Research on Practical Application Abilities of Students in Private University

Li-Yun XIE¹, Si-Qi LIU¹, Hui-Min XIAO¹, Si-Rui PENG¹, Li-Na XIAO¹,*

¹School of Management, Wuhan Donghu University, Wuhan, China
570993150@qq.com
*Corresponding author

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Abstract. Private university is an important part of higher education in our country; so promoting the development of private colleges will be an important measure to ensure the sustained and healthy development of higher education in China. In practice, the goal of most private universities is to build an application oriented college, and to cultivate the high quality undergraduate applied talents for the society. This paper takes Wuhan Donghu University as an example, focusing on the problems existing in the aspects of students' practical abilities, exploring the causes of these problems from the enterprise, the college and the student's point of view, and giving some improvement measures at last. In this paper, we hope to bring some theoretical and practical references for the similar colleges or universities, and jointly commit to the development of China's private higher education.

The Basic Situation of the Private Universities in China

Private universities refer to the institutions of higher learning and other educational institutions, which are held by enterprises, institutions, social organizations and other social organizations or individual citizens with non-state education budget; the level of private universities can be divided into college education and undergraduate education. There are the differences from the public colleges or universities:

The Private universities, which are run by the local college, have an independent campus and fundamental facilities, have relatively independent teaching organization and management, independent recruitment, independent degree certificate, independent financial accounting. And also the Private universities can independently bear civil liability because they have independent legal person qualification.

The Private universities are carried out in accordance with the private way of management on the funds, tuition fees and other related management, because of its independence; As we know the source of funding is not from national funding but is raised by the host of the college through a variety of ways in the Private universities.

The Private universities have the weak teachers strength, and they are lacking of high educational and qualified teachers. And also, the Private universities are relatively weak in hardware facilities.

Although compared with the public universities, the Private universities have their own weaknesses, but the development of private colleges and universities vigorously promote social development and progress. Nowadays, the proportion of China's higher education is far behind the developed countries in the world, this situation cannot match with the knowledge economy era requirements, also can't satisfy the demand of developing the country. So we
must vigorously develop private education to meet the needs of "science and education". The Private universities aim at the market demand, timely develop emergency all kinds of professional and technical personnel; and because of their self-raised funds instead of state funding, the Private universities constantly improve the qualities for higher vocational talents of national emergency.

The development of private higher education, expand the scope of the education, and make the broad masses of young people learned from private higher education knowledge, which can set up the confidence, found the self-reliance in society orientation, and clear the itself value.

Different from the public school education mode, the Private universities are proceeding from China's national conditions, aiming at market oriented, running independently and striving for the survival in the competition, focusing on quality, injecting vigor for education reform and promoting their development. With the advent of the era of knowledge economy in the world, the Private universities will play an important role in promoting social progress. So the private colleges should get the target, and constantly explore the training mode, in order to provide more applied talents to the market.

The Current Situation of Students' Practical Application Abilities in Private University

To understand the students' practical application abilities in privative universities, we conducted a questionnaire survey in Wuhan Donghu University. Combined with relevant literature retrieval and the questionnaire analysis, we find out that private universities are actively developing the talent system of applied ability training to adapt to the market demand, and they have achieved certain results, mainly reflected in:

Exploring Suitable Talent Training Goal

The survey found that Private universities implement junior general education, and senior the wide caliber professional education, to increase students' independent choice opportunity on general education courses. Most universities have many varieties of e-commerce course selection, such as "mobile recruitment", "big data", "social media" and so on, which allow students to choose. Professional curriculums are developed as far as possible early in the third grade, and last year focused on employment abilities, postgraduate entrance examination, and the arrangement of graduation thesis and graduation practice.

Establishing a Rational Standard of the Talent Training Quality

The Private universities such as Wuhan Donghu University, for example, improve their own culture constantly, at the same time, strengthen teachers, counselors, teachers in charge of responsibility to supervise and urge students to actively participate in learning. They change the backward teaching method, speed up the pace of computer, multimedia teaching. Their educational philosophy is based on students, following the students' physical and mental development characteristics, suitable to the development of teaching pattern, to improve the quality of personnel training.

