



Innovation and Development of Private Higher Education Discipline Construction Structure

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Abstract

In the context of the current era, China's rapid socio-economic development has put forward new requirements for talent. As an important component of China's education industry, private universities bear the important responsibility and obligation of talent cultivation. After years of development and innovation, the number and scale of private schools in China have been continuously increasing, and the level of education and service quality are also constantly improving. However, for private universities, disciplinary construction is an important prerequisite for promoting their own development. Only through reasonable disciplinary construction, effective development and innovation of disciplines, and good results can private universities achieve sustainable development in the new era. However, the disciplinary construction structure of private universities in China is still constrained by various factors in the innovation process: disciplinary direction construction, disciplinary team construction, talent cultivation construction, disciplinary base construction, etc., which is not conducive to the disciplinary construction of private universities and promotes their sustainable and healthy development. Based on this, the article analyzes the innovation and development status of the discipline construction structure in private universities. It proposes targeted opinions and suggestions, providing reference for the innovation and development of the discipline construction structure in private universities.

Keywords

Private universities, Discipline construction structure, Innovation, Develop

Introduction

Against the backdrop of accelerated economic globalization and increasingly fierce regional competition, the competition among universities is becoming more apparent. Under the background that the concept and technology of big data have been widely used, local universities need to conduct scientific analysis and processing of various data related to discipline construction, rely on their own characteristics to cope with the impact and maintain traditional advantages, and further enhance the comprehensive strength of the discipline. In view of the current situation and shortcomings of discipline construction in local universities, with the help of professional analysis and processing means of big data technology, improve the data analysis ability related to discipline construction, enhance the scientificity and standardization of discipline construction, and strive to build a cluster of advantageous disciplines and characteristic disciplines. On this basis, aim for the development direction of first-class disciplines, accurately align with the needs of regional economic and social development, and further optimize the development path of discipline construction in the new era (Gao Jianjun & Zhang Tongguan, 2021).

1. The Concept and Connotation of Discipline Construction in Private Universities

1.1 Concepts

This section mainly discusses the differences between disciplines and majors from four aspects: concept, composition, objectives, and division principles: (1) The concepts are different. Disciplines are branches of knowledge, and majors are teaching and practical activities aimed at cultivating talents in different fields and job positions in universities. (2) The composition is different. The constituent elements of a discipline are research fields, research methods, and related knowledge systems. A major consists of specific training objectives, a clear curriculum system, and specialized staff. (3) The target positioning is different. The discipline aims to pursue the updating and development of knowledge, with a social division of labor and the main task of cultivating talents required for different positions and fields. (4) The division principles are different. Disciplines are divided according to their own development laws and logic, mainly including 13 disciplines (respectively: literature, history, philosophy, education, economics, law, science, engineering, medicine, agriculture, management, Military science, and art); The division of majors is based on the different requirements of different positions and professions for talents.

1.2 Connotation

What is "disciplinary construction"? We can understand the basic concepts of discipline construction from the following points: (1) Who will build the discipline? Discipline construction requires specialized personnel to engage in construction work. (2) How to evaluate the achievements of disciplinary construction? The main evaluation criterion for disciplinary construction is whether subject knowledge is constantly updated and accumulated. (3) In what form will discipline construction be carried out? Discipline construction is based on discipline organization as the basic carrier. The reason why we can feel the existence of each "discipline" is that the discipline is mainly recognized by the "university discipline organization" and "displayed" to us; These "disciplinary organizations" mainly include schools, departments, research institutes, etc. What is 'professional construction'? Professional construction is an educational practice activity that mainly focuses on the establishment of majors, curriculum construction, and improvement of teaching content and methods, and is closely related to the education, teaching, and talent cultivation of universities. What is the relationship between disciplinary construction and professional construction? The mutual promotion between disciplines and majors determines that the construction of disciplines and majors is also complementary. Firstly, disciplinary construction is the foundation of professional construction. Disciplinary construction can provide a high-quality and academically advanced teaching team, high-quality teaching resources, and superior talent training bases for professional construction, which plays a leading role in professional construction; Furthermore, professional construction provides a place for talent cultivation in disciplinary construction. Talent cultivation is the main function of universities and the fundamental task and ultimate goal of disciplinary construction. Professional construction mainly involves curriculum arrangement and teaching reform and adjustment, so that the trained talents can better meet market demand and social recognition. From this perspective, it can be said that professional construction is the platform for disciplinary construction to achieve talent cultivation functions (Wang Linbo, 2020).

