#### Abstract

Major	Human Sociology Studies	Course	Regional Management
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Title	Research of Chinese University Museums:		
	Comparing with Japanese university Museums		
Key points			

## 1. Research background

Compared with developed countries in Europe and America, the establishment of university museums in China started late. In recent years, with the help of relevant national policies, its development became fast. According to the statistics of professional consulting companies such as Museum Headlines, the total number of university museums in China has exceeded 450, which is increasing at a high speed. University museums are an important part of cultural units under the jurisdiction of

universities, which play an important role in information dissemination and personnel training of cultural in universities. Especially, it is of great significance to the cultivation of technology and professional knowledge of museum students and the formation of museum people's mission consciousness, and also plays an important role in promoting social development. However, there are still many problems in the development of Chinese university museums in contemporary society, such as operation, management, ethics, practice and so on.

University museum is a museum which belongs to an university and open to the public, it is an important part of a university. Compared with other public museums, university museums have advantages in academic research, and their exhibitions are characterized by cutting-edge, academic and experimental, which are different from most public museums. University museums face students directly, undertake educational missions, and influence the formation of social values. This study reconsiders the optimal operation, public ethics and strengthening of university museums under the multicultural background, which is conducive to the high-quality

development of university museums and clarifies the role of university museums in the community.

## 2. Purpose of the study

The materials of university museums are gradually accumulated during the development of universities, and their materials indirectly or directly reflect the spirit or culture of universities. The purpose, mission, school-running idea and working practice of the museum all express the thoughts of the founders of the university and the famous researchers representing the university. The museums of colleges and universities can support the academic research by providing physical materials, which reflects the level of education and academic research of the universities. In terms of personnel training, some university employ graduate students and postdocs, train future museum researchers, which also play an important role in personnel training. The function of universities lies in inheriting human wisdom, expanding existing knowledge and contributing to society. But the most important thing is to provide a healthy environment and promote students' full development. University museum is an important carrier to inherit the culture and history of universities, and reflect the idea of running a school and teaching objectives. The values conveyed by the university museums are to undertake the information dissemination of the traditional culture and history of the university, and then contribute to the cultivation of talents, and finally influence the whole society. With the development of society, university museums shoulder the heavy responsibility of protecting and inheriting the cultural heritage outside the museum while inheriting the university culture and preserving the history of the universities. Compared with other public museums, university museums have unique professional resources and talents.

In recent years, with the increasing influence of university museums in general public, public education has become an important task for university museums. Public education is a beneficial supplement to family education and school education, which promotes the formation of citizens' personality and contributes to the construction of a stable society. On the other hand, compared with other public museums, the problems

in operation and management of university museums are more prominent, including the shortage of funds, the imperfect mechanism with the management party, the transactional burden of curators, and the limitations on public services. At the same time, the publicity of university museums has been discussed, and the professional obstacles and the necessity of public opening are great challenges. In the aspect of work practice, there are also many problems in the development of digital resources, the research of museology specialty and the development of talents in university museums. University museum is an important part of the museum system, which not only plays an important role in assisting professional teaching and academic research, but also bears the function of actively utilizing its own advantages, inheriting the tradition and history of universities and transmitting them. Since China's reform and opening up, the number, types, buildings, materials, exhibitions and other aspects of university museums have changed significantly, especially in recent years, showing a trend of rapid development. In addition, university museums have also been paid attention to in building the traditional culture of universities, and become a platform for displaying the scenery and image propaganda in universities. During the development of university museums, the Ministry of Education has issued relevant policies on the construction and management of university museums, such as the Notice of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage and the Ministry of Education on Strengthening the Construction and Development of University Museums, and the Opinions of the General Office of the Ministry of Education on Strengthening the Management of University Museums, which have given important instructions for their development. With the rapid development of university museums in China, there are still some certain points in the academic research on their development status and problems. However, for the development of university museums, few studies have combed the historical materials from the historical perspective of laws and regulations and university museums, and analyzed their development status and characteristics in combination with the background of the times. The purpose of this study is to analyze and sort out the development stages of university museums in China, summarize the

development characteristics, historical experiences and laws of each stage, and make contributions to the healthy development of university museums on the basis of analyzing relevant documents, collecting and sorting out relevant websites, newspapers and other information.

