

# Discussion on the Model of International Cooperation and Exchange of Postgraduate Education of Higher Universities—Beijing Universities as an Example

Feng Xi<sup>1,a</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Economics, Capital University of Economics and Business,  
Zhangjialukou-121, Fengtai District, Beijing 10070, China

<sup>a</sup>fengxi@cueb.edu.cn

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**Abstract.** Under the background of economic globalization and internationalization of education, the internationalization of graduate students has become one of the important strategies to promote the development of universities. Analyzing the model of international exchange and cooperation of graduate education of Beijing, it can absorb advanced school-running concepts, cultural traditions, values and behavior of higher education in all countries of the world, so as to improve the quality of talent training and promote the internationalization of higher education.

## 1. Introduction

Postgraduate education is a high-level professional education characterized by research after undergraduate graduation, the highest level of higher education in various countries, and also an important stage to train higher professionals. Postgraduate education plays an important role in the development of national economy, politics and culture and the enhancement of comprehensive national strength. Therefore, the international cooperation and exchange model of postgraduate education in China is very important.

## 2. The main mode of international cooperation and exchange in graduate education of universities

### 2.1 Cooperation in running schools by domestic and foreign universities

Cooperation in running schools by domestic and foreign universities means that local educational institutions and foreign educational institutions run a joint university for Chinese students in China, and has a record in China's Ministry of Education, and students can finally get the degree of two universities, and the degree is recognized by the Chinese Ministry of Education projects. Nowadays, the scale, quality and quantity of cooperative universities have been significantly improved, which has become an important model of postgraduate education cooperation and exchange in China.

In the case of Beijing University of Technology, Beijing University of Technology in collaboration with the University of Dublin, Ireland (UCD), jointly formed the Beijing-Dublin International College. College at BJUT), an official teaching institution approved by the Ministry of Education, mainly implements undergraduate higher education and is included in the National General Higher Education Admissions Program. The admitted students are enrolled in both the Beijing University of Technology and UCD. After completing the first three years of the study mission at Beijing University, the students who meet academic and English requirements have the opportunity to complete their final year of study at UCD. The students who meet the academic and English language requirements can receive both a degree from Beijing University and UCD. Beijing University of Technology does not have a cooperative program at the teaching level of graduate students.

### 2.2 Joint training

International joint training of graduate students refers to the training mode of training innovative

higher professionals for both sides of the university or the third country through cooperation with institutions of higher learning or scientific research institutions in different countries and regions, which are divided into two categories: exchange projects and double degree projects. The international joint training mode of graduate students is relatively simple compared to the cooperative mode of running schools, and most domestic and foreign colleges and universities are free of tuition, so such model is the mostly of international cooperation and exchanges of universities in Beijing.

Taking Capital Normal University as an example, there are 37 international exchange programs for joint training programs, including 21 in English-speaking countries such as State University of New York, and 16 in non-English-speaking countries, such as Oslo University College. There are 4 double degree programs

### **2.3 Attending international academic conferences**

Academic conference is a form of educational activities that integrate the exchange of information, research questions and knowledge, so that scholars with the same professional knowledge background, discussion and exchange activities at designated time and place, and other activities, is an important communication platform for the exchange of academic views and communication of academic information by different scholars of the same profession.

### **2.4 Academic exchange**

The advantage of academic exchange lies in tracking the frontier of the subject in time, advocating the collision of academic ideas among different students, which is helpful to stimulate the innovative thinking of postgraduates. There are two forms of academic exchange activities for graduate students: "going out" and "please come in". "Going out" refers to sending graduate students with excellent scientific research ability to foreign first-class universities or well-known scientific research institutions for visiting and studying; "please come in" refers to inviting well-known foreign scholars to conduct lectures, academic discussions or other activities in the University. For example, most of the programs of NSFC are academic exchange programs for doctoral and postgraduate students.

Most of the international cooperation and exchange modes of graduate education in Beijing Municipal Colleges and universities are limited to the latter three. The projects of cooperation with foreign colleges and universities need to be registered and approved by the Ministry of education in advance, which is relatively rare. The joint training program has been widely developed in the municipal colleges and universities, but there are still many shortcomings, such as the program selection for postgraduates is not rich enough, the exchange majors and curriculum settings of the two schools are not matched, the corresponding procedures before leaving and after returning to school and the credit conversion work are still complicated, etc.

For international academic conferences and exchanges, on the one hand, due to information asymmetry and other reasons, graduate students from municipal universities have less opportunities to participate in international academic conferences, and small-scale academic exchange projects for Chinese and foreign scholars, graduate students and international students are also less held due to the current management system is not perfect. Therefore, it is of great significance to enrich the international talent training mode of graduate education in municipal colleges and universities for improving the perspective of graduate internationalization and the learning quality of students at home and abroad.

## **3. The Inadequacy of International Cooperation and Exchange Mode in Graduate Education of Beijing Municipal University**

### **3.1 The scale of international cooperation and exchange is small and the scope of implementation is narrow**

At present, the scope of international cooperation and exchange of graduate education in Beijing

Municipal universities is still small, and there are few international exchange and cooperation projects above graduate level, especially for doctoral level. As far as other universities in China are concerned, there are relatively few higher level international joint training projects. These projects are mainly distributed in a class of well-known universities in China, and the main partners are developed countries in economic education, only limited to some disciplines, some scholars or some scientific research projects. The scope of cooperation is narrow and lack of professional characteristics.

