Discovering the World of Sinophone Studies

A Digital Bibliography Initiative

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Introduction

Context	Project	Vision
Expansion of Sinophone studies Growing need for reference tools	Extensive and inclusive annotated bibliography Supports access, engagement, and collaboration	Beyond LibGuides Research-ready, forward-looking tool

Approach & Scope

Approach
- Inclusivity
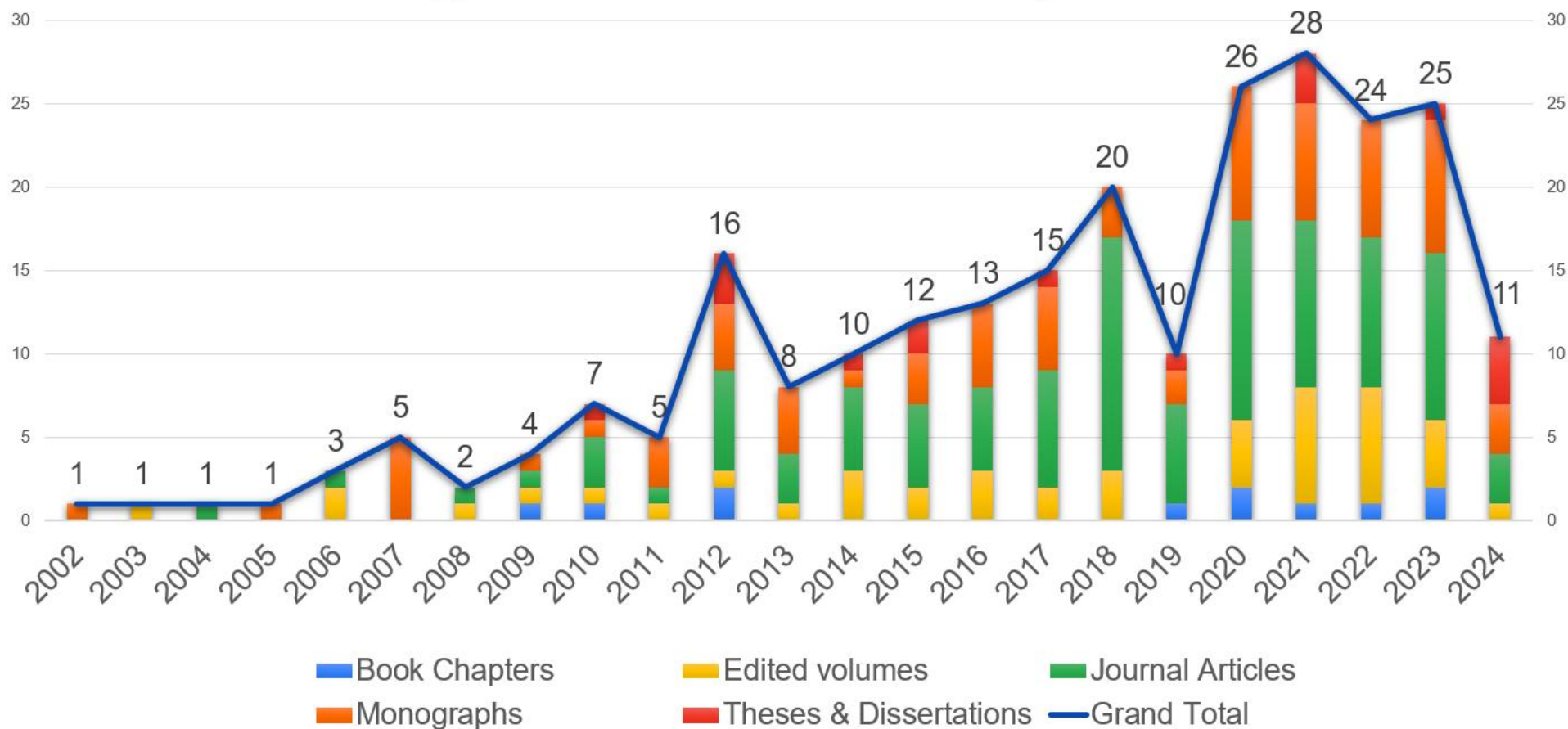- Significance

Coverage
- Geography
- Language
- Subject

Organization
- Library of Congress Classification and Subject Headings

Overview

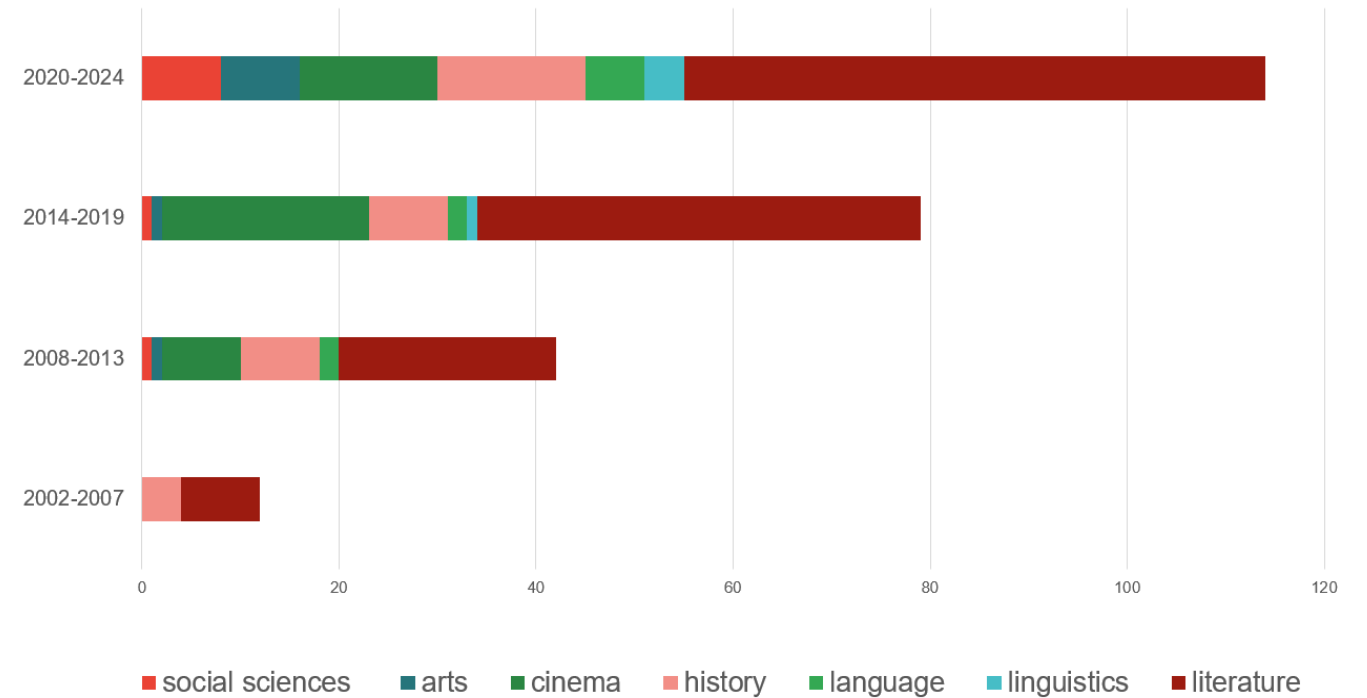Types of Sources and Total Titles by Year

