Chinese libraries, first introducing the domestic landscape of patron participation in acquisitions, then examining foreign DDA research and practice to identify gaps and commendable aspects in China's current practices, providing lessons for further research.

## 2. Overview of Domestic Research and Practice in Patron-Driven Acquisitions

China has not yet fully implemented true DDA projects. Domestic patron participation primarily takes the form of reader recommendations. Some libraries have integrated patron recommendation for print books with traditional borrowing workflows, such as the “You Choose, We Buy” services at Guangzhou Sport University and Jiangxi Modern Polytechnic College Library [3]. The implementation process involves vendors providing bibliographic information for library screening, then exhibiting books at the library for on-site selection. After processing, the library notifies readers to collect their books. Domestic researchers have compared patron recommendations with traditional acquisitions from perspectives such as disciplinary distribution, circulation frequency, and borrowing rates, finding that recommended books demonstrate higher circulation and usage. Foshan Library established a “New Book Borrowing Section” to provide acquisition services [4]. Book suppliers conduct new book exhibitions in library reading rooms according to library requirements, with borrowed books purchased directly by the library. Unborrowed books are returned to suppliers after a three-month period. After two years of pilot operation, Foshan Library achieved a 90% borrowing rate for newly purchased books. To control expenditures, each registered reader is limited to borrowing one book within a specified timeframe. The time gap between demand and purchase is minimized, with borrowed books entering circulation after rapid barcode processing, followed by cataloging after return—three months faster than traditional acquisitions. The

new book borrowing rate reached 100%, with 25% of books borrowed more than twice. Zhejiang Construction Vocational and Technical College Library piloted a print book DDA program, importing screened and deduplicated titles into the OPAC system. Readers selected books through a “New Book Subscription” window, and acquisition librarians compiled orders for vendors [5]. The study found that patron-driven acquisitions could improve collection structure, increase resource utilization, and reduce expenditures. Some Chinese university libraries have adopted reader association participation models. For example, Liaoning University of Science and Technology Library trains its reader association in acquisition knowledge, holds regular meetings, and entrusts the association with secondary screening of acquisition data, encouraging readers to provide professional book information.

Leveraging internet convenience, Chinese libraries have adopted online patron recommendation services, cooperating with publishers or online bookstores to provide bibliographic information. Readers can fill out recommendation forms online and receive feedback on processing results. For instance, Sun Yat-sen University and Tsinghua University Library cooperate with Beijing Ren Tian and Wan Sheng Bookstore [6]. Additionally, Nanjing University and Wuhan University Library classify and reveal publisher-provided book information, linking to online reviews from Douban and microblogs to facilitate readers’ evaluation and information sharing. After review, acquisition librarians process orders and the system automatically feeds back ordering, arrival, and shelving status. Upon arrival, librarians notify readers via email [7]. However, most Chinese libraries have not prioritized workflow processing for patron participation. The recommendation process also requires reader feedback mechanisms. Shaoxing Library developed a WeChat book acquisition system called “Good Books Recommended Daily,” pushing over ten books daily for reader recommendations [8]. Shenzhen Polytechnic Library created a green channel for patron-driven acquisitions using microblogs and micro-reviews [9]. The library allocates special funds annually for urgently needed books that cannot be immediately satisfied, allowing readers to purchase books directly from bookstores for rapid circulation.

Some Chinese libraries have also implemented patron recommendation services based on hybrid cloud platforms, such as Yiyue Tong, Tiantian Network, Changxiang Star, and Yuntai Purchase. Zhejiang Xinhua Bookstore, Nanjing Library, and Anhui University Library use the “Yuntai Purchase” service platform, which achieves seamless integration across web, WeChat, and mobile apps, enabling unified operations among vendors, libraries, and readers. The platform offers 10% free trial reading for e-books, allowing recommendations through multiple terminals. Faculty can select books based on automatically discipline-distributed data. Both “Yuntai Purchase” and “Tiantian Network” allow readers to purchase books directly from bookstores, return them to the library after reading, and then have the library conduct cataloging. Inner Mongolia Library cooperated with physical bookstores to launch the “Colorful Cloud Service” model, integrating borrowing, acquisition, and collection.

Bookstores complete processing such as barcoding, labeling, and security magnet insertion, uploading data to the library catalog database to complete cataloging. Readers return books to the library after reading. The “Colorful Cloud Service” practice shows that breaking down barriers among readers, bookstores, and libraries significantly increases patron numbers and library visitation rates [10].