## 3. Methodology of research

The method of this study is based on reading essays published in the past, classifying and comparing essays and field investigation. Through the analysis of these information, the collected information is analyzed, and the relevant literature is compared and classified, and the conclusion is drawn.

In addition, in the process of promoting the research of university museums in China, the author will compare them with university museums in other countries to clarify their characteristics. This thesis explores the history and development of university museums in the world, analyzes their changes and influences, and predicts the development trend of China. Paying attention to the history and display methods of museum collections, research materials, and giving an example of the management and operation of university museums. Evaluate the effect of exhibitions and teaching projects in university museums, and find out the aspects that need to be improved.

Comprehensive application of the above-mentioned methods to promote the research of university museums in China is expected to contribute a stone to the research of university museums which are still developing.

## 4. Results of the study

Through this study, the history, present situation and examples of university museums in China are discussed. This paper reveals the historical changes and expansion of the definition of museum, and discusses the history, development and present state of university museums in China.

The first chapter, "Definition of Chinese Museums from the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and Museum Regulations", consists of the first section, "Various Phases of Museums under the Constitution of the People's Republic of China", the second section, "Provisions Related to Museums Recognized by General Laws of China",

the third section, "Regulations on Natural History of China", and the fourth section, "Government Accounting Standards No.11 Cultural Relics Resources (Draft for Soliciting Opinions)"

The second chapter, "Definition of Terms, Research Purpose and Problems", discusses the definition and meaning of the terms of "university museum". The university museum confirmed the Botanical Garden of the University of Pisa and the Ashmolean Museum. The Botanical Garden of the University of Pisa is the oldest academic botanical garden in Europe. It was built in 1543 and 1544 at the same time as one of the oldest universities in Italy. The Ashmolean Museum is also an affiliated institution of Oxford University, which was established in 1683 and exists in the world.

In the third chapter, "Research History of university museums in China and Japan", firstly, the first section, "Research History of Chinese Museology", follows the five classifications of Chinese Museology history based on previous research results, and discusses the dissemination process and influence of modern museum concept to China. In the second section, "The Intake of Japanese Museums in the Late Qing Dynasty", we confirm the acceptance of Japanese museum thoughts in the late 19th century. In the third section, "History of Chinese Museums in the Late Qing Dynasty", in the process of Westernization in China around 1840 in the late Qing Dynasty, China's museum cause began. The fourth section collects the common points of museology research books published in the embryonic period of museology research in China. The fifth section, the brief history of the study on Chinese university museums, expounds the study on Chinese university museums, which inherits the inflow of information carried by ships in the Republic of China and ushered in great development in the social democratization after entering the era of the People's Republic of China.

In Chapter 4, "History and Present Situation of Japanese university museum Research", the following conclusions are drawn. The origin of Japanese university museum is the predecessor of the Engineering Department of the University of Tokyo. In 1871, it was recorded in the documents about the university schools of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce that the facilities of the museum, which are presumed to be

university museums by the term "museum field", can now be considered as the oldest. The pioneer of the necessity theory of university museums originated from the report of Peng Xinsheng (whose real name is Kuroda Pengxin) in 1912, 40 years after the school museum site of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

The fifth chapter is "The History of Chinese University Museums", and the first section is "Kang Youwei, a reformist, and the theory of setting up school museums relying on" Tianmin "", which summarizes Kang Youwei, a representative figure who advocated political reform and self-improvement in the late Qing Dynasty, and the anonymous viewpoint of "Tianmin" who emphasized the importance of establishing museums. In the second section, "Museums planned to open in China from 1842 to 1900", we summarize the four museum plans planned to open in China from 1842 to 1900, but failed to realize the opening. The third section, "Historical Longitude and Latitude of Chinese university museums", lists 393 existing Chinese university museums, and summarizes their respective classifications, opening years and regions.

The sixth chapter, "History of Medical University Museums in China", introduces the characteristics of medical university museums. On the basis of clarifying the basic functions of museums collection, preservation, teaching and research, it is necessary to give full play to the characteristics of medical museums and strive to coordinate with the development of the times. In addition, we should make use of the characteristics of university museums and aim at the integration of the advantages of medicine and universities. While collecting medical history collections, the medical university museums should also pay attention to the current medical development and future prediction. It is very important to play the role of museums through public education activities.

