The Problems and Countermeasures of the Graduate Education in the Common Colleges and Universities

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\textbf{Abstract.} With the expansion of the size of graduate education, how to ensure and improve the quality of graduate education has become an important topic in higher education in our country. This paper analyzed the existing main problems of the graduate education in the common colleges and universities and put forward some constructive countermeasures according to the practical situations of the common colleges and universities.

\textbf{Introduction}

Graduate education is the highest level of education in education system. The ultimate task of graduate education is to cultivate high-quality talent with creative consciousness, innovation, and competition ability for the society. In the past 20 years, graduate education in our country has achieved a lot due to reform and development. However, with the continuous increase of graduate students, how to ensure the steady improvement of the quality and the level of graduate education has become an important issue for all of the colleges and universities.

It is a very common phenomenon that the excellent students in Chinese colleges and universities choose to study abroad or to achieve their master’s and doctoral degree in domestic key universities. The loss of high quality students directly affect the quality of the graduate education in common colleges and universities in our country. Therefore, reform in graduate education in common colleges and universities must be enforced to ensure the quality of graduate cultivation.

\textbf{Main Problems of the Graduate Education in the Common Colleges and Universities}

In the last decade, the colleges and universities in our country attach great importance to the development of graduate education. Graduate enrollment increased rapidly in most of the colleges and universities. With the expansion of the size of graduate education, quality issues become increasingly prominent. At present the graduate education in our country especially in the common colleges and universities faces many new situations and problems.

\textbf{Low Employment Rate of Graduate}

National competitiveness and future prosperity depend critically on our capacity to produce excellently-trained doctoral and master’s degree holders. The graduate education and human capital development is recognised as the engine of economic competitiveness. However, the graduate education in a lot of common colleges and universities had produced and are producing poor quality product for our society. It mainly manifested in two aspects, on the one hand, more and more graduate students are difficult to be employed. Not a little master graduates had to choose a job that has nothing to do with their major. On the other hand, qualified high-level talents are difficult to be found by the enterprises.
Lack of the Advanced Training System

Chinese higher education is still mainly the traditional system. Compared with the international graduate entrance exam which is more flexible and is paid attention to all-round development, we over-emphasize on knowledge exam entrance system and lack of comprehensive quality[1]. The curriculum scope in common colleges and universities is too narrow and the teaching method is too simple. The current education system does not pay attention to train the graduate student's self-study and critical thinking ability but focus on how to understand and accumulate the knowledge.

Lack of High Level Teachers and Instructors

Teachers and instructors are a vital part of the educational system. Their academic competency and comprehensive quality directly affect the quality of the graduates[2,3]. In the common colleges and universities, the teachers' and tutors’ ability and level is a problem. Since the most excellent teachers are often choose to go abroad or go to work in the key universities, the academic level of the most teachers in common colleges is not qualified to be good tutor for master graduate. This is mainly reflected by the deficiency of modern knowledge and skills of the science and technology for some teachers, and there are no competent teachers can teach some interdisciplinary courses. Therefore, under this situations, students' potential and creativity are hard to be developed and the cultivating quality is hard to be improved.

Main Countermeasures of the Graduate Education in the Common Colleges and Universities

Determine the Training Objective

Most of the graduate students in the common colleges and universities are not of the outstanding students. So the important goal of the graduate education in the common colleges and universities is to cultivate qualified professional graduate for industries and markets. Thus the classified graduate education should be carried out. For the excellent graduate students, we should train their academic capability such as expertise in methods, techniques, knowledge of field and the capacity to integrate concepts across disciplines. For the most graduate students, we should focus on training their technical skills such as the surgical skill and the diagnosis technology for medical postgraduates to enable them to be more qualified to meet social and market needs and effectively enhanced the employment rate.

Restructure the Curriculum and Enrich the Teaching Contents

In face of the rapid development of science and technology and the economic globalization, the demand of talents will have a big change. New jobs require the talents expertise in knowledge of field, possess the capacity of deeply understanding the professional practices and the international competence. Therefore, we should change the traditional graduate curriculum, select and update teaching materials to train the professional skills of the graduate. For example, courses relevant to politics and English should be reduced and the experimental curriculum should be increased to train the graduate’s practical and professional skills. In addition, we should strengthen and broaden the curriculum contents in order to train the creativity and international competence of students. The cross-disciplinary courses should be increased in the curriculum of graduate education.

Select Good Teachers and Improve the Teaching Level

The key to the development of the modern university is the teachers. Good teachers and tutors are the vital factor to assure the high-quality cultivation of graduate. So the best teachers should be chosen to bear the mission of teaching graduate courses and to instruct the graduate student. The teachers and tutors must have high knowledge level and continue to develop professionally and remain productive. The common colleges and universities must pay more attention to update the teacher's educational
thought, knowledge structure and improve teachers' teaching level for the purpose of adapting to the new teaching requirements and the new jobs requirement. The common colleges and universities should adopt various forms to attract and introduce the first-class teachers and scholars act as the teachers in their universities.

**Increase the Collaboration and Exchange between Universities**

The reinforcement of international exchange and cooperation is the important way to widen the orientation of graduate education[4]. Academic collaboration and exchange can enlarge both the teachers’ and the students' view and their horizon of knowledge. The cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary communication can enable graduates to absorb the advanced ideas and practice in their field and reform their defects. As has been proved by the collaboration between Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences and our university, Weifang Medical University. The graduates from this cooperative culture program had wider scope of knowledge and mastered more experimental technologies. Thus the common colleges and universities should reinforce multi-level collaboration and communication with other universities especially with the key universities and academic institutions all over the world. The seminar, academic lecture and conference are all good ways for graduates to broaden their scope of knowledge and enhance their creativity.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, it is great significant that we explore and take some measures to assure and upgrade the quality of graduate education in the common colleges and universities. Since the high-quality talents and the qualified graduates for the society are the ultimate task of the graduate education.

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