Function of Students' Party Branch's Battle Bastion in Higher Vocational Colleges from the Perspective of Systematic Theory

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Abstract. Student Party branch is a basic organization team or battle bastion to take the lead in implementing the Party's educational policy. This paper chooses the construction of student Party branch in higher vocational colleges and its role as the research object, and carries out a comprehensive analysis from a systematic perspective. The student Party branch is regarded as a system, its constituent elements are discussed, the contents of each element and the concerns needed are analyzed; the structure of the system is discussed, and the interaction among the constituent elements of the system is probed. The paper states the interaction between the system and the environment, and puts forward that under the new era background, according to the characteristics of young students, various activities and places are used to strengthen the construction of students' Party branches, and constantly promote the growth of college students and the development of China's education.

Introduction

Colleges and universities shoulder the important task of training builders and successors for the cause of socialism. Under the new situation, the life and study of college students have changed a lot, and the times have put forward higher requirements for students. Ideological and political education is to awaken and enhance students' sense of social responsibility and improve their comprehensive quality [1-3]. College Students Party Branch is the most grass-roots organization of the Chinese Communist Party in colleges and universities. It can publicize the Party's line, principles, policies and the spirit of important conferences among young students, and is an important position for ideological and political education of the youngsters [4]. At the same time, by serving the general students, collecting their opinions and suggestions and feeding back to the school in time, students' Party branch can play a good role as a bridge and link. Therefore, students' Party branch is an important "source of influence" and "feedback point" of information, producing a marked effect in education and management, and forming a powerful leading, a strong battle fortress, or battle bastion [5-7]. However, from the current situation, there are still some shortcomings in the construction of student Party branches in Colleges and universities. It is necessary to put forward solutions through systematic analysis, so that it can be improved very well [8,9].

Student Party Branch is able to be regarded as a system composed of multiple elements. In order to make the function of the whole system play its best role, it is necessary to make a thorough analysis on the elements of the system and their correlation on the basis of grasping the principle of the system holistically, and to find effective ways and means to maximize the role of the core, or heart of the organization of the students' Party branches in higher vocational colleges.

For this purpose, it is requisite to probe deeply the elements of the system, the structure frame, and the environment the system is facing. This paper aims to explore the best effect of the role of the students' Party branch fighting fortress in higher vocational colleges from the viewpoint of system theory [10].
Systematic Analysis of the Function of Students' Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges

Characteristics of the system

Some parts of the movement form a certain definite function in the process of interrelation and interaction, which is called the system. There are some various concept of system described by lots of thinkers and futurists, such as: system is a dynamic and complex whole, interaction structure and function unit; a system is a whole composed of different elements and energy, material and information flow; or: a whole system is the temporary interaction part of any interdependent cluster. To sum up the various descriptions above in short, it could be concluded that a system is an organic whole with a certain structure composed of several parts that interact and depend on each other in the environment.

From the lower half of Figure 1, the system elements and their relationship are revealed. The overall functions of the system are different because of the difference in system elements, the difference in element relationships, the difference in communication and function between system and external environment. In-depth analysis of the elements, structure and environment of the system is to explore from the viewpoint of system theory and find out the best effect of the role of the students' Party branch fighting fortress in higher vocational colleges [11,12].

![Figure 1. System Function of Student Party Branch.](image-url)
Analysis of System Elements and Current Situation of Student Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges

In higher vocational colleges, the functions of student Party branch system are sometimes not being well developed. The reasons are coming from many aspects, which can be summarized as the following two aspects.

Students' Motivation to Join the Party is Utilitarian and Lack of Beliefs. With the enrollment expansion of higher vocational colleges and the influence of the increasingly complex social atmosphere, the motivation of college students to join the Party began to show a diversified trend. It must be affirmed that most of the students' motives for joining the Party are pure and positive. They have high ideological awareness, deep feelings for the Party organization and strong sense of social responsibility. They firmly believe that under the leadership of the Party, the great goal of communism can be achieved. But there are also some students driven by the surrounding or influenced by family environment under the influence of the herd mentality, "drift with the tide" and submit applications to the Party organizations. A few students regard membership as a kind of honor merely and hope to gain benefits in merit evaluation, work and civil service examination. The purpose of applying for membership of the Party is only to increase their political capital for future competition [13,14]. All those problems lead to a lack of loyalty to the Party and the inadequate political literacy and weak awareness of Party members.