### **3. Overview of Foreign Research and Practice in Patron-Driven Acquisitions**

#### **3.1 Synchronous Digital-Print DDA Projects**

Many foreign libraries integrate e-book and print book DDA projects synchronously. In 2011, Drake University’s Cowles Library collaborated with book vendor Ingram Coutts on a synchronized print-electronic DDA project [2]. The project provided expedited ordering services. When readers submitted recommendations after logging in, the system automatically sent book and reader information to acquisition librarians. The library invited faculty from various disciplines to screen bibliographic information in the DDA profile. They encouraged readers to prioritize e-books over print books. If the e-book price exceeded the print version by more than 130%, the system automatically loaded print book records. Readers filled out forms to send acquisition requests to librarians, indicating whether expedited service was needed. Librarians accepted or rejected requests, and notified recommending readers via email when print books were processed and available. The University of Dublin collaborated with Ingram Coutts in 2013 to launch a DDA project. Vendors obtained supply qualifications through bidding, with the project implemented and managed by the collection services department [11]. Although e-book DDA is popular abroad and e-book usage is encouraged, some disciplines, such as art history and architecture at the University of Dublin, prefer print books because images in e-books may be subject to third-party copyright restrictions.

#### **3.2 Print Book Interlibrary Loan DDA Projects**

ILL (Interlibrary Loans) DDA converts interlibrary loan requests into direct DDA purchases rather than borrowing from elsewhere. The University of North Texas piloted an ILL-DDA project in 2012. When print books could not be obtained through interlibrary loan, the system first checked if e-books could meet the need. If not, and if the request complied with collection development policies, print books were purchased through vendor YBP’s GOBI [12]. All workflows (requests, acquisitions, and notifications) were managed through the ILLiad interlibrary loan system. Newly published print books are generally unavailable through interlibrary loan, and ILL-DDA fills this gap. Colorado State University and the University of Denver collaborated with vendor YBP in 2016 to establish a print book DDA project. If interlibrary loan requests could not be fulfilled within three working days, they were converted to DDA

recommendations. Readers could choose standard delivery (two-week cycle) or expedited purchase from Amazon (4-5 day cycle) [13].

## 4. Comparison of Domestic and Foreign Practices in Patron-Driven Acquisitions

### 4.1 Comparison of Workflow and Efficiency

**4.1.1 Workflow of Patron Participation in Acquisitions** Foreign research suggests that DDA projects impact library acquisition workflows, as each request requires manual review and significant staff time. As Ireland's largest university, University College Dublin assigns 23 librarians to manage its DDA project, supporting all disciplines and serving 25,000 student readers [11]. The reader services department processes requests daily and prioritizes cataloging for DDA print books. Six faculty liaison librarians support teaching and connect with students, professors, and scholars. Foreign libraries maintain efficient acquisition workflows. For example, the University of Arizona Library integrates digital and print DDA projects, embedding reader information in MARC fields to facilitate system messaging and logistics tracking. Ordered books are placed on dedicated shelves for reader pickup within seven days [14]. The integrated workflow for e-books and print books encourages readers to prioritize cost-effective, convenient e-books. Foreign libraries also have efficient workflows for ILL-DDA projects, using interlibrary loan systems to manage recommendation requests, expedited orders, and notifications. From platform to logistics to shelves, foreign libraries demonstrate high centralization and specialization throughout the process. Only Shanghai Jiao Tong University Library in China has collaboratively planned workflows for patron participation, where subject librarians first review requests before forwarding them to acquisition librarians [15]. However, most Chinese libraries currently lack efficient processing workflows. Most books are purchased from contracted vendors, requiring 42 days from order to reader access [6]. Most Chinese libraries process recommendations untimely, with processing frequencies ranging from once daily to weekly, mostly irregularly, and almost no dedicated staff handling recommendations, significantly discouraging patron participation [20].

Like foreign libraries, many Chinese libraries provide green channels for recommended resource acquisition, offering expedited processing when needed. For example, Wuhan University Library provides document expediting services where readers can enjoy accelerated service by filling out justification forms [21]. However, most Chinese libraries adopt an intermediary acquisition model, where acquisition librarians rescreen reader recommendations according to collection development policies before purchasing eligible books. While this approach allows ordering additional copies based on recommendation frequency rankings, the longer processing cycle affects reader confidence. In contrast, foreign libraries clearly define processing times for recommendation orders. University College Dublin Library processes DDA orders within approximately three weeks

[11], while Colorado State University has a two-week cycle, with expedited orders taking only 2-3 days [13].

