

Diversified Development of Higher Education and Its Resource Allocation and Cultivation

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Abstract: With increasingly further reform of higher education, the trend of diversity is becoming evident, bringing significantly unfair and imbalanced allocation of higher education resource. The work analyzed the diversified development trend of higher education, researching on solutions of irrational allocation of educational resources. The method that higher education resource should be allocated by government and market together was proposed, with some suggestions on resources allocation in all aspects of higher education. Thus, the demand of growing economic and social development for higher education can be satisfied, promoting balanced development of higher education reform.

1 INTRODUCTION

Higher education diversification is mainly reflected in diversification of structure, school-running system, and quality standards. The demand for college talents directly result in diversification of various private universities and tertiary colleges. Most of junior or third-grade colleges cannot reach basic requirements of colleges and universities in teaching quality. They are established to meet the basic demands for a university degree, charging high tuition. These private higher institutions also become ways for seeking interests for some people. With the emergence of private institutions, there are more institutions of higher learning in the society. In recent years, China has increased investment in university education, while the funds cannot meet the basic needs of all institutions with the rising number of colleges and universities. Meanwhile, it presents imbalance of funding and resource allocation. For example, schools in Beijing have received much more funding than those in other regions. This imbalance further hinders the development of colleges and universities, which is not conducive to the cultivation of talents.

2 DEVELOPMENT TREND OF DIVERSIFICATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In recent years, the demand for talent is growing with the continual development of economy and improving level of social development in China. The cultivation of talents is mainly conducted in universities; thus more attention from government was paid to the development of colleges and universities. The reform in college education is in progress to better take advantage of talents training, indicating obvious trend of diversification in higher education.

2.1 Causes of Diversification in Development of Higher Education

2.1.1 Conforming with the World Trend of Development in Higher Education

After World War II, the world's population and economy have undergone a rapid development and growth, in which higher education developed with fast speed. Especially in economically developed countries, the importance of higher education to economic development was realized, implementing popular education to make more people be educated. With development of economy, the formal sense of original higher education system could not satisfy the social needs, so higher education began to

develop toward the direction of diversification. This trend becomes obvious with the economic development and improvement of technological level, which better meets the demands of society.

2.1.2 Influence of Education Situation of China

Traditional higher education of China has been implementing a unified philosophy of education: uniform school-running requirements, management, training mode of talent training, and united evaluation standards. However, with the development of market economy, the unified model of higher education cannot flexibly adapt to changes of market mechanisms, losing the vitality of development, thus leading to constant emergence of shortcomings. This unified model can benefit government's management, while it goes against universities, students, and the demand of entire society for talents. Firstly, the fixed and unified education mode rigidifies students' thinking without providing opportunities for students to develop various abilities, which is not conducive to the overall development of students. Secondly, students' rigid thinking leads to the decline of innovation capacity, which does not satisfy enterprises' requirements for basic ability of students, so it cannot meet the demands of society for talents. Finally, college students cultivated under this education system will be rigid and cannot adapt to the development of enterprises. Thus, stagnation of enterprise development will directly hinder the development society and economy, influencing the future of entire nation.

2.2 Development Situation of Diversification

With the increasing efforts in higher education reform in recent years, various achievements begin to appear, and diversified development is an important project for higher education reform.

2.2.1 Diversification of Structure, Quality Standards and School-Running Forms of Higher Education

Diversification of higher education structure mainly reflects on more abundant levels, types and forms of education structure. For example, the different education levels of undergraduate, master, doctoral degree can provide society with various talents. Diversification of school-running system refers to

various and new forms of education. For example, independent third-grade colleges, technical colleges and independent institutions in cooperation with elite schools, can enjoy teaching resources with their associated schools. Colleges and universities in collaboration with foreign universities offer favorable conditions for undergraduate to study abroad. Diversification of quality standards means that standards of nation, individual, and profession for students and teaching are no longer a fixed level. Different quality standards should be made according to the actual situation of students and flexible management on physical and mental development of students, implementing education with diversified educational standards.

2.2.2 Financing Diversification of Higher Education

Attention should be paid to the diversification of financing channels in higher education. Before the reform and opening up, the funding source of Chinese education is mainly from government's investment. The single sources of funding increased the financial pressure to government with the increase of universities, which was not conducive to the rapid development of universities. Therefore, the government widened financing channels of higher education funding after the reform and opening up, starting to absorb social capital. "Donated funds for school-running" and "raising funds for school-running" were encouraged to make private colleges and universities become an important part of education in China, thus playing a positive role in compensating for inadequate education funding of the government. In addition, China abolished the system of college tuition at public expense from the mid-1980s. Self-paying system began to be implemented in some areas. Since then, college tuition has become an important way of education financing. This measure is also adapted to the development of socialist market economy, becoming a landmark move in the history of higher education development.

3 RESOURCES ALLOCATION AND CULTIVATION MEASURES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

3.1 Status of Resource Allocation in Higher Education

In recent years, with the development of economy, higher education reform is continually accelerating with more abundant education resources and increasing utilization, marking a new level of Chinese higher education. However, the resources of higher education possess particularity—some problems will arise with its rapid development due to maladjustment with the whole current economic and social situation. Moreover, no mature theories provide guidance for the development of higher education in the world. As a developing country, China needs more professional researches to timely solve the problems, hoping to promote better development of higher education.