The Allocation of Grass-Roots Party Work Force Need to be Changed, and Theoretical Knowledge must be Improved. At present, most of the party affairs cadres in higher vocational colleges are part-time counselors. In a survey of our school, it was found that 85.7% of the counselors were concurrently Party branch secretaries and only 14.3% were full-time staff. For counselors, on the one hand, most of them are younger and have shorter working hours. Their understanding of the Party's history and theory is not comprehensive and scientific enough. They are not mature enough about the education of student Party members, lack of practical training, experience, and professionalism, and their political theory level and the Party's working ability are not strong. On the other hand, daily work of counselors is rather heavy. Most of their time and energy are devoted to student management and service, and they cannot effectively take into account the education of student party members. Faced with these problems, they are unable to do their work deeply and perfectly.

Analysis of Student Party Branch System Structure in Higher Vocational Colleges

In recent years, due to the expansion of enrollment sources in higher vocational colleges, the number of student party members has also increased, and the workload is increasingly bigger. As a result, there exists a phenomenon of "attaching importance to pre-Party training and neglecting post-Party education" in some students' Party branches at higher vocational colleges [15]. Generally, student Party members are indeed an excellent part of the student group, but they inevitably have some problems (or characteristics) in their growth, such as the pursuit of personality, poor self-discipline, and serious inertia, which are unique to this age group. After the students joined the Party, because of the lack of corresponding assessment and evaluation mechanism, students' Party members do not be evaluated. Many Party members' requirement for themselves is "not to make big mistakes". In actual work, even if some student Party members make mistakes, there is no corresponding punishment mechanism, which leads a bad result, i.e. some student Party members have relaxed in their thinking after joining the Party, and their self-control has declined, even they have laissez-faire freedom. They cannot play the vanguard and exemplary role, thus affecting the image of Party members in the minds of ordinary college students and classmates.

From the organizational point of view, the lack of a sound education system, management system, assessment system, supervision system, incentive competition system and long-term mechanism of student Party branches are all the reasons for the greater randomness of Party branch work.

Analysis of the System Environment of Students' Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges

The educational system of higher vocational colleges is usually 2 + 1 year. The time of
centralized learning and collective life in schools is limited, and there is a lack of sufficient time to train and inspect students' Party branch members, which affects the training cycle and inspection time. In addition, the scattered practice units make it difficult for Party organizations to carry out their normal life, and students' Party branches cannot play their due role. There is less time and opportunity to organize students to carry out activities in-depth exchanges. The Party branch of college students should represent the most common and real needs and fundamental interests of the students, which depends on a deep communication. The interests of students should be regarded as the starting point and the foothold of the work of the Party branch of college students.

Optimizing the Function System of Students' Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges

The optimization of the whole system is based on the optimization of elements, structure and environment of the system. In the process of optimizing the whole system, attention should also be paid to the organic combination of elements, structure and environment in the system [16].

The Optimization of the Elements of the Students’ Party Branch System in Higher Vocational Colleges

The optimization of system elements is the most basic step to make the system function play well, which is carried out concretely from the following two aspects.

Strengthen the Leadership of Political Function and Serve Student Party Members. As the political position of our Party in college students, the Party branch of college students shoulders the important mission of inheriting and developing the Party's fine style of work and glorious tradition, and at the same time carrying out the Party's line, principles and policies among the surrounding masses. Therefore, it should be given full play to the political advantages of the Party branch of college students, help them to enhance their ideals and beliefs and correct their motivation to join the Party. As soon as the freshmen enter the school, they should take the initiative to educate and guide them so as to achieve early seedling selection, education and training, helping them to set up study groups in their classes on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thought of "Three Represents", the scientific outlook on development, Xi Jinping's socialist thought with Chinese characteristics in the new era and the Party Constitution, and organizing all student Party members to carry out the theme education activities of "never forget the first intention, remember the mission" with the main content of "keeping the first intention, shouldering the mission, finding the gap and grasping the implementation".

