Reform and Innovation of Law Major Talents Cultivation Mode in Local Colleges and Universities

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Abstract. Legislation is the most basic system of a country, which is related to development, advancement and stability of a country. And development in all aspects shall take legislation as the foundation. The rapid development in several ten years in China is beyond imagination of the whole world. However, due to the high development speed, the improvement of legislation system cannot catch up with the national development, which causes a situation where there is no law applicable to various problems, and many people are illegally slipping through. The lack of legal talents is one of the main reasons for laws being not able to make rapid progress, and the talents cultivated under cultivation systems in many colleges and universities cannot meet the social demands. Therefore, we need to improve cultivation modes to create new talents. In the thesis, it has given a simple research and analysis on reform and innovation of law major talents cultivation modes in local colleges and universities, hoping to make certain contribution to development of China’s legal practices.

Introduction

In order to improve the education quality of talents of this major, China has proposed “Excellent Legal Talents Education and Cultivation Plan”, which is an important step in reform of talent cultivation mode. After the reform and opening-up policy, many local colleges and universities have more or less reformed their cultivation modes. Although they have achieved to some extent from these measures, there are still many colleges and universities having not kept innovating their cultivation modes, and more and more problems having been exposed, for Chinese society has changed a lot in the recent thirty years. Many students majored in law feel that they are not capable enough after entering the society. It is necessary for local colleges and universities to reform and innovate their cultivation modes to cultivate talents who can meet social demands and comply with national development, which is also an innovation practice many colleges and universities have been doing in the recent years.

There Is An Urgent Need to Reform and Innovate China’s Legal Talents Cultivation Mode

Market economy is, to some extent equal to rule-of-law economy. The economy has been growing rapidly and stably in China in the recent years, and the reason for the stable growth lies in the fact that there are many legal personnel serving for China’s economic market. However, students majored in law in many colleges and universities in China are far from optimistic when finding a job, partially because of major expansion, but much more because of the lagged cultivation mode. Many local colleges and universities are divorced from reality when teaching law major courses, focused on theoretic learning, which seriously restricts knowledge structure and ability building of legal talents. Insufficient capacity is the reason that students feel “incapable” after entering the society.

Some experts believe that in the modern education modes, the largest drawback lies in blind theory inculcation in classes, and the lack of courses about skills and practices results in a gap with western developed countries, which is agreed by many colleges and universities. Therefore, local colleges and universities need to take social demands and basic national requirements as the innovation direction, and practically study problems existing in legal talents cultivation mode, then to make corresponding reform and innovation for these problems.
Legal course systems set in many colleges and universities in China are basically the same, and the teaching method inclined to theoretic knowledge and similar system frames make legal education less distinctive. Local colleges and universities shall establish their “characteristic” modes according to their own characteristics. For example, if professional advantages of one university lie in finance and economics, it can set law majors combined with economics, which can not only give full play to superiority in finance and economics majors, but also drive growth of legal education. This mode can also be called “classified university education and classified management”. Although, to some extent, there still exists a certain disparity with professional law schools, they can cultivate legal talents specialized in certain field as long as complying with the basic teaching rules of legal subjects and giving play to popular majors.

**Practical Teaching System Is An Important Way for Legal Talents Cultivation Mode**

Local colleges and universities shall have their own characteristics in formulating cultivation objectives, and establish course framework suitable for their own education system according to the aspect they want to highlight. One can say that the teaching plan and cultivation system for law majors in colleges and universities are separately assigned, with no practice, thus making the cultivated talents unable to meet social demands, for such aspects have not been fully verified. It is necessary to take social market demands as the main direction when formulating cultivation system and teaching scheme, and only in this way can they better cultivate students’ capabilities in all aspects.

Professional teachers in colleges and universities shall also avoid working behind closed doors. They shall not reform or innovate just depending on their own understandings, but invite professional personnel from some professional institutions (courts, law firms, etc.) to participate in courses confirmation, and jointly discuss about teaching system of theoretic knowledge. And this can better improve practical teaching system.

Attention shall be paid to the following three aspects during the entire process of reforming and innovating teaching system:

1. **Promote practical teaching.**
   Practical teaching is not independent from law major courses. Although it is a critical point in cultivation mode reform, it still needs to be combined with the most basic staff. In professional courses, besides teaching basic legal knowledge, it is also necessary to incorporate practices into it, and only by this way, can it help students to understand and master legal theories in a more efficient manner.

2. **Intensify professional experiments**
   Firstly, local colleges and universities need apply multiple experiment modes. Basically, professional experiments can be classified into two modes, one being special experiment, and the other being comprehensive experiment. In the first experiment mode, it applies specific regulations into one certain case, to enable students to better master and understand implication of this regulation, and students can also conduct inspection, application and analysis to this. And in the comprehensive experiment, it needs to apply all the necessary regulations in a complete case. It needs to be done under guidance of professional personnel, and students conduct detailed analysis to all the involved laws, and write legal instruments and reports based on the above. This mode can effectively improve students’ logical thinking, application proficiency, language competence and capability in other aspects.

   Secondly, it shall enable students to have the feeling of being a lawyer or legal worker, namely to cultivate talents from the perspective of occupation. Law-related occupations are divided according to different roles. Therefore, in this teaching mode, it is necessary to take occupation characteristics as classifying basis, and then allocate different roles. Namely that have students play roles of different legal workers in “simulation” and “role playing” environment, including judge, investigator, lawyer, corporate legal personnel, etc. Enable students to apply the learned professional knowledge to solve some practical problems which may be encountered in life in simulated situation, to improve their ability of mastering and applying knowledge. This cultivation
shall be established according to social demands, and talents cultivated in this way have better professional quality.

Lastly, formulate different experiment projects according to different roles. For example, if the experiment project aims at simulating the process which a lawyer needs to master during a lawsuit, the court trial process may be saved in specific link formulation, but pay more attention to preparation works before court opening. It starts from accepting the case, including entrust, investigation, evidence collection and various preparation works before court opening, and only by doing the most basic links well, can students firmly master and improve their legal skills.

(3) Consolidate professional practices

Professional practice has been a traditional talent cultivation mode for all the time, and it is the only chance for students to get to the society, the major and reality in the previous teaching mode. However, due to restrictions of various factors in colleges and universities, there are quite few chances for teachers to lead students for group internship, and many enterprises or practice bases gradually refusing students’ internship. Although professional practice is an education link in traditional teaching mode, it will be the key point in promoting practical teaching system at the present of innovating talent cultivation mode. Therefore, professional practice is still an important way for talent cultivation, and it is critically important no matter in tradition or innovation. And there are reasons for local colleges and universities to consolidate and intensify it again.

Conclusion

Legislation can maintain public security, market and society of a country, and legal restriction exists in every “corner”. Obviously, legislation plays a role of vital importance in state governance. Therefore, legal talents are also “treasures” of a country. In China, there are more and more colleges and universities having set up law majors. It should have been a good thing to be able to cultivate more legal talents, but the increasingly lower quality becomes a problem which has to be solved. It can be seen from the thesis, talents cultivated from traditional education mode are increasingly getting far away from the society. Therefore, it is necessary to accelerate the reform and innovation, otherwise, it will cause severe influence to development of legal practices in China. In the thesis, the author has simply researched and analyzed reform and innovation of legal talent cultivation mode for local colleges and universities, and has proposed some suggestions about reform of course system and cultivation mode, hoping to make some contribution for cultivation of legal talents.

References