Optimizing the Talent-training Scheme

The Private universities such as Wuhan Donghu University, are improving the curriculum, to carry out the experimental training courses, training students' practical abilities, and priding enterprise cooperation to let the students participate in cognitive practice, understand the
development of the enterprise operation mode, pull into the distance with the enterprise, but also provides opportunities for graduates quickly into the company internship. They also set up professional committee of university-enterprise cooperation, cooperation with many enterprises, and internship opportunities for students to create more business.

Creating practical Application Ability Training Platform

In surgery, we find that the Private universities are good at providing related support excitation to carry out subject competition that can greatly stimulate the students’ creativity. At the same time, the Private universities set up innovation and entrepreneurship base, encourage students to start a business, and provide business related support, so that students in the school can have the opportunity to combine theory with practice.

The Main Cause Analysis on the Shortcomings of Students’ Practical Application Abilities

Although the Private universities have achieved some success, they are still on the exploratory stage, and they mainly have the following questions:

There is Insufficient in Their Own Development

Without outside help, the financing channel of Private universities is single. Relying on their own ability to manage the education, it is hard for them to build up the standard teaching building, laboratory, and buy high quality teaching equipment, laboratory equipment, books and materials, to meet the requirements of the teaching requirement. The education quality is low, the teachers' team is not sound, the scale is small, and the education level is low, above all these objective existences of factors make the cultivation of students' practical ability. At the same time lacking of standardization of practice management mechanism or system, make the lack of a broad and strong guidance and organization guarantee of students' social practice. Although Private universities are in active exploration, it is hard to avoid the pursuit of the surface form.

There is Insufficient in the Practical Teaching Aspect

In the Private universities, there is no complete experimental training equipment. On the other hand, they are lacking of professional training course teachers. Also, there is insufficient in the aspect of students' innovative entrepreneurial project. “The company” entrepreneurial base is a minority college student. Due to the freedom and loose characteristics, only a few students in the Private universities participate in innovative start-ups. Students which have entrepreneurship and innovation project stay on the idealized level, and there is only a small fraction of people fit in, and most of the students don't know the meaning of entrepreneurial base for their own development.

There is Insufficient in Terms of University-enterprise Cooperation Mode

As a talent training mode, university-enterprise cooperation also need operating mechanism, but the university-enterprise cooperation mechanism is not sound in the Private universities. The Private universities and the related companies are short of long-term cooperation and development, which on the one hand, there is no guarantee that students scheduled to enterprise practice, on the other hand, there is no guarantee that the teacher to companies for study on schedule. Companies at the same time can't give a guaranteed place for the Private
universities. Therefore, university-enterprise cooperation is being in a very embarrassing situation.

There is Insufficient in the Student Thought

Compared with 211, 985 school, there is a certain gap between the knowledge structure and the comprehensive quality of the Private universities students. Many private colleges or universities mainly implement two, three or specialist level education, so the quality of students, academic basis and learning ability are far less than the same level of public universities. In surgery, over 90% students don't really participate in the social practice activities; they don’t pay attention to the social practice requirements of the school, do not understand the needs of the society, and do not know their own lack of quality.

As we all know the Private universities is an important part of higher education, we should actively try to solve the problems in their development, and explore new breakthrough, in order to get better development.

The Measures to Enhance Students' Practical Application Abilities in Private University

Facing the Limitations, and Attaching Importance to Market Orient

The Private universities should update the educational concept, deepen the reform of the teaching quality, change the backward teaching method, and speed up the pace of computer, multimedia teaching. In activity, they should follow the students' physical and mental development characteristics, to explore suitable teaching mode. They should grasp the market demand, get the accurate market positioning, and strengthen the research on the labor market. According to the characteristics of oneself, abilities of running a school, the geographical position, combining with the development of the national and local government planning, the Private universities should focus on the goal of local economic construction services in the professional settings and personnel training. Also combined with the national policies, the implementation of relevant policies and measures to make students really participate in social practice to enhance their practical application abilities.