Geographic Distribution

Disciplinary Coverage

Primary Themes

Structure of Entries

📚 **Bibliographic details** – Complete reference information for each entry

✏️ **Annotations** – Concise summaries of content

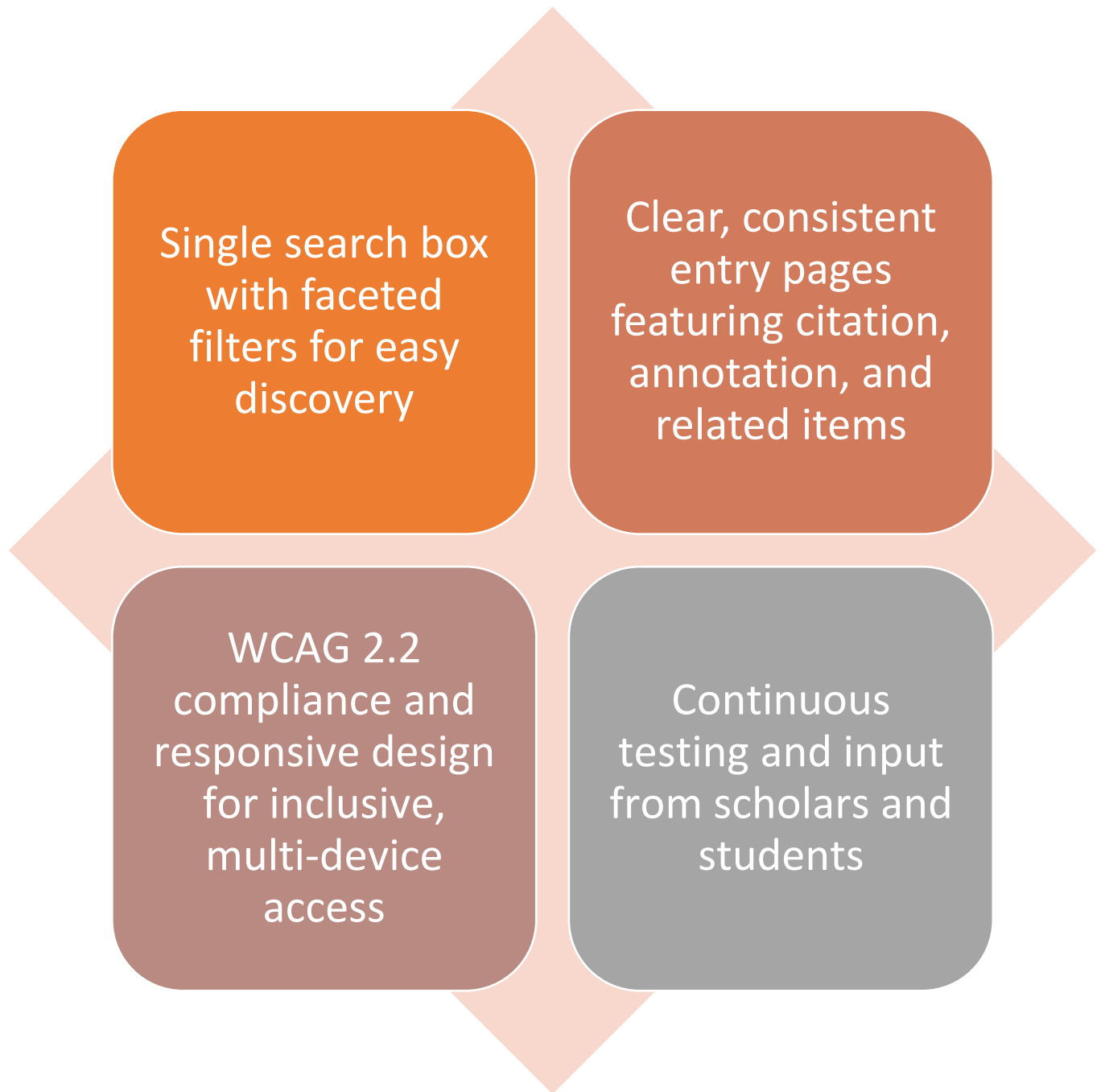🏷️ **Thematic keywords** – Aid browsing and discovery

Online Platform

Connecting scholarship across languages, regions, and institutions

Vision and Goals

Build	an open, user-friendly, sustainable digital platform for Sinophone studies resources
Provide	integrated and centralized access to resources across institutions and regions
Support	teaching, learning, and research that connect scholars, students, and communities in the field

Usability Considerations

Single search box with faceted filters for easy discovery

Clear, consistent entry pages featuring citation, annotation, and related items

WCAG 2.2 compliance and responsive design for inclusive, multi-device access

Continuous testing and input from scholars and students

Approach 1- Institutional Web Platforms

❖ Considered UH-supported platforms (Google Sites, WordPress) for long-term stability

❖ Advantages:

  ▪ Secure environment

  ▪ Cost-free and supported by UH ITS

❖ Limitations:

  ▪ Limited flexibility for advanced features or AI integration

→*Demonstrated feasibility, but constrained by static design and functionality*

Approach 2–
Discovery Layer Metadata Harvesting

❖ A hidden Omeka collection for metadata-only records harvested by OneSearch, UH Mānoa Library discovery tool, to enable searchable access.

❖ *Advantages:*

▪ Institutionally supported

▪ Minimal setup and maintenance

❖ *Limitations:*

▪ Interface not customizable

▪ No visualization support

→ ***Demonstrated sustainability but lacked flexibility***

Approach 3 – Commercial Hosting

Advantages

Flexible, reliable, and supports full backend functionality

Enables dynamic web features (Python, database, chatbot)

Offers custom domain, SSL, backups, and scalability

Limitations

Requires technical expertise beyond librarian skill sets

Involves ongoing hosting and domain costs

Relies on stable funding and IT support for sustainability

➔ *The most promising approach, pending feasibility review*

Feasibility & Resources Assessment

Budget	ALA grant funds reserved for purchasing domain and host
Staffing	cross institutional collaboration, with technical support from the UHM Library
Data management	curated metadata ready for import and integration
Maintenance	minimal effort anticipated once data import and update workflow are streamlined

Development Timeline

Develop the initial prototype

Conduct internal testing and iterative enhancements

Conduct usability testing and incorporate user feedback

Finalize platform features and metadata

Launch the platform website

Begin outreach and user engagement

Fall 2025:
Build & Test

Spring 2026:
Refine & Integrate

Summer 2026:
Launch & Engagement

A dynamic resource — shaped by scholars, for scholars

Expand Coverage

- Add more works across disciplines, regions, and languages
- Integrate data from external sources such as WorldCat, CALIS, and related systems

Enhance Tools

- Refine chatbot assistance and visualization features
- Explore personalized recommendations and advanced search options

Foster Collaboration

- Encourage community contributions and shared curation
- Build networks with international scholars and librarians

Prototype of the Platform

[Demo]

Thank you!

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