Proposal Submission for the
5th International M-Libraries Conference „M-Libraries: From devices to people“, May 27-30, 2014 Hong Kong

Digital Knowledge in Mobile User Scenarios – the Approach of the Bavarian State Library

The digital and mobile transformation is radically changing the production, distribution and use of knowledge. The keywords are multimediality rather than textuality, associativity instead of linearity, immersivity as opposed to receptivity, situativity, not ‘monolithic’ information. The technical and creative possibilities of mobile devices increasingly determine what we mean by ‘knowledge’: the design of digital knowledge is ‘device driven’.

As one of the most significant international research and universal libraries, the Bavarian State Library has developed a number of mobile applications in recent years which were top-ranked in the Apple’s app store charts. These apps aim to distribute and promote unique cultural content in innovative user scenarios of the mobile internet.

The talk will present two applications as examples: First, the location-based-service ’Bavaria in Historical Maps’ which geo-references most precious historical maps. Second, the mobile app ‘bavarikon3D’ which makes cultural artefacts available as digital 3D-objects. The talk will give an introduction to the concept of both apps in terms of content as well as the apps’ technical design and layout. Beyond that, the talk will explore to what extent the new ‘app-not-web-culture’ has ramifications for future library services within the mobile internet.

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