Research on the Construction of “Communitization” of University Students’ Dormitories

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Abstract. In order to boost the construction and development of campus and dormitory culture, we will provide postgraduates high-quality service combined with good communitization atmosphere. In this essay, I made a clear description and research on the overall situation of the construction of “communitization” of university students’ dormitories, through which, I explored a targeted road to construct the “communitization” of postgraduates’ dormitories, and proposed my suggestions, which also provide some references for universities to make policies.

Introduction

Along with a series of reforms pushed by universities, the “communitization” of university students’ dormitories has been popularized in many Chinese universities. Because of its well-equipped facilities and superior conditions, this mode has now been acknowledged and accepted by a lot of postgraduates. However, there are also some disadvantages goes with the acceptance, such as over-serious problems of property, strict management while lacking of humanistic care, the disconnection between this mode and educational activities in universities, etc. All these problems make the construction of “communitization” of university students’ dormitories an urgent task, as well as a hard implementation [1].

Analysis of Domestic and Overseas Researches

Nowadays, the accommodation form of overseas university students is mainly the combination of living at home and boarding at school, which is different from the mode of students’ community. Therefore, the different objects chosen in the researches lead to the situation where there is no reference about communitization. Meanwhile, there are few researches about the theory of the management of students’ dormitories, too. Overseas studies about communities originated from the USA in 1880s, and they became the most basic concept and practice after Parker’s and Hillary’s researches on the definition of communities. The researches of community management which originated from overseas countries have achieved rich results. Currently, new try and effort are under implementation. Although there are no students’ community management in overseas students’ accommodation management, their mode of residential system can also be considered as the one of students’ community [2].

In recent years, with the reform of college education system, socialized reform of college logistics and the gradual implementation of the credit system, the communitization of university students’ dormitories in China has become a new outcome of these. Plenty of educators have paid high attention to the researches and practice of college student community management, as a result, they have got some theory achievements as well as some practical experiences. However, the exploration and researches from these theorists are not enough. They did many researches on the
fields like ideological and political education, cultural construction, etc., which haven’t formed a complete, systematic and scientific theory system of university students’ community management.

The Connotations and Characteristics of Postgraduates’ Dormitory Communitization

University students’ community is different from the general students’ dormitory, on the other hand, it couldn’t be considered the same as the ordinary communities in society, either. Due to the particularity of the environment, objects and missions, university students’ communities have their own specific connotations: students’ communities are a public area on the basic need of protecting the common spiritual home and maintaining the common interests, during the particular part of which, young students get together for the same purpose - acquiring knowledge. Meanwhile, it’s also an autonomy organization made up of universities, real estate, students, parents and community residents. The “communitization” of postgraduate dormitories is a kind of community structure customized for this specific group [3].

Through the study of modern situation of university students’ communities, I found they have the following distinct features: The first one is the large group. It consists of a great number of students who are not only from China, but also from all over the world with the same purpose of learning together. The number is often thousand, or even ten thousand; the second one is the relatively long dwelling time. Most of the university students travel far away from their homes and live at the dormitories for about 3 or 4 years; the third one is its good system. There are integrated service facilities, such as canteens, supermarket, etc; the fourth one is the cohesive culture. With students as the main body, the characteristic campus culture and community culture are formed; the last one is the sense of identity and belonging. In a word, university students’ communities have quite distinct features - polytropism and mobility, youthfulness and knowledgeability, homogeneity and heterogeneity, closeness and openness [4].

The Conditions of the Communitization Management of University Students’ Dormitories

Many of our universities have made great efforts on the communitization management of university students’ dormitories for many years. After the long time try and exploration, we have accumulated some experience in this field.

1. Matured service mechanism has been formed. For example, some university students’ dormitories set service corner, TV room, public areas, etc., which can satisfy many simple needs of students, so that students can organize different kinds of activities. Meanwhile, the small supermarket, copy room, laundry room, news stall and other service facilities built in the dormitories can also provide opportunities for students to do part time jobs.

2. Normative management has been formed. Some universities have established good life orders through strict, normative and scientific management. A series of scientific dormitory management regime include the ones of daily life and dormitory comparison, in which universities can take advantage of the methods like inspection and appraising through comparison to drive the students to live a healthy and regular life. Meanwhile, some departments will cooperate with the dormitory management center recording students’ performance and circulating the bad ones regularly, all of which will be hooked up with comprehensive evaluation, awards and appraising.

3. Preliminary mode of students’ management and organization has been established. With every dormitory as a unit, the leader of which is in charge of sanitary condition; there is also a cleaner in charge of sanitation on each floor, who will clean and inspect that floor at regular time. There are also many student assistants who can comprehensively help the staffs in the dormitory do some daily management jobs.