Ideology is the guide of behavior, and education of ideals and beliefs is the core work of ideological and political education for college students, which plays a positive role in guiding young students to establish correct outlook of world, life and value, and enhancing their sense of responsibility and mission in the striving toward the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Strengthen the Construction of Grass-Roots Party Work Team and Improve the Quality of Party Workers. After choosing people who are enthusiastic, high-quality and hard-working in the overall Party work as Party branch secretaries and members, an attention should be paid to carrying out Marxist theoretical basis, Party line, policy, ideological and political work in Party building, and education activities of teachers' morality and style, and guide teachers to set an example and become teachers' models. Through discussions, exchanges, and on-site visits, the overall quality of the majority of branch teams has been improved comprehensively. With their own excellent political quality and good behavior, they can influence and motivate students and enhance the Party's cohesion and attraction.

The cohesion and fighting power of the student Party branch in colleges and universities depends largely on the branch teams. Efforts should be made to build the student Party branch team into a fighting collective with political firmness, dedication, professional proficiency, strong style of work and execution.
Optimizing the System Structure of Student Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges

The optimization of system structure is to heighten the function of the system by adjusting the interaction between elements. The following five specific measures are available.

**Improving the Learning and Education System of Student Party Branches.** A student Party Branch’s Learning and Education System is set up, listed in Table 1. According to the characteristics that the system of higher vocational colleges is 1-2 years, shorter than that of undergraduate colleges, it is necessary to set the Party group taking the class as the unit, actively carry out the activities of the Party group, and innovate the organizational construction mechanism of student Party branches.

Table 1. Duties and Work System of Student Party Branches.

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**Implementing the Assessment of Student Party Branches.** To surely strengthen the management of Party members, the assessment and evaluation of Party branches should be made quantitatively and qualitatively, combining the organizational assessment and mass assessment of Party members. Considering the characteristics of students, the conditions of Party members stipulated in the Party Constitution should be specified, and the Party members who are ready for development should be inspected comprehensively. Not only their political quality and academic achievements are inspected, but also their motivation and ideals and beliefs for joining the Party. The contents of their examination are designed for their peacetime performance mass base, and their attitude and position on major political issues especially at the critical moments.

It is quality rather than quantity which is the key point of recruiting Party members. New members are accepted according to their performance in all respects, under the principle of being "controlling the total amount, optimizing the structure, guaranteeing the quality and playing a role" of the Party organization.

**Reinforcing the Supervision of Student Party Branches.** It is imperative to combine inner-party supervision with mass supervision, adhere to the independent work of student Party
branches within the scope of their duties, and do a good job with high efficiency. Students' Party members' basic information sheets is posted in the classroom, including the time of joining the Party, position in the class committee, the comprehensive ranking of the semester, various rewards, records of violations of discipline, so as to encourage the Party members contributing to create excellent classes, accepting supervision from teachers and classmates. Through supervision and feedback in the work of the existing problems, consciously maintain self-image and status.

**Emphasizing the Encouragement and Evaluation of Student Party Branches.** It is effective to carry out the evaluation activities of outstanding student Party members. According to the assessment results, select and commend excellent Party members and outstanding Party groups of the year which is in 20% of the total number of groups and members. The General Party Branch of the department issues honorary certificates and awards those excellent ones, and sends good news to the parents of the awarded student Party members, put up the marks of excellent student party members and excellent party groups in the class, so as to set up advanced models, organize student Party members and activists to study advanced deeds conscientiously, find out gaps, set goals, make continuous progress, strengthen incentive and guidance at one time, and furthermore to form a competitive mechanism, fully mobilize the enthusiasm of Party members' work, and give play to the exemplary leading role of "excellent Party members".