2. The Basic Principles of Discipline Construction in Private Universities

2.1 Systemic principle

Discipline construction is a long-term, complex, and systematic project that requires cooperation among various departments of the school. Therefore, when universities carry out disciplinary construction, the leadership, management, and organizational levels of the school must work together to concentrate human, material, and financial resources to build the discipline, in order to form a sustainable disciplinary development system. Therefore, universities should follow the systematic principle when carrying out disciplinary construction.

2.2 Principle of characteristic construction

Disciplines are constantly changing with the social economy. Therefore, universities should follow the principle of development in disciplinary construction and create an "ecological environment" for disciplinary construction. The principle of sustainable development requires universities to continuously adhere to cutting-edge, practical, and feasible principles when constructing disciplines. Frontier nature requires us to have a forward-looking perspective

when building disciplines, and choose those disciplines that can be in line with international standards for key construction; Effectiveness requires us to choose disciplines that are in line with economic development and the actual situation of the school for construction, in order to have an immediate effect on the improvement of our own educational level; Feasibility requires us to have the necessary hardware and software conditions for subject construction (Liu Xiaoming & Jia Jingquan, 2020).

3. The Innovation Dilemma of Discipline Construction Structure in Private Universities

3.1 In terms of disciplinary direction construction

At present, although China has initially formed a discipline construction system with obvious characteristics that can solve the problems of economic development, cultural prosperity, and technological innovation, the construction of this system lacks scientific and reasonable planning, which restricts the strength of discipline construction in private universities. From the analysis of the current development situation of discipline construction in private universities, there is a mutual convergence in the layout and arrangement of discipline structure in many private universities. The direction of discipline construction is very vague. Some private universities even have the situation of using the number of discipline categories as the only indicator of the rationality of discipline structure, one-sided pursuit of complete discipline categories, and the situation of grasping various disciplines at once is very common. The existence of these situations results in the inability to reflect the advantages that disciplines possess, and the inherent characteristics of each discipline are not very distinct. In the process of disciplinary construction, the reasonable planning of disciplinary structure not only needs to display the development trends of modern technology, society, and economy but also needs to meet the needs of local and even national economic and social development to the greatest extent and maintain the school's educational purpose and strategic planning in a unified situation. This is very important for the comprehensive development of the educational functions of private universities.

3.2 In terms of discipline team construction

In the process of discipline construction in private universities, in order to achieve the results of construction as soon as possible, it is necessary to have an academic team with reasonable age, educational background, major, and support structure, as well as innovative spirit, ability, and awareness. However, there is a lack of excellent discipline leaders in private universities in China, and without such leaders, the strength of the entire discipline team is relatively weak. In the process of scientific research and construction work, this leader plays a very important role. He is the soul figure in the academic team of a certain discipline, and his academic level directly affects the direction and strength of the entire discipline's development. Based on the current situation analysis of private colleges and universities, the construction direction of private colleges and universities is generally focused on teaching. Many private colleges and universities have gone through a process of "vocational school, college, undergraduate". In the leapfrog development of private colleges and universities, this situation of quantitative expansion makes it very difficult to cultivate leaders in discipline construction in universities. At the same time, in the absence of strong disciplines and the difficulty of introducing influential discipline leaders, the implementation of discipline construction in private universities has become difficult.