4. A variety of meaningful activities which can transmit culture have been successfully held. Some universities strengthen the construction of students’ dormitories’ cultural atmosphere through organizing some beneficial activities with students as the main body, activities as carrier and improvement as purpose. At the same time, students will take part in the daily management and
make some code of conducts under the teachers’ instructions, such as *Dormitory Civilization Pledge* and *Dormitory Code of Conduct*, etc.

**Problems in the Communitization Management of Chinese University Students’ Dormitories**

Recent years, Chinese universities pay high attention to the improvement of students’ living conditions. As a result, there are well-equipped facilities in students’ dormitories now, which can satisfy the basic needs of students’ daily life, meanwhile, the implementation of communitization management also gets great effects [5], but there still exists the following problems:

1. The communitization management of students’ dormitories lack of long-term mechanism. We can see some good effects and results in the short time, but in the long run, we still need to establish long-term mechanism and protection mechanism. In addition to this, this management work is still at the exploration state, the results of which haven’t be listed into the evaluation mechanism, so they couldn’t increase staffs’ initiatives, all of which make it a hard work.

2. The lack of relative organizational systems and management mechanisms and the disunity of leadership. The communitization management of students’ dormitories is a great system engineering which needs certain organizational systems and management mechanisms. Who is in charge of organizing, who is in charge of the promoting part and who is in charge of the establishment and inspection of the evaluation index all need particular sectors take their responsibility and support.

3. The expenditure problems of the communitization management. The communitization management needs to develop more space on the basis of modern dormitory management, such as organizing some relative recreational activities and creatively introduce some other necessary activities and construction elements, while at this time, the problem of expenditure looks more prominent. The problem of expenditure here is not only the one in short time, but also the long-term financial support.

4. The lack of the communitization management talents. Modern students’ dormitories often hire retires as staffs, emphasizing students as the main part to serve, and providing “family” or “baby-sister” service for the students, which lacks of professional management talents, in order to make communitization management of postgraduates popular, we need to employ some management talents.

5. The mobility of the students and staffs. Nowadays, the staffs working in the postgraduates’ dormitories are often the old, they have great mobility with the limitation by their ages, health conditions family problems, etc; the postgraduates often live for 4 years in the dormitory, so the stability of the main part is hard to be guaranteed. Problems resulting from this are often the difficulties in organizing some activities related to brands, meanwhile, the stability and continuity of it are hard to be guaranteed.

**Strategies to the Communitization Management of Students’ Dormitories**

1. The communitization management of students’ dormitories is a system engineering which needs the cooperation and coordination of multi-departments, in addition to this, it also needs universities to establish a united leading group and students’ dormitory management committee to be in charge of the reform. The united leading group and students’ dormitory management committee need to coordinate the relationships among dean’s office, security office, students’ affairs office, youth league committee, logistics groups and network center, etc., manage well the relationships among management, service and education, make it clear the combination of responsibility, authority and benefit among different departments.

2. Establish an integrated mechanism of the communitization management of postgraduates’ dormitories. We should make every aspect specified in the management process, make it clear the mission and obligation of different departments, and comprehensively boost the daily work, activities, finance management and audit supervision of the communitization management of postgraduates’ dormitories.

3. List the communitization management of postgraduates’ dormitories into evaluation systems.
like student management office, logistics groups and student affairs office and establish integrated reward-punishment mechanism. Students’ affairs are the important components of university management system, and realizing its scientificty and normativity has great meanings to increase university students’ overall quality. Through the competitive mechanism and reward-punishment mechanism, the construction of the students affairs in our school and their development situation can be comprehensively understood, thus we can achieve improvements.

4. According to the students’ practical condition, university should take the advantage of its great ideological and political work to select some excellent instructors to live in the students’ communities. At first, the university should do some training work to strengthen the instructors’ awareness of responsibility. Then, the instructor office should be set in each building of the students’ communities. Meanwhile, the university should also make relative policies like Community Instructor Working Rules and Community Instructor Working Responsibilities to make sure the work normative.

5. The communitization management of postgraduates’ dormitories needs to comprehensively strengthen the construction of politics, culture, economy, society and education. We should integrate the democratic management of the students’ communities and gradually develop the community administrative management from the traditional management mode to mutual management mode [6]. According to the characteristics of young students, we should also organize different kinds of activities related to the aspects of studying, sports, entertainment and life; guarantee the basic construction of students’ communities to satisfy the continuous needs on materials and cultural life with the expenditure supported by universities. Through the methods in which the party and the league, instructors and student autonomous organizations going deep inside the communities, students’ styles of study and behaviors can be strengthened; we need to organize life education activities, such as following the daily routine mechanism and management rules, disseminating the civilized pledge, implementing inspections of civilized behaviors and sanitation, so that students can form good living habits; students’ ability of self-education can also be improved through the establishment of evaluation mechanism.

References