Analysis of Modern Teaching Concept

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Abstract—Teaching is a segment of educational activity and talent education activity. Learning is a way of how human beings exist, a human’s activity featured with complexity, and has a dialectical unified relationship with teaching. An learner is the main body of learning, a person who gains knowledge and skills through various ways. Teachers and students should maintain a mutual respectful and equal relationship. In teaching activities, comprehensive methodologies should be used instead of one fixed method. For teachers from local colleges and universities, experimental practice, project-based teaching, adaptive-to-work teaching methods can be applied synthetically.

Keywords—teaching; learning; learners; relationship between teachers and students; teaching methods

I. INTRODUCTION

Today’s society is a society filled with economic globalization and intellectual information, an era that puts higher requirements for talent education of schools and require changes for teaching concept. With the proposal of modern teaching concept, teacher-oriented traditional classes are proved to be incompatible with the requirements of modern education by many studies, and we need to have a deeper understanding of modern educational concepts. From the perspective of its value, teaching concept is manner to express human being’s ideas to teaching concepts, and can also be taken as one teaching view, which represent certain value intentions and selections of people. Behind each teaching concept, a valuable statement of “what teaching should be” is hidden[1].

II. CONCEPT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP

In my opinion, essentially teaching is a type of “cognitive activity” and closely related to personal practice. Meanwhile, teaching is also a talent educational activity composed by teachers and students, an activity exclusive to human beings. During my teaching activities, the author has realized teachers need to guide students to learn consciously, quickly master basic knowledge of culture and science, and increase the students’ overall abilities in order to make them become what the society needs. Teaching features with purpose, planning and organization such characteristics, and cannot be separated from education. Teaching is part of education and is done through many ways, such as classrooms, activities outside classrooms, practice and simulation teaching etc, which are all the paths used in modern teaching activities, but currently speaking, the main way for students to learn still relies on classrooms.

Learning is considered as an eternal activity of human beings, since it’s a human activity; its complexity makes learning appear complicated naturally. Firstly, from the perspective of human biological nature, learning is a need for human to survive and develop as organism. Secondly, from the point of view of society, learning is a need for human to survive in the society and can also make human sociable. Thirdly, from the perspective of human’s spirits, learning makes people live more like human being, survive according to social restrictions and regulations and can non-stop absorb spiritual achievements created by human beings. Lastly, learning is a common behavior and appears different characteristics depends on different countries, nations, genders and cultural groups. Generally speaking, learning is an activity where human can understand the world and its significance meanwhile grow mature during the interaction with the world [2].

Learning can be gained through teaching activities and can also be done via other ways. From the perspective of educational process, I think teaching and learning are dialectical unified. In other words, in teaching activity, teachers plays a leading role and control the teaching rhythm, direction and process, especially in the classroom teaching where students are in the position of being dominated. Teachers need to provide learners with diverse teaching resources as well as tools that support their learning. Meanwhile the teaching goal must be achieved by students, the main body of teaching activities.

III. OPINIONS ON LEARNERS

The author feels that learners are the existence of a society. Those who acquire knowledge or skills through reading, listening&talking, research and practice can all be called learners. With the development of social economic and progress of technology, learners are not necessarily required to be sit in the classrooms to study but through other environment. For example, with the development of multi-media and internet technology, more and more learners have relatively good e-learning environment where advanced and well-equipped functionalities are available to support learners their learning activities effectively. E-learning environment plays an important role in changing learners' roles, personalities and cognitive strategies. Of course, different learners have different preferences over certain elements in the learning environment, and require various
external learning environment due to the fact that human bodies react differently over the same environment. Some prefer quiet, ventilated and bright environment to study, and some like to debate and use body languages to acquire information and gain knowledge in a lively environment.

Teachers are the important learners in the classroom, on one hand, teaching is the best way to learn. From this point of view, teachers should become important learners. On the other hand, from the live classroom way of speaking, teachers should learn from students, learn pedagogy, education methodology and way of thinking and so on, in order to know how to teach better in the live practice of classrooms. As a teacher, learning from practice is the key to success, although spending efforts in increasing their professionalism constantly in their spare time is also needed.

IV. UNDERSTANDING AND EXPECTATION OVER THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Education is a social activity to train people and a mutual activity involves both teachers and students. Hence, good relationship between teachers and students plays an active role in the smooth completion of educational and teaching activities, moreover it also has an important impact on the personality development and psychological health of teachers and students. Today’s society is a society with rapid development, an informational, intellectual and technological society. Innovative education is an inevitable requirement of social development and has become a major trend. Currently the main obstacle innovative education is facing is the traditional teacher-student relationship. Teacher-student relationship exists in teaching activities and the understanding of the relationship between teachers and students also changes together with the changes of teaching activities. As for the understanding of teacher-student relationship, western education history mainly takes knowledge pass-on as the base, emphasizing the positions of teachers and students and focusing on who is the center between teachers and students.

The main body is either teachers or students, later on the statement of teachers as dominators and students as main bodies is widely accepted by the majorities of education world. This statement is originated from educational and teaching theoretical study where our country blends in the main and sub-body concept of epistemology, as well as the reflection of our Chinese educators over the teacher-student relationship. Besides the statement of teachers dominating students, some other people proposed “democracy between teachers and students “such view, whose main idea is to acquire equality in personality of teachers and students and establish a mutual cooperative democratic teacher-student relationship, with the emphasis of mutual respect and understanding in the process of education.