Both domestic and foreign libraries agree that priority borrowing for recommenders incentivizes participation. In Colorado State University's ILL-DDA, books are first shipped from Amazon to readers' homes or offices, with libraries conducting cataloging after return [13]. Reader-centered recommendations should shift from the traditional "collect first, use later" model to a "use first, collect later" workflow. Only a few Chinese libraries, such as Foshan Library and Jimei University Library, have implemented this workflow transformation [4].

In summary, Chinese libraries should simplify workflows, enhance inter-staff collaboration, integrate synchronous e-book and print book recommendations, convert appropriate interlibrary loan requests into patron recommendations, establish expedited ordering channels, strengthen logistics services, and implement use-first, collect-later processing.

**4.1.2 Efficiency of Patron Participation in Acquisitions** Foreign libraries have well-established partnerships with online bookstores like Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Leveraging these vendors' strong processing capabilities, delivery times are generally 2-3 days. Due to bidding restrictions, Chinese libraries cannot currently purchase extensively from online bookstores, creating obstacles for timely recommendation processing. Most Chinese libraries can only procure books through government procurement bidding, resulting in narrow acquisition channels and delivery cycles of 2-3 months, with some books becoming unavailable. Therefore, innovative acquisition methods should be explored. For example, Jimei University Library directly utilizes online vendors' strong distribution services to compress the delivery cycle for recommended books to within one week [19].

Foreign libraries provide clear specifications for processing recommendation orders. University College Dublin Library processes DDA orders within about three weeks [11]. Colorado State University has a two-week cycle, with expedited orders taking only 2-3 days [13]. Domestically, Xiamen University pioneered converting interlibrary loan requests into patron acquisitions, but still lacks efficient processing workflows, with most books purchased from contracted vendors requiring 42 days from order to reader access [6]. Most Chinese libraries process recommendations untimely, with processing frequencies ranging from once daily to weekly, mostly irregularly, and almost no dedicated staff handling recommendations, significantly discouraging patron participation [20].

**4.2 Comparison of Recommendation Knowledge Bases** The recommendation knowledge base comprises the bibliographic information libraries provide in recommendation systems or the title profiles in DDA projects. Many Chinese libraries' online recommendation systems do not provide subscription bibliographic information, affecting recommendation efficiency. Shaoxing Library

updates subscription bibliographic information weekly through book vendors, achieving a 90% new book rate—a practice worth emulating [8].

Integration with OPAC systems and bibliographic screening represent the development direction for recommendation knowledge bases. Many Chinese recommendation systems lack automatic deduplication functionality. Although they provide external network resource links, they operate independently from OPAC, hindering unified collection management for tasks like deduplication and record maintenance. Integration with OPAC is the development direction, enabling recommendation requests when readers cannot find holdings. Foreign libraries obtain vendors through competitive bidding. For example, University College Dublin Library requires vendors to have OPAC integration technology, DDA projects must satisfy both e-book and print needs, provide easily modifiable subject profiles, and supply MARC records for all DDA materials [11]. DDA profiles are drafted by four collection development and description librarians responsible for respective disciplines, with subject liaison librarians participating in creation. Classification follows the Dewey Decimal System, with restrictions possible by publisher, region, and language.

Foreign libraries emphasize DDA profile selection criteria, inviting experts and faculty to participate in screening to avoid purchasing low-quality, non-academic books and ensure collection diversity and depth. They also limit recommended book types (excluding popular reading, textbooks), publishers, publication dates, and price ceilings. California State University Library collaborates with publishers to establish a profile that excludes textbooks, manuals, and guides [22]. Bibliographic screening can effectively control recommendation lists according to collection development policies. After obtaining bibliographic information from vendors, libraries should organize faculty readers to prescreen titles before importing eligible records into recommendation systems. A key feature of foreign DDA is pre-screening to exclude non-compliant titles, while only a few Chinese libraries, such as Shenzhen University Library, conduct bibliographic screening, and only some define screening scope, such as University of Science and Technology of China Library restricting pocket books, loose-leaf books, and study guides. Chinese recommendation systems like Huiwen can directly import vendor bibliographic information with simple functionality, but titles from different vendors inevitably duplicate [23].