3.3 In terms of talent cultivation and construction

The key to whether local universities can create distinctive features and have a certain regional influence lies in whether they can improve their disciplinary level and cultivate various professional talents with high quality. However, from the current situation, in order to pursue the scale effect, some local colleges and universities have added disciplines and expanded enrollment, taking teaching research universities and comprehensive universities as the development goals, and the boundaries of different types of colleges and universities are increasingly blurred under the development trend of the convergence of school running concepts. At the same time, local universities have transitioned from focusing on imparting basic knowledge and theories to focusing on cultivating application and practical abilities. Some universities that excel in humanities and are weak in engineering have also ignored their historical advantages and shortcomings. They attach importance to the development and construction of engineering majors in their professional settings and invest limited funds into related majors. The phenomenon of duplicate construction of engineering majors is difficult to avoid, leading to serious situations of duplicate investment and cross-

construction, and there will inevitably be a development dilemma of a thousand schools, that cannot demonstrate the development vitality and characteristics of local universities.

3.4 In terms of subject base construction

Although private universities receive financial support from the state, local governments, and enterprises to a certain extent, the main source of funding for their education is still tuition fees. Most private universities are unable to purchase advanced experimental equipment and timely update the instruments required for the development of their disciplines due to limited funds, resulting in a relatively backward level of laboratory construction and hardware facilities, and a weak overall trend in subject base construction. In addition, the coverage of books and electronic resources in most private universities is narrow, and there is a lack of specialized databases for teachers to conduct teaching and research. Some private university libraries do not have advanced data search equipment installed, resulting in time-consuming and labor-intensive data collection.

4. Innovative Strategies for Discipline Construction Structure in Private Universities

4.1 Strengthen the construction of disciplinary directions

With the help of big data's professional information collection, analysis, and processing capabilities, we can solve the shortcomings of local university discipline construction in terms of discipline positioning, discipline structure, teaching staff, and scientific research achievements. Relying on disciplinary advantages, using Big data technology and concepts, aiming at the economic and social status and regional actual needs, reasonably determining short-term and long-term goals, doing a good job in planning discipline construction, strengthening substantive cooperation with high-level universities and academic institutions, achieve precise docking, constantly improve teaching ability and scientific research level, and inject more vitality into discipline construction. On this basis, in-depth mining of relevant data is carried out to improve scientific and forward-looking decision-making. Based on the internal professional evaluation and external audit evaluation, the direction of professional construction is selected accurately, and a group of advantageous disciplines that are in line with the development trend of the discipline is cultivated and constructed. The development trend of university discipline construction is timely grasped, and an operating mechanism is constructed that is conducive to enhancing the driving force and vitality of discipline construction development. In addition, the use of big data for analysis and decision-making in discipline construction will also become a future development trend. Encourage and support local colleges and universities to make full use of all kinds of relevant data accumulated over the years, eliminate Data redundancy and information islands caused by the development of independent systems to meet their own needs to a certain extent, use Big data technology to improve the support mechanism for discipline management and decision-making, and carry out the overall design in the data management system and circulation mechanism, with the focus on adjusting the internal hierarchy mechanism of colleges and departments by establishing systems A standardized management system, with disciplinary construction as the guiding goal, optimizes the combination of affiliated and related disciplines, and cooperates with the overall management of disciplines to promote the construction of a disciplinary independent management system. On this basis, colleges and universities should clearly divide the management responsibilities of discipline leaders, so that they can devote more energy to organization, coordination, and management, improve the use efficiency of data information improve the scientificity of management and decision-making, and realize the full coverage of big data concepts and technologies in the process of academic construction.