### **3.2 The level of international academic exchange and cooperation is not high**

There are few cooperation projects between Beijing Municipal universities and foreign well-known universities or first-class disciplines, and most of the international cooperation projects have been established are unidirectional, which does not form a suitable educational atmosphere for cultivating the internationalization of graduate education. Since the development of international exchange projects may initially focus on the accumulation of cooperation quantity and relatively neglect the control of quality, the starting point of cooperation projects is relatively low and the scale is relatively small. In the way of cooperation and communication, there are few ways of communication, low-level, passive and imitative, which are limited to the forms of exchange of visiting scholars, student exchange, joint training of postgraduates, organization and participation in academic exchanges. However, there are still some deficiencies in Chinese foreign cooperation in running schools, scientific research project cooperation with foreign well-known universities and enterprises, online distance education and double degree.

### **3.3 The scale of international students at graduate level and above is small**

Most of the exchange graduate students from Beijing Municipal Colleges and universities come to China mainly for the short-term exchange of non-academic education, mainly focusing on traditional learning projects such as Chinese and a small number of professional courses. The number of international students in the semester exchange and academic year exchange or double degree program is relatively small.

Taking the Capital University of Economics and Business(CUEB) as an example, the number of graduate students (Master's degree in English program and doctor's degree in English program) in the university is less than 150 every year, and most of the foreign students are concentrated in two large schools, many of which have no training programs for foreign students. In addition, the study and life of foreign students in CUEB from enrollment to graduation are separated from other Chinese graduate students, and different campuses have separate classes, resulting in little communication between them. However, in recent years, the number of graduate students who send students to each other to get double degrees without tuition fees has begun to develop, and the number of students is even smaller. The students of the double degree program live in one campus and attend classes in another campus, which is not suitable for the foreign students who come to China for the first time and is not conducive to participating in academic exchanges with professional students. These deficiencies are due to the relatively weak ability of our graduate education to introduce international educational resources.

### **3.4 The internationalization level of teachers in our school is not high**

The internationalization of education requires graduate supervisors to have international professional education background. At present, there are few graduate supervisors with international background in Beijing Municipal universities. Most of the teachers with international education background are young teachers who have been employed in recent years. These young teachers have relatively insufficient teaching experience. The probability of arranging graduate level courses at the beginning of their employment is low, while the old teachers are mainly responsible for teaching graduate level courses. Most of the foreign teachers who are employed in Beijing Municipal Colleges and universities are language courses, and most of the teachers in charge of professional courses are in summer international schools.

### **3.5 The international teaching management mode is not complete**

Most of the postgraduate teaching management models in Beijing universities are not suitable for international students. For example, for the corresponding postgraduate management system, the relevant regulatory documents shall be set in bilingual mode, so as to facilitate the switching and selection of international students in different projects. However, few of the existing municipal colleges and universities can say that there are websites and systems that can realize bilingual display. Even some foreign students in Colleges and universities do not enter the system for unified management, but use the traditional manual recording method. At the same time, the foreign language level and management ability of the corresponding teaching management personnel should also be improved. They should be able to be familiar with the relevant special policies of the overseas students, communicate with the overseas students without obstacles, and really do a good job of uploading and releasing.

## **4. Suggestions on Improving the International Cooperation and Exchange Mode of Graduate Education in Beijing Municipal Universities**

### **4.1 Improve the students' training plan and connect with world-class universities**

Students' training plan is the key to students' training. It is crucial whether the training plan is suitable for the training of international students and whether it is in line with the first-class universities abroad. The universities affiliated to Beijing should strengthen the connection with foreign universities, research institutions, enterprises and other units. The curriculum of graduate level should not only ensure the theoretical knowledge learning, but also add frontier courses and special courses. The course content should also be integrated to facilitate the interdisciplinary and interdisciplinary selection of Chinese and foreign students, so as to improve their research ability and cultivate their international concept, international awareness and global vision.

### **4.2 Innovating the training mode of teachers, combining “bringing in” with “going out”**

In order to develop the international cooperation and exchange mode in Colleges and universities, teachers play a decisive role. The international teaching staff is not only the necessary condition of international cooperation and exchange, but also the need of discipline development and professional construction in Colleges and universities. There are two ways to build an international teaching staff: "bring in" and "go out". "Bring in" refers to the introduction of foreign teachers, which can adopt long-term and short-term employment methods. The scope of foreign teachers' teaching will be broadened from language courses to major courses, and the teaching time will be from a single Summer International School to normal course teaching. "Going out" refers to the selection of young teachers in Colleges and universities to visit overseas, encourage them to participate in international academic conferences, learn the teaching and scientific research experience abroad, so that the teachers rooted in the local area also have the experience and ability of "returnees", and realize the innovation of the construction mode of teachers' team.

### **4.3 Improve the management system of graduate students and improve the comprehensive ability of management personnel**

Postgraduate management system is the foundation of postgraduate training and operation. The development of international exchange at postgraduate level requires good conditions, such as library, smart classroom, seminar room, gym, etc. Meanwhile, the postgraduate management system, relevant rules and regulations, and application materials should also be bilingual, so as to facilitate international students to adapt to the environment and enter the student status as soon as possible after entering the school. The management personnel of colleges and universities also need to improve their own quality, the ability to communicate with foreign students, and the ability to understand the policies of foreign students. Under the more abundant international cooperation and exchange mode, higher standard graduate students' teaching management system and quality monitoring are required to achieve scientific teaching management, promote the overall

optimization of teaching process, and improve the efficiency of teaching management and strive to build a high-quality international teaching management team

## 5. Summary

Graduate education is the highest level of higher education and the key to the construction of first-class universities and disciplines. Under the background of globalization, international exchange and cooperation are very important. The mode of international cooperation and exchange in Colleges and universities should be improved and innovated, a more complete international talent training mode and system should be established, the international competitiveness of postgraduates should be enhanced, and the "three in one" teaching mode of cooperation at home and abroad, which is the combination of classroom teaching, academic training and teaching management system for postgraduates, should be truly realized.

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