Additionally, Chinese recommendation knowledge bases lack illustrated bibliographic information. Shaoxing Library's "Million Books for Recommendation" provides covers and brief introductions, but trial content is too limited for readers to understand book content and make informed recommendations [25]. Chinese libraries have innovated in knowledge base interface design. For example, Shanghai Jiao Tong University Library provides columns such as "Latest Books," "Popular Rankings," "New Arrivals," "Hot Tags," and "Recommended for You," offering rich auxiliary information [15]. Similarly, the "Zhongjiao Bookstore Online Library Supply Fair" provides excellent browsing and deduplication functions with six recommendation catalogs: Chinese Library Classifi-

cation, publisher catalogs, forthcoming titles, in-stock catalogs, basic education catalogs, and digital resource catalogs [26]. The drawback is that only digital resources offer trial access; most books have only brief descriptions, providing minimal information to support recommendation decisions. Nanjing University and Wuhan University libraries have embedded Douban reviews, Dangdang, Baidu Book Search, and WorldCat links to help readers better understand book information—a practice worth emulating.

Chinese recommendation knowledge bases exist across different systems, operating independently. For example, the Overseas Book Selection System (PSOP) only provides foreign book recommendations, without forming a unified, standardized knowledge base usable by most libraries. Therefore, unified subscription bibliographic information should be created based on *Social Sciences New Book Catalog*, *Science and Technology New Book Catalog*, national CIP data, and publisher catalogs, supplemented with links to Dangdang, Douban reviews, Baidu Book Search, and WorldCat to form a rich recommendation knowledge base for shared library use.

Due to China's e-book market being dominated by package sales, the underdeveloped e-book supply market makes e-book DDA models difficult to implement. This prevents synchronous digital-print DDA implementation, as e-books cannot be trialed or short-term leased, limiting readers' ability to make informed recommendations. Only Changxiang Star in China has achieved synchronous e-book and print book recommendations, offering 30-page trials, but its application remains limited. Many functions need to 借鉴 foreign DDA successes, and due to limited publisher partnerships, new titles represent a small proportion of annual national publications [27].

**4.3 Comparison of Online Patron Participation Modes** Chinese online patron recommendation methods include web forms, recommendation systems, email, WeChat, microblogs, and QQ groups, offering diverse channels. Readers can recommend anytime, anywhere using various devices, providing some convenience. In synchronous digital-print DDA projects, foreign libraries provide two format options, encouraging e-book priority. University of Iowa Library research confirms that when both formats are available, e-books are preferred, and humanities and social sciences readers are willing to use online content [28]. E-book DDA implementation has also reduced print book circulation. This synchronous model merits Chinese libraries' attention. Besides DDA projects, foreign libraries retain traditional form-based recommendations because DDA cannot meet all needs, such as professors' reading lists, books from small publishers excluded from DDA, or niche titles requiring firm orders. This flexible approach allows readers to recommend any books they encounter.

Foreign readers can also participate through ILL-DDA systems, which offer faster turnaround than traditional interlibrary loans and reduce costs. ILL-DDA converted books are generally recent publications (within five years). Collection development librarians check compliance with collection standards, price limits

(e.g., \$200), and two-week delivery feasibility. High-request-volume books in ILL systems inform copy addition decisions. Converting ILL requests to DDA reduces costs. Brigham Young University Library calculated that adding one copy costs approximately \$10 (acquisition and cataloging) with a \$2 average use cost, while interlibrary loan costs \$6-9 per transaction, making ILL-DDA more cost-effective over time [30]. University of California, Irvine Library calculated that ILL-DDA reduced delivery time by nearly half and cut staff time by 85% [31]. Therefore, ILL-DDA is highly worthy of Chinese libraries' adoption.

Although China offers many online recommendation methods, it needs to 借鉴 foreign DDA experiences to establish synchronous digital-print and ILL-DDA projects.

