

Study on Modes and Methods of College Student Participation in Democratic Management—— A Case Study of Harbin University of Science and Technology Rongcheng Campus

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Abstract. By taking Harbin University of Science and Technology Rongcheng Campus as an example, this paper systematically summarizes its experience and practice about student participation in democratic management of the school. From the angles of common approaches, network media and student convention, countermeasures and suggestions are proposed for college student participation in democratic management.

I Research background

It is the institutional requirement for gradually realizing college and university modernization in China to advocate democratic management of colleges and universities. Moreover, it is the development tendency of creating first-rate and high-level universities in China as well as the requirement for various colleges and universities to implement *Outline on Mid-Long Term Education Reform and Development Planning (2010-2020)*^[1]. Therefore, colleges and universities should value the construction of college student participation in democratic management, so as to create a good democratic atmosphere and to build a good democratic management mechanism and system. At present, many domestic colleges and universities have made some beneficial attempts and studies to promote college student participation in democratic management, and gained some periodical progresses. As a newly constructed school aiming to establish a university of application-oriented talents, Harbin University of Science and Technology Rongcheng Campus should play a positive role during the process of college student participation in democratic management. Under this background, it is necessary to study the modes and methods of college student participation in democratic management.

II Current situations

1. College students have a comparatively proper cognition about participation in college and university affairs management. Moreover, most students have realized the importance of participation in college and university affairs management^[2], and they are interested in such matter. Besides, they hope to participate in management at the level of suggestion offering, participation in supervision and participation in decision making, which reflects a strong sense of ownership.
2. The effect of college student participation in college and university affairs management is not satisfactory. The levels of actual participation in college and university affairs management among students mainly focus on “participation in suggestion offering”, “mastering of details”, and “participation in supervision”. Moreover, most students “do not participate in” college and

university affairs management. Most students participating in school affairs management are dissatisfied with the current management situations, and most students do not have enough chances to participate in college and university affairs management. Even if they participate in college and university affairs management, their suggestions are not adopted.

3. College students are faced with many difficulties when participating in college and university affairs management. The major difficulties faced by students include methods, modes and information acquisition degrees of participation in college and university affairs management; the important difficulties faced by students cover limitations of basic knowledge, ability, time and energy to participate in school affairs management as well as the trust degree of teachers and leaders. The fields and contents of college student participation in school affairs management are restricted, and the level is low; the effect of school affairs management is poor and it even becomes a mere formality^[3].

III Modes and methods

In order to perfect modern university system and to strengthen the approaches of student participation in democratic governance, our school has explored many approaches in the aspect of guaranteeing students' democratic participation and reflecting student power. In the constitution of our school, the modes of student participation in democratic management are further stipulated.

1. Common approaches for our students to participate in democratic management of the school: dean mailbox, student congress, open day of school leaders, office day of serving students, canteen supervisions table, suggestion box, and student organizations. The above approaches have provided strong information support for decision making of the school.

2. To improve college students' awareness of participation in democratic management

(1) The leading group construction of student party members should be enhanced, and the leading role must be strengthened. Generally speaking, student party members have a stronger awareness of democratic participation than common students. Under the influence and education of the party, they know the tenet of "serving the people", and deeply understand their responsibilities and obligations. With more advanced ideas, they are more positive and initiative in democratic participation. Therefore, the leading group construction of party members should be enhanced, and the leading role must be expressed. In this way, other college student groups will be driven to participate in democratic management, and democratic participation and practice can be promoted among college students.

(2) The operation of student organizations should be perfected, and the role of bridge must be expressed practically. Many students tend to choose student organization management, and consider that student organization is the most effective democratic management approach. Nowadays in university campuses, the number of students and teachers is on the rise. It is far from enough to understand and solve various problems faced by students by relying on the school alone. Student organizations dominated by students can consider problems from the angle of students, and express the role of bridge among students, teachers and school managers. Proper operation of student organizations like student union, mass organization and association can drive and attract college students to participate in school management, and to solve numerous problems faced by college students.

3. To participate in democratic management through network media

(1) Information of the school can be issued through the news push function of network media like school website, WeChat, QQ, Fetion, weibo and BBS, so as to promote message propagation. The news push function of WeChat is accurate, timely and easy to operate, so it can help to conveniently

receive news covering enrollment, employment, student activities, academic activities and construction of campus culture. In this way, students can know more trends of the school, the popularity of the school will be increased, and a good image can be established. College students can log in WeChat, browse news, expand horizon, and enrich experience by utilizing fragmented time.