**Strictly Implement the Reward and Punishment System of Student Party Branches.** As for those unqualified student Party members, timely critical education is inevitable. For student Party members who violate the law and discipline, Party organizations should conduct education in accordance with Party rules and regulations. The probationary party members who fail to pass the examination may prolong the period of conversion or cancel the qualification of the probationary party members. Implementing the rules and regulations in the Party branch is an important content and fundamental guarantee for building a high-quality Party branch. Only by ensuring the implementation of the rules and regulations in the Party branch can it play a better role as a core of the leadership, or, battle fortress, undoubtedly.

**Optimizing the System Environment of Student Party Branch in Higher Vocational Colleges**

The environment which interacts with the system itself is usually divided into external environment and internal one. The internal environment is the factors' structure of the system, the connection of factors with each other, and the overall situation of the level; while the external environment refers to the exterior or outside environment which definitely makes the influence on the operation of the system. The optimization of environment is able to be carried out from the following aspects.

**Innovating the Education Mode of Student Party Branch and Enhancing the Vitality of It.** With the rapid development of information technology in today's society, the characteristics of this era are the rapid dissemination of information, wide coverage, strong interaction and strong appeal of the Internet. Accounting the new characteristics of student Party members, Work forms and educational management models should be constantly updated. Student Party branches can make full use of "Internet + to enhance party building work, and to break the space restrictions. For example, the development of thematic website of Party construction, “red” QQ group, thematic micro-blog, party building micro-messaging platform, etc. Encourage the student Party members participate in it, express their views unreservedly, and spark in the ideological collision. The full play of the role of the Internet is of great help to the Party building of students, especially in the management and re-education of student Party members under the "2+1" mode in higher vocational colleges, which plays an irreplaceable role.

**Linking closely with the Actual Situation of Students and Giving full Play to the Students' Party Branch.** The Party branch of college students should also complete the management and service of the university well, that is, play a good leading and influential role in the actual work. Classes, dormitories and campuses are important places for students to study, live and rest, which can have a great impact on the growth of students in the university stage. All these places are important for the Party branch of college students to produce a marked effect.
Student Party members must take the lead in creating civilized classes. They generally hold certain positions in the class. To give full play to the vanguard and exemplary role of student Party members in the class is of great importance to the establishment of a civilized class. Every student Party member should play an exemplary role in political consciousness, party spirit, friendly classmates, civilized communication, actively creating advanced collectives, following a good style of study, maintaining good classroom discipline, and actively assisting teachers.

Student Party members also have to take the lead in building civilized dormitories, where is an important place to cultivate students' living ability, team consciousness and collective sense of honor, and to improve students' ideological and moral level. Student Party members' listing system can be carried out in Party members' dormitories.

There is a special sign hanging on the dormitory door where the student Party members live, and on the bedside of the student Party members there is a sign with special words, such as: good exercise, good professional study, good job performance, students reflect well, to remind student Party members: to be a model of learning, to abide by school rules and regulations, to be a model of uniting students and respecting teachers.

Student Party members should play a vanguard and exemplary role in social practice. Active practices with bright and lively theme are carried out, which are available to strengthen the practical consciousness of Party members, let them play a vanguard and exemplary leading role in activities, expand the positive influence of Party branches among students, and encourage more students close to the Party. Combining with the work of student associations, the Party branch can actively organize activities such as volunteer service and social practice according to the characteristics of campus culture, so as to enable student Party members to increase their abilities, create advanced images and truly embody "a Party member is a banner", thus continuously expanding the shape the image and function of student Party branches in the student group.

Conclusion

The overall optimization of the system is the basic guarantee to exert the best effect of the system. Higher vocational education should be realized through the optimization of system elements (elaborate design and management in every link), the optimization of system structure (taking positive measures to adjust the relationship between various elements), and the optimization of system environment (making full use of the technology and conditions of the Internet era, strengthening the connection with students). By adopt the measures mentioned above, an overall optimization of the Party branch system of higher vocational students is capable to realize.

Student Party members are an excellent group of college students. The college students' Party branch is an important team to guarantee the correct direction of socialist construction with Chinese characteristics, a powerful guarantee to advance ideological and political work, and an advantageous force to promote the construction of campus style. The building of student Party branches is absolutely an important way to improve the overall level of college students.

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