Research on Core Knowledge Teaching in Higher Education

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Abstract. The special contradiction of higher education, namely the contradiction between the cultivation requirement of senior specialized talents and the actual status of those who accomplishes the complete secondary education. It’s the fundamental contradiction throughout the process of higher education. In order to solve it, we need to start from”requirement” and “reality”. On one hand, it requires to adapt to social development and handle well the relationship with politics, economy and culture and so on to solve the problem of what kind of people to cultivate; on the other hand, we must follow students’ physical and mental development rule to cultivate people of all-round development and solve the problem of how to cultivate people.

Introduction

It’s one of the important trends in today’s world higher education reform that higher education develops towards diversification and evolves from single structure to a variety of structures. The development of modern economy put forward new requirements for the reform of higher education. The demand each country for talent's grows with each passing day, not only senior technical talents and management talents are needed, but also a large number of mid-level technical talents are needed. This requires higher education to set up a reasonable talent structure which can meet the requirement of modern economic development, reform the traditional ivory tower structure of higher education and realize the diversification of education. This is specially demonstrated various forms of school running, in addition to the expansion of the original university, it vigorously develops short-term university and junior college of different educational system. Make different types of higher education coexist, with different teaching objects and flexible teaching methods.

From the structural levels of higher education in many countries, the postgraduate, undergraduate and junior college are pyramid shaped. Short-term university and junior college are particularly emphasized in recent years. This paper describes the core knowledge structure of higher education and the existing problems as well as their solutions.

Core Knowledge Structure of Higher Education

Higher education structure refers to the link means and the ratio relationship between the components of the system. It’s a complex integrated structure of multi-dimensional and multi-level which can be divided into two parts: macro structure and micro structure.

The so-called reasonable knowledge structure not only has a depth of expertise, but also has extensive knowledge and most reasonable and optimized knowledge system required by practical needs of career development. Establishing a reasonable knowledge structure, cultivate scientific thinking way, improve practical skills, in order to adapt to the occupation requirement in the future. Knowledge structure refers to the composition of knowledge system and combination method acquired after study and training by a person. Reasonable knowledge structure is a necessary condition for modern social occupation and the basis for the growth of talent. What the occupation of the modern society needs is reasonable knowledge structure and the talents who can scientifically combine all kinds of knowledge they acquire and adapt to social requirement according to the specific requirements of today's the development of the society and the occupation.
Existing Problems of Core Knowledge Teaching in Higher Education

School System. The core of school modernization is the “modernization of people”, so school is the uterus of moral and the source of civilization. Some experts interpret modern school system in a popular way as “good, advanced and can adapt to the demands of the era”. A relatively uncontroversial view is that the modern school system must be one system that can release humanity and enhance spirit. It can’t be denied that our school has always been focusing on "culture ", for example, there will be a clock in every classroom and a “countdown to the college entrance examination”. In our mind the good students have nothing to do with body or behavior. We take the so-called “three goods” students for granted to just focus on scores; we think the school is for the examination for universally acceptable rules. And how many students got accepted by Tongren No.1 Middle School is the only standard to judge "famous school".

Teaching Staff. In fact, modern education is not a lack of good teachers, such as Tao Xingzhi, Chen Heqin, Cai Yuanpei and so on. In contemporary China, it has no shortage of good teachers either, such as Huo Maozheng, Li Jilin, Li Yunan and so on. Good teachers are the symbol of education truth.

All the changes of education must start from respecting teachers. As the saying goes only"respecting teachers” can us “make education prosperous”. Obviously, real respect is neither just stays in oral nor just intensify the training of teachers, even not simply raise the pay. It’s particularly more important for education to give teachers life, interests, development and faith.

Teaching Ways and Means. What should class be like? In my opinion, it should have three colors: red faith, blue hope and green growth. It will mean the reform is meaningless if it only have the “bloody scores”. The moral of education is to give people the ideal and the immoral of education is to deprive of the ideal. Today, we must ask those who sit in the classroom how many of them have an ideal and since when they begin to “loose” their ideals. What will be the life without an ideal? Therefore, classroom teaching reform is not only for “efficiency” but for cultivating nature, character and personality .It’s not only changing the teaching ways and means not also reform the living ways and means.

Improving Suggestions for Core Knowledge Teaching in Higher Education

Talent growth cannot leave education .Education is the foundation of growth and the important way to establish modern knowledge. From the talent growth law point of view, the higher education is the combination of congenital factor and acquired education. Today's academic circles mainly put forward two kinds of mode to talents knowledge structure of talents:

Pagoda-type Knowledge Structure. This kind of knowledge structure shapes like a pagoda and includes basic knowledge and theory, professional basic knowledge, professional knowledge, subject knowledge and subject frontier knowledge. Basic theory and basic knowledge are at the bottom of the pagoda and subject frontier knowledge is at the peak of the tower. The characteristics of this knowledge structure is emphasizing broad and solid basic theory and basic knowledge and profound professional knowledge. It’s easy to have the knowledge focus on the main target and helpful for connecting frontier. At present, most Chinese schools are cultivating talents of this knowledge structure.

The Spider-web Type Knowledge Structure. The spider-web type knowledge structure centers on the professional knowledge, take other similar subjects and knowledge which has greater interactions as a network connection. It shapes like a spider web. This kind of knowledge structure takes its own professional knowledge as a “center” and take other similar subjects and knowledge which has greater interactions as a network connection, thus forming an adaptable knowledge network which can ramble over wide range. The spider-web type knowledge structure has the following characteristic: the unity of knowledge and depth. This kind of talent knowledge structure is compound. With the rapid development of social production, the talents of this knowledge structure are popular with employers, especially the foreign companies in China.
Conclusion

Reasonable knowledge structure is a basic requirement for modern social profession and the basis of talent growth. What the jobs of modern society need are talents with reasonable knowledge structure, can scientifically combine the knowledge they have learned according to the specific requirement of modern social development and occupation and be adapted to the society. This paper introduces modern knowledge structure and the education method of modern core knowledge teaching, gives the modern higher educators reference and strives to cultivate more elites.

References