(2) Daily management activities of the school should be optimized by utilizing the comment and vote function of educational administration system and WeChat. Teaching evaluation activities and public opinion evaluation about new measures of colleges and universities should be conducted via the educational administration system; current affairs of the school can be commented and excellent figures of mass organizations can be elected by utilizing WeChat. A platform should be provided for students to express their opinions and interest appeals, so as to fully mobilize students' enthusiasm and initiative of participating in democratic management, and to improve college students' sense of ownership.

(3) Communication and interaction between teachers and students should be conducted by utilizing the chat service of WeChat and QQ. Through the phonetic function, teachers can provide online communication services. Thus equal communication between teachers and students can be promoted, and the teaching, management and service quality will be improved.

(4) The effect of network media should be expressed correctly, and college students must be guided to rationally participate in campus democracy. Network is a double-edged sword. When providing good democratic participation approaches for students, it also contains undesirable political thought, which is a challenge for the muddled college students. Democratic thought should be advocated in network media, and college students must be guided to participate in democracy legally and rationally. Moreover, they should learn to pursue equality and freedom, and to express their supervision right, right to criticism and suggestion, and right to know, so as to promote democratic education and drive the development of democratic culture.

4. To promote democratic management of college student classes via democratic convention

Democratic convention of students is formed after group discussion of class members. It has determined value selection and development direction of class members, and clarified rights and liabilities of members as well as corresponding punishments for behaviors violating the convention. Therefore, by properly utilizing the positive role of democratic convention, students' enthusiasm of participating in decision making and execution of class and college affairs can be effectively motivated. Thus the actual effect of college student participation in democratic management can be increased.

(1) When democratic convention of students is formulated, the extensive students should be guided to combine the key objective of "convention", value pursuit of the class and individual development direction with the objective of ideological and political education. The ideological and political education objective of "people first" and "morality first" should be integrated into it. Behavioral norms, rights and obligations of students in the class should be formulated according to whether socialist core values are met, whether socialist moral requirements are satisfied, and whether they can become qualified successors and constructors of socialist cause. A correct oriented principle can effectively restrain the wrong idea of treating "process equality" as the democratic goal.

(2) Students should be positively guided to form a set of quantitative assessment system matching the ideological and political education objective through extensive discussion, as a major content of democratic convention. After reflection, communication and collision of all members, quantitative assessment system has clarified the behavior standard about what to support and what to oppose in

the process of realizing the individual and class development objectives. Meanwhile, the rewards and punishments system is determined and mutual supervision among members is strengthened.

(3) A high-quality, responsible and credible student party member and student cadre team should be established, to guarantee that democratic convention of students is correctly executed. As non-causative managers, student party members and student cadres do not aim to acquire economic benefits or other benefits through management behaviors, so they will value the formulation and execution of democratic convention. They can positively acknowledge the benefit and value pursuit of all students, organize discussions responsibly, formulate a feasible student convention according with the training objective and adapting to the practical class situations. Later responsible student cadres can fairly and justly treat all students. They will strictly execute clauses of the convention, and give awards or punish wrong behaviors fairly and openly according to the agreement. Meanwhile, they can also realize the individual and class objectives, and solve all encountered problems by observing the convention and positively organizing activities in the process of formulating and executing student convention, so as to realize relatively high public trust among students. When such student cadres form a team and each class has such a student cadre team, democratic management of college student classes will gain the maximum success.

IV Achievements

In the process of advancing democratic management of college students, Rongcheng Campus has explored a set of effective operation and working mechanism about student participation in democratic management of the school. From establishment to operation, the seven student democratic management committees have been pushed forward orderly and stably according to the following organization mechanisms. Youth League Committee and Dormitory Affairs Office are responsible for team building and daily management. Relevant departments of the school are responsible for guiding and cooperating with the work of student organizations. Student Affairs Department is responsible for coordinating the relation between various departments and student organizations as well as between different student organizations. Various student democratic management organizations are responsible for group interaction and joint operation. During team building and organization operation, the exemplary and vanguard role of student party members is emphasized; party and league organizations at various levels should continuously strengthen ideological education and job instruction. Practice of recent eight years proves that this operation and management mechanism of Rongcheng Campus has played an important role in the process of advancing student democratic management organizations.

References

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