The Design of Public Library Space in New Generation: A Case Study of New Taipei City Library

Abstract

Public libraries are center places of education, culture, information and leisure. The libraries are expected to upgrade the interior space and service, in order to build a better environment for the public. New Taipei City Library is the first established new public library in Taipei metropolitan. We took design principles which were proposed by Andrew McDonald in his article “The top ten qualities of good library space” as our criteria for evaluating the space in New Taipei City Library. Based on these criteria, we interview reclude 43 users from the web and library, and conduct interview either through email and face-to-face communication. We collect their thoughts and feelings. As a result, most of the qualities are achieved, and most of the interviewees are satisfied with the accessible designs of the space. However, there are still some space to improve, such as the safe and secure equipment. Most interviewees think the sign of the safe and secure equipment are not clear.

About New Taipei City Library

New Taipei City Library was established in 1923 which belongs to Japanese-Occupied Period, and renamed as this name when Taipei County became a direct-controlled New Taipei City. This new main library building opened in May, 2015, it’s a 10 floors and 3 basements building. Now it’s famous for the 24 hours study room, diverse style reading corners, and interactive technology devices.

10 qualities of good library space

Results

Conclusion

Most of interviewees thought that New Taipei City Library is comfortable and innovative, especially the reading corner, sun cabin and multimedia area. But some were concerning the issue that library chases the trendy design instead of considering the cooperation of spaces and services, or left the real value and spirit of library behind.