3.1.1 Less Funding of Higher Education

With the deepening of reform and opening up, economic development level of China is increasingly higher—the total GDP has been at the forefront of the world. China is also engaged in various aspects of reform towards the direction of developed countries, and the reform of higher education is a very important aspect. However, while the fiscal expenditure on higher education in China has been increased in recent years, it is still lower than most of other developing countries in the world. Thus, the level of funds necessary for development of higher education cannot be satisfied in China. In this case, major universities use various means to compete to receive government attention with more financial support, thus leading to more waste of education resources.

3.1.2 Scarcity of Teacher Resource in Higher Education

Excellent teachers are essential for the development of higher education. However, the excellent faculty becomes more limited with constant enrollment of colleges and universities in recent years. Thus, the growing demand for excellent faculty cannot be satisfied, resulting in a shortage of higher education teachers. Moreover, the proportion of teachers is lower than that of universities' needs, which is

relatively low compared with world average level. Shortage of educational resources directly affects students' educational level, limiting the improvement of higher education level. Meanwhile, it is not conducive to diversification development, indicating the shortcomings of resources allocation in higher education.

3.1.3 Significant Regional Differences of Resource Allocation in Higher Education

Since the reform and opening up, China has focused more on development of eastern region. Economic policies are tilted to eastern region, including investment in education funding. Funding of higher education is obviously biased toward economically-developed eastern regions and major cities such as Beijing. In contrast to Midwest regions with lack of education funding, these regions even have a lot of surplus. Although the economic development of central and western regions has also been benefited from the reform and opening up, there is still a large gap between these regions and the eastern regions. Government invested significantly lower funding of higher education to Midwest than eastern regions, thus leading to imbalance of higher resources allocation between regions. This imbalance is also reflected in university enrollment and faculty, which is another factor resulting in uneven geographical distribution of educational resources.

3.1.4 Common Waste of Higher Education Resources

In the application of higher education resources, it's common that resources cannot be fully utilized, thus leading to shorter supply of scarce educational resources. For example, many colleges and universities have been keen to merger application and blind enrollment of constructing school buildings in recent years, resulting in waste of educational resources. Lots of teaching resources such as school buildings have not been fully used. The waste has led to the lack of higher education resources, which is the most important factor restricting the rational allocation of higher education resources.

3.2 Status of Resource Allocation in Higher Education

3.2.1 Increasing the Amount of Higher Education Resources with Government's Help

The economic development level of China has been constantly improved with the increasing comprehensive economic strength. However, it should be realized that the goal—obtaining a more stable economic position in the competitive world economy—needs to fundamentally rely on education and technology. Therefore, the government should increase investment in education with more total education resources. Only by increasing the total resources of higher education can the basic problems in resources use be solved among major colleges and universities. In addition to the increase of government's investment, society and financial companies should be encouraged to input donation and investment in higher education. The fund of higher education resources should be established for long-term development. Thus, the investment channel of higher education resources can be expanded, compensating for the lack of education funding.

3.2.2 Formulating Reasonable Welfare Policies to Attract More Teachers

The lack of teachers in higher education resources is a serious problem. In addition to the limited level of higher education, the insufficient welfare of higher education teachers fails to attract more people with high quality to join the faculty. Therefore, government should increase the funding of higher education to expand the faculty while increasing total resources of higher education. Appropriate policies should be formulated to improve the welfare of teachers, thus attracting more outstanding teachers to expand higher education resources.

3.2.3 Improving Resource Sharing Mechanism of Higher Education

It is necessary to improve resource sharing mechanism of higher education under the situation of imbalanced resource allocation in higher education. Resource sharing mechanism of higher education has created a basic policy specification for resource allocation, providing an assurance for the investment of higher education resources in the Midwest. Meanwhile, various resources of the eastern areas can be transformed to Midwest

regions, achieving resources sharing and integration of faculty, thus promoting the optimal allocation of educational resources.

3.2.4 Innovation of University Resources Cultivation

The total amount of higher education resource is very limited in China. Thus, higher education resources cannot be increased according to traditional methods. More innovative ways on the cultivation of higher education resources should be adopted for transformation and integration of available resource, contributing to the development of advanced resource in higher education.

Firstly, the resource allocation of higher education should conform to development law of the whole educational status, promoting balanced development of entire higher education. Secondly, all available opportunities should be seized to enrich higher education resources. Finally, connotation of resources, knowledge and culture should be cultivated in the cultivation of higher education resources, which is a very important step in the development of higher education resources.

4 CONCLUSIONS

With continuous development of higher education reform, diversified development of higher education becomes more obvious. Diversified development, in line with the development law of modern society, is conducive to the development of higher education. Thus, it should be strongly supported by government. In addition, irrational allocation of resources exists in the development of higher education, greatly hindering the development of higher education. These problems should be recognized and improved with reasonable methods, thus promoting the development of higher education, making education become inherent power of national development. Therefore, more energy can be provided for the development of higher education.

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