The seventh chapter, "The History of Jingshi Tongwen Museum, a typical university museum in China", introduces the construction and development of Jingshi Tongwen Museum. The Tongwen Museum in Jingshi was born in a turbulent social environment and became an important achievement of Westernization Movement and China's modernization. This product is the evidence that Chinese people pay attention to the

development of the world and promote the development of Chinese society in modern times. However, the information about Tongwen Museum is still limited, and the examination of its history is still lacking, which is an indisputable fact. Through the existing limited data, it is an important part of Chinese museum history to reveal the existence of Tongwen Museum in Jingshi and its significance as an auxiliary teaching facility, which should be recognized.

The eighth chapter, "Shanghai University History Musum, Chien-Weizang memorial Museum, Shanghai-style Culture Exhibition, etc.", takes Shanghai University Museum, the practice place where the author mainly constructs his experience, as an example to explain in detail the daily operation of Chinese university museums and sum up the experience. Shanghai University is an important birthplace of museology education in China. It has been exploring and practicing for decades and made important contributions to the development of museology education in China. This paper expounds that Shanghai University needs to continue to vigorously develop and improve museology education in the future, so as to train more outstanding talents for museums in China and even the whole world.

The first section of Chapter 9, "The Role of Chinese university museums in Tourism", mainly discusses the problems and challenges faced by personnel training and teaching research in the development of Chinese tourism. In the second section, the Ministry of Education of China selected the top 12 universities in terms of discipline competitiveness according to the comprehensive evaluation of comprehensive research ability, teaching activities and academic influence of tourism disciplines in universities. The third section mainly introduces the development course, present situation, influence and future trend of tourism activities in Chinese universities. The fourth section introduces the general situation of Xiamen University Human Museum, Peking University Sekler Archaeological and Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Cultural Relics Museum and Lanzhou Jiaotong University Earthquake Museum. Chapter 10, "International Exchange Course of Shanghai University Museum", mainly introduces the history and practice of Shanghai University Museum in international

exchange cause, paying special attention to the exchange activities with Hasami, Japan, and introduces the short-term training programs of museology carried out by Shanghai University and Nagasaki International University since 2016. He introduced that in December 2018, Shanghai University Museum proposed to participate in the 2019 UMAC AWARD selection, and in May 2019, it became one of the top nominations which was announced worldwide.

Chapter 11 "university Museums and Regional Management" is the first section "Characteristics, Significance and Purpose of university museums". Compared with other public and private museums, the collection materials of university museums are a group of materials with outstanding quantity and academics. In Section 2, "university museums and Regional Society-university museums as the Core of Regional Culture", due to the existence of universities in the location of universities, the longer the university is established, and the larger the scale and wider the scope of universities, the stronger the tendency is. In Section 3, "university museums as tourism bases", university museums are multiple university museums based on various departments, disciplines and specialties, which are necessary to promote tourism as lifelong learning. Based on the above research results, the following are the future research directions:

### 1. Adjustment of the definition of museum

This paper summarizes the changes of regulations and laws related to museums in China and Japan, but the research on the latest definition of museums based on current international regulations and practices is not enough. Especially with the development of information technology, there are more and more exhibitions and studies in digital space outside the exhibition hall, so it is necessary to revise the definition reflecting the current situation of modern museums.

#### 2. Commitment to cultural diversity

Museums play a role in preserving and displaying the heritage of different cultures and nationalities. In the future research, while respecting cultural diversity, it will be important to integrate different cultural values and viewpoints in the definition and operation of museums.

## 3. Sustainable development and social responsibility

In recent years, museums have been asked to work from the perspective of sustainability and social responsibility. For example, improving energy efficiency, protecting the environment and promoting joint participation. In future research, it is necessary to discuss how to integrate sustainability and social responsibility factors into the definition of museums.

# 4. Using technology and numbers

With the development of digital technology, museums can provide online exhibitions and interactive experiences. It can be speculated that it will be necessary to investigate and evaluate the changes of museums brought about by the application of new technologies and digital development in the future.

5. The necessity of continuous research on Chinese university museums

This paper discusses the history, development process and present situation of Chinese university museums, especially the educational activities of Chinese university museums, the development direction and characteristics in recent years, representative museum cases and interviews with managers.

The above topics are intended to be discussed in future works.