Making Reasonable Practice Teaching Content to Regulate the Practice Teaching

The Private universities should set up major flexible, make the training plan of Applied Talents, design their own syllabus, choose their own textbooks, and set up perfect professional and professional triage system allowing students to independent course selection; adopt flexible length of schooling, reform exam system and implement the comprehensive quality evaluation system for students, etc. They should also strengthen the management of school teaching routine, strengthen the teaching abilities in the six regular work management as teaching preparation, teaching, coaching, assignment, experiment practice, and testing, help to cultivate the students' practical ability. Improving the teaching quality of education of private colleges can't just stay on teaching of textbook knowledge. Due to today's society more and more high to the requirement of talents, besides to demand higher ideological and ethical quality, professional skills, knowledge is also very important. The Private universities should make more professional technology training scheme, to create more practice opportunities for the students, let the students get the comprehensive education, in the training of practice development of the cooperation, innovation, decision-making ability, as soon as possible to adapt to the fierce competition in the future society.
Strengthening Experiment Hardware Facilities, and Constructing Practice Bases

According to the needs of the talent training program optimization, in the concept of "resource sharing, saving and efficient", the Private universities should optimize the laboratory construction, plan on laboratory construction scientific, improving the service efficiency of laboratory and effects. They should increase investment in hardware and software, form three levels of national, provincial and university innovation entrepreneurship training system, operation mechanism and management model, to achieve benign situation of “students declare proactively, guaranteed under the guidance of teachers, incentive policy implementation, results of incubation extended”. The construction of the campus practice-training base is being an important position and fundamental guarantee for private colleges to deepen teaching reform, training of high quality and application of technical personnel. In this condition, students can participate in the practice base work from the school, and the outside school training base construction is the basis of practice teaching outside school, which can let the students go out of school to practice, to produce the first line, exercise and train students to work.

Strengthening the Construction of Teaching Staff

High-quality teaching staff is the main factor to improve the quality of personnel training, so it is key to improve the quality of Private universities by establishing a high level teaching staff adapted to the teaching needs of the faculty. Private universities should make full use of their flexible mechanism, using different methods of appointment, taking different management measures to preferential policies and conditions to attract talented people. Through the appointment of high level of foreign teachers or experts for academic leaders, they give priority to carry out the subject construction and specialty construction; The Private universities should establish an effective incentive mechanism, attracting the rich teaching experience of professional teachers to teach students in private colleges and universities; The Private universities should strengthen the construction of full-time teachers, by means of combining with the introduction of training and combining with a part-time, continuous to expand and the survival of the fittest. The Private universities should increase the training of “double type teachers”, on the one hand to send teachers to participate through practice and training to improve college teachers' practical guidance capability; on the other hand to enrich the teachers selected by the social outstanding personnel to directly improve the teachers' practice abilities.

Perfecting the Mechanism of University-enterprise Cooperation

In the school enterprise cooperation, which is based on the project of talent training, the Private universities should construct application-oriented talents training model of employment oriented thick foundation, fine professional, strong ability. They should implement the “order-type” talent training model: the schools, enterprises and students form a partnership on a voluntary basis, and jointly develop training requirements to achieve effective docking and training talents demands of enterprises talent. They should actively encourage industry leaders to participate in running the school, dock industry needs in talents training, and agree with the industry leading edge in the professional and curriculum, thus form a good interaction with the industries and enterprises, so as to form the effective fusion.

In summary, the construction and operation of applied talents training in the Private universities is very complex, involving all aspects of the content. Therefore, the
comprehensive implementation of the talent-training model which is based on extensive research and practice must explore boldly, then identify problems, accumulate experience, constantly sum up, and constantly innovate.

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References