The changes of teacher-student relationship can also be reflected in the way of classroom teaching, for example, with the deepening of teaching reform and the acceleration of knowledge updating, the traditional “inculcation” teaching method is dull and tedious, which represents a process where teachers are the absolute main body in teacher-student relationship. The new “heuristic” teaching method can cultivate students to think proactively, animate the classroom atmosphere, remaining the teacher-led position. The new way of equal communication, mutual respect and sharing classroom, in other words, democratic and equal teacher-student relationship will be the future trend of classroom education [3]. Democratic and equal teacher-student relationship requires teachers to listen to different opinions while students can also express their thoughts and behaviors. Such relationship focuses on the mutual respectful attitude instead of deeply analyzes the formed relations interacting between teachers and students, thus such relationship needs to be discussed further in theory.

In educational activities that are in line with international education, educators must change their own educational ideas, update their concepts, and pay high attention to the potential impact of interpersonal relations in the educational activities during the process of ”delivering, teaching and solving issues”. Harmonious teacher-student relationship refers to a new type of relationship that requires mutual understanding, respect, trust, democracy and equality during the whole educational activities.

The author thinks over the understanding of teacher-student relationship, the relationship between one and another is the base of understanding. "Teacher-to-student interaction, student-to-student interaction and teaching cognition constitute a complete teaching activity together."[4] "Teacher-to-student interaction is considered as the encounter of personality spirit between teachers and students in education."[5] The ideal relationship needs efforts from both teachers and students to be created and dynamically generated during the interaction process of teachers and students. Focusing on fully developing students in all aspects instead of simply delivering knowledge can make students not only master the new knowledge but also favorites the intellectual development, so as to form a good individuality and develop healthy personality. Under the new situations, teachers should focus on paying more attention on distinctions of individuality and fully respect students’ personalities. Based on the characteristics and learning styles of each student, offering solutions personalized to their needs which can help each one find the most optimal developing path corresponding to their characteristics. With the development of times, a large number of new talents are needed, and modern harmonious teacher-student relationship is also needed. Harmonious teacher-student relationship must fully reflect democracy and harmony. In this information age, students have no fewer channels than teachers to obtain information. Therefore, teachers should also learn from students and form a mutual learning community.

V. DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION ON THE TEACHING METHODS

American well-known educational psychologist Edward Lee Thorndike divided teaching methods into 9 types, including discussion, experimental and performing teaching methods, etc. [6]. Currently in our country, teaching methods in colleges and universities are lecture and discussion teaching methods, mainly expressed by languages; visiting and experimental teaching methods mainly focus on intuitive perception to acquire knowledge; project-led and practicing
methods need students to acquire knowledge independently. With the deepening of teaching reform, discussion, case-based, project-led such modern teaching methods are widely used.

Regarding different teaching methods, I think each method has its own applicable environment, and should be used in a comprehensive way. In our colleges and universities, traditional lectual teaching method still dominates, but discusional and heuristic methods reform are also in trial period. Traditional lectual teaching class is stuffed with contents and ignore the intellectual development of students; students’ participation is low with collective teaching manner. Although teachers know the differences among students, but they can not teach students in accordance with their aptitude. Some teachers used multimedia such modern teaching equipment, but this is only a transfer from books to screens, students still cannot accept in the end. So what is the effect of teaching method reform? On the whole, the effect of teaching method improvement is unsatisfactory, the progress is slow, and hard to make a break-through. It is necessary to further deepen the research of teaching methods in colleges and universities.

Under the big background of popularization of higher education, the students’ main source from local regular colleges and universities appears different characteristics. In such situation, how to adapt to those characteristics and help them succeed in various ways should become a question local colleges and universities teachers should seriously consider during the teaching process. For the ordinary college where I stay, with the weak foundation of running schools, developing practical talents is the direction in order to satisfy the need of local economic social development. Thus for the teachers, new teacher-student relationship establishment should be paid special attention in teaching activities and more intuitive perception ways should be taken to acquire knowledge and skills as much as possible based on the traditional teaching, such as experimental, project-led, workable teaching methods and so on, meanwhile enhancing the reform and innovation of curricula system. Under the guidance of modern teaching concept, launch classification teaching, group study and task driven teaching designs. Classification teaching requires teachers to understand students before class and divide them into different levels. In the process of teaching, firstly basic requirements should be explained altogether and then set teaching objectives in different layers in order to make the target in line with the students’ core development zone. In this information age, the social division of labor is getting constantly refined, which requires students to have the core spirit of team work. Learning is meaningless without teacher’s elaborations and also needs the cooperation between teachers and students. In classroom group study is used to resolve problems together and in the process of high level co-learning both teachers and students benefit a lot. Task-driven teaching design requires teachers to create tasks that stimulate students to participate proactively according to the professional knowledge. In order to get this done, learners’ characteristics needs to be analysed and teaching tasks and environment need to be designed. A very critical point of task-driven teaching design is to help learners to systematize what they have learnt and establish a network based on what they have learnt. Unlike the traditional lecture, task-driven teaching concept emphasizes the design of teaching evaluations that can effectively promote learners to participate actively [8].

VI. CONCLUSION

Currently, science and technology develop rapidly which have also boosted the speed of knowledge updates. Under this situation, what students have learnt from school is obviously not enough meanwhile it’s not possible for teachers to pass all mastered knowledge to students neither. The best way for students to adapt to the speed of knowledge updates is to teach them the best learning method. Evaluation is a systematic project, and classrooms without evaluations are inefficient in any mode of classroom teaching. Only when the role of evaluation is really brought into play, can we achieve twice the result with half the effort to finally gain high efficiency of classroom teaching.

REFERENCES