4.2 Emphasize the construction of teaching staff

Firstly, private universities should increase their investment in introducing subject leaders and expanding the scale of their teaching staff. With the improvement of the quality and quantity of teaching staff, we will focus on establishing an academic echelon with a reasonable age structure, educational structure, and professional title structure, laying a solid foundation for the normal operation of discipline construction. Secondly, private universities should establish a "talent-oriented" recruitment mechanism when recruiting talents and not just rely on the background, region, age, and other requirements of teachers as recruitment criteria. Instead, they should select a group of excellent and dynamic young and middle-aged teachers based on the needs of subject and professional development. Finally, private universities should develop a practical and feasible incentive mechanism. We need to pay attention to creating a

strong academic atmosphere, respecting knowledge, and valuing scientific research as an academic environment. Create all possible research conditions for academic leaders and backbone, and open a convenient channel for them to engage in international and domestic academic exchanges; At the same time, the cultivation of young teachers with research potential in our school cannot be ignored. They can be sent abroad for further education to improve their teaching ability and research level. In short, private universities should retain talents with sincere and generous material treatment, as well as superior teaching and research conditions, so that they can fully utilize their scientific research potential in discipline construction and promote the development of discipline construction (Ye Huaifan & Wang Shiwei, 2018).

4.3 Improving the quality of talent cultivation

Private universities should continuously deepen the reform of talent training plans and develop a practical and feasible talent training plan. It is worth noting that private universities should always pay attention to the dynamic changes in social and economic development, and adjust their talent cultivation plans in a timely manner to improve the social recognition of talent cultivation. In addition, private universities also need to cultivate students' unique skills and make them competitive in employment. Based on the principle of "school-enterprise cooperation" in professional settings, a discipline system with distinctive characteristics of the school has been constructed that is suitable for cultivating applied, skilled, and innovative talents. Firstly, private universities should create a batch of high-quality courses and focus on the development of high-quality textbooks, continuously enriching teaching content; In addition, as course construction is a key aspect of professional construction, it is necessary to adhere to the principles of valuing compulsory courses and expanding elective courses during the course construction process, establish a scientific course system and conscientiously implement it, and cultivate characteristics in a timely manner based on the development advantages of the discipline and profession. Secondly, private universities should reduce the mobility of teachers, adopt certain incentive mechanisms, and sincerely retain teachers to increase the proportion of full-time teachers in private universities. Finally, a more flexible management model can be adopted, which allows students to choose courses that are of interest and beneficial to their own development based on completing required courses. By completing the school's prescribed learning tasks and completing credits, students can graduate early, which not only enhances their learning enthusiasm but also improves the quality of talent cultivation.

4.4 Improving the conditions of subject bases

Using the construction of high-level scientific research platforms as a carrier, promote the gathering and cultivation of high-level teaching staff in local universities, and meet the needs of building high-level disciplines and cultivating innovative talents by conducting various high-level academic research and exchanges. On this basis, further enhance the integration of scientific and technological innovation with regional industrial development, transform and promote scientific and technological achievements in the local area, and enhance the ability to support local economic development. Encourage local universities to actively connect with the needs of regional economic and social development. The construction and implementation plan of disciplinary chains can effectively connect with the main measures of regional economic and social development. Featured and advantageous disciplines drive the coordinated development of related disciplines and improve the ability and level of local universities to serve regional economic development. Local universities must fundamentally change their disadvantaged position in the fields of teaching, research, and infrastructure, and achieve long-term development by strengthening discipline construction. We should actively explore specific measures for subject construction based on the various indicators and target values of the "Double First Class" implementation plan at the secondary school level. Using the discipline construction within the entire school as a system engineering to achieve resource optimization and allocation, while strengthening the construction of basic disciplines, we will concentrate on developing advantageous disciplines and achieve a positive interaction between the development of universities and economic and social progress (Zhang Letian, Chen Tingzhu, & Wang Hongcai, 2018).

5. Conclusion

In summary, disciplinary construction is not only a current task but also a long-term undertaking. Disciplinary construction departments should not only focus on the current situation, schools, and stages of economic and social development, but also have a long-term perspective, a vision for the future, and a vision for the long history of human

social civilization. We should not only see the tremendous achievements and progress in the discipline construction of ordinary universities in Chongqing but also recognize the obvious problems and gaps. We are neither arrogant nor self-deprecating, but down-to-earth and always focus on "construction", believing that we will achieve the goals we expect.

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