**4.4 Comparison of Offline Patron Participation Modes** Chinese offline patron participation modes include cooperative bookstore selection, on-site book fairs, and faculty proxy purchasing. Many Chinese libraries cooperate with bookstores, such as Chongqing University's on-site selection base where readers can recommend books to on-duty staff [32]. Jimei University Library cooperates with Xiamen Foreign Bookstore, where faculty-selected books are mailed directly to the library by the bookstore [19]. Shaoxing Library cooperates with Xinhua Bookstore, allowing readers to use mobile apps to scan codes for borrowing and returning, effectively making the bookstore a library branch [8]. Connecting library recommendation systems to bookstores with conditions (e.g., unit price under 150 RMB, excluding textbooks) deserves further research and promotion. However, Shaoxing Library only conducts this activity in conjunction with World Book Day; regular daily implementation is needed to support continuous reading and truly deepen patron-driven acquisitions.

Libraries conducting on-site book fair recommendations include Southwestern University's Boya New Book Recommendation Platform. The library and contracted vendor determine displayed books, with a six-month exhibition period for reader browsing and recommendation [33]. Book fairs provide pre-purchase trial reading, offering more tangible experiences than foreign DDA trial reading—essentially physical DDA. Chinese readers gain participation opportunities through book fairs, but these events occur only 1-2 times annually, with longer acquisition cycles of 1-2 months or even six months, delaying reading time. Book fairs also involve higher costs, requiring on-site staff for reader communication and significant vendor investment, making participation viable only for large vendors. Therefore, book fair collections are generally small; Southwestern University's platform displays 5,000 single-copy titles, playing a certain role in patron participation.

Some Chinese libraries treat imported foreign books as important book fair components. Due to high prices, high-level readers and acquisition librarians jointly negotiate recommendations—a practice worth promoting. Jimei University Library allows faculty to purchase books first and then seek reimbursement [19]. Due to complex reimbursement procedures, faculty proxy purchasing can only

serve as a supplement to patron participation.

In summary, while China has conducted beneficial explorations in offline patron participation with more diverse methods than foreign libraries, these remain largely imitative of foreign DDA models. DDA aims to improve acquisition quality and efficiency, requiring Chinese offline modes to deepen and enhance effectiveness, overcoming formalistic participation and comprehensively measuring expenditure efficiency—for example, conducting book fairs only for expensive special collections.

#### 4.5 Comparison of Funding Allocation for Patron Participation

Shaoxing Library allocates 1 million RMB for recommendations, representing 39.2% of annual book acquisition funds [8]. University College Dublin invests 40% of its book budget in DDA projects [11]. These two libraries, both emphasizing patron participation, allocate similar funding proportions. Patron participation cannot serve as the sole collection development tool; traditional librarian acquisition must be retained. Patron-driven purchases primarily satisfy immediate reader interests, while collection development requires long-term considerations. Traditionally acquired books may reflect emerging trends over time, with previously little-used older materials becoming sought-after. While circulation increases after implementing patron-driven acquisitions, another measure of library collections is academic integrity and breadth. Many libraries allocate minimal funds to patron participation. Some foreign DDA projects have been discontinued due to insufficient funding, hindering timely and continuous reader service and causing confusion and complaints. Balancing immediate reader interests and long-term library interests requires reasonable funding allocation—neither excessive nor insufficient.

## Conclusion

Chinese libraries have conducted extensive explorations in patron participation in acquisitions with comprehensive functions, fully utilizing diverse online and offline methods including web recommendations, microblogs, WeChat, mobile apps, cooperative bookstore selection, book fairs, and faculty proxy purchasing. Most recommendation systems offer functional modules for scanning, bibliographic recommendation, classification navigation, recommendation history, and list export. However, these remain at a primary stage, functionally meeting patron participation but needing to advance to higher stages by 借鉴 foreign DDA experiences. Chinese libraries should integrate patron participation workflows with collaborative staff responsibilities for order-to-shelf processing, expand acquisition channels beyond contracted vendors, and extensively utilize online bookstores. They should improve recommendation efficiency, refine bibliographic information, establish a unified national recommendation knowledge base, and implement ILL-DDA and synchronous digital-print DDA projects. Systems should automatically push book information based on recommendation history and browsing content, embed microblog links for post-reading sharing

and reviews, and collect reader feedback. Subject librarians should establish recommendation targets with clear collection purposes, levels, and scopes. Incentive measures and credit systems should motivate active participation, with greater rewards for high-usage readers. While patron participation cannot completely replace traditional librarian acquisition and should only supplement it—primarily because excessive reader accommodation may neglect long-term educational and knowledge needs, compromising academic integrity and breadth—the role of patron participation in collection development remains to be fully understood. Libraries will continue exploring patron participation as a supplementary collection development approach in practice.

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