

Investigation on the Current Situation of Practical Training in Private Universities

Rongbin Zhang
Business School, Xi'an FanYi University
Xi'an, Shaanxi, 710105, China
35224837@qq.com

Abstract—Practical training is an effective way to train and improve students' practical ability. This paper investigates the current situation of practical training in private universities in Shaanxi, analyzes the characteristics of practical training in private universities, and puts forward some suggestions on practical training in private universities.

Keywords—Private universities, Practical training, Investigation

I. INTRODUCTION

Practical training is an important link in the teaching process of colleges and universities, an effective way to cultivate and improve students' practical ability, and also a good way to let students step into the society. A great deal of investigation and analysis on the practical training of private colleges and universities in Shaanxi has been done. This survey mainly includes five well-developed universities in Shaanxi, including Xi'an FanYi University, Xi'an Eurasia University, Xi'an International University, Xijing University and Xi'an Huaxi University. The 12 specialties involved are Civil Engineering, Automation, Mechanical Engineering, English, Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, Art Design, Tourism Management, Financial Management, Accounting, Computer Science and Technology, Software Engineering and Nursing. 2500 questionnaires were given out, and more than 200 students from five universities were interviewed. The survey is summarized as follows:

II. CURRENT BASIC CONDITIONS OF PRACTICAL TRAINING IN PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

In the actual investigation process, according to the different major settings, they can be divided into three categories. The first is based on engineering, the second is based on linguistics, and the third is based on economy and management.

Basic Conditions of Practical Training in Five Private Universities. In the questionnaire process, we set up six questions to understand the basic practical training situation of sophomores and juniors, and found the following phenomena.

The first is that students' participation in practical training is relatively high. In the process of questionnaire and interview, most of the students surveyed in 5 universities have participated in practical training of different degrees on or off campus. According to the survey statistics, more than 90% of the students have participated in practical training. Among them, Xi'an Huaxi University has participated in practical training for the most time and times. Almost all students have three months of practical training in each semester from their freshman year to their junior year.

The second is the various forms of off-campus practical training. Firstly, almost all schools have fixed practical training bases outside schools, especially Civil Engineering, Art Design and Nursing. Secondly, there are school-enterprise joint training. Xi'an Huaxi University is the most representative, and the other four schools are also gradually developing. Thirdly, enterprises invest in factory-type training. There are not many schools developing in this mode, and Xi'an Eurasian University is trying. Fourthly, schools use many public places to organize students for training. There are many schools and students participating in it, which is also a common way. Fifthly, in recent years, a new practical training mode—a short term practical mode has been adopted, which is also widely adopted by schools, and gradually explored.

The third is the students' requirements for training. Students' requirements for practical training can be summarized as follows: The first is the site requirements for practical training. 90.6% of the students want to participate in off-campus practical training, while only 9.5% of the students are willing to practice in the school. It can be seen that with the development of social economy, students want to know more about the social situation earlier. The second is the requirements for training equipment, sites and staffing. From the interviews, most of the students are concerned about the completeness and renewal of the training equipment. Most of the students think that the equipment they have is old or incomplete, the scene environment is not ideal, and there is no systematic close connection between the school teachers' guidance and the training site (factory). The third is the desire for training opportunities. The students of Xi'an FanYi University have the strongest response. Due to the fact that most of the majors in our school are arts and due the large number of students, the opportunities for practical training are particularly precious. A considerable number of students say that it is difficult for them to get the opportunities for practical training. The fourth is the requirement of the major practical training. 50% of the students put forward that they should have the practical training for their own majors. Schools can't casually give students a chance or an enterprise to practice. For example, some students say that they are majoring in Civil Engineering, but they go to the electronics factory for practical training. The major is really not the same, and the effect of practical training is quite unsatisfactory. The fifth is to require schools to offer more computer and software courses related to student's majors, which can be convenient to operate in the process of practical training, especially in Automation, Accounting, Financial Management and other specialties.

The fourth is the attitude of students towards joint training. We set up such a question, that is, "If we combine the practical training characteristics of Xi'an FanYi University, Xi'an Eurasian University, Xi'an International University, Xijing University and Xi'an Huaxi University University to form a relevant major integration training model, and rely on these five universities to carry out the joint training, do you agree?" According to statistics, 76% of the students agree with this method, and hope to unite, learn from each other, share resources and improve the quality of training. It can be seen that the students' attitude towards the way of joint training is very positive, and what is lacking now is such a platform.

III. COMPARISON OF TRAINING CHARACTERISTICS OF FIVE UNIVERSITIES

The first is the Xi'an FanYi University. As the major of Xi'an FanYi University lays particular emphasis on foreign languages, its practical training has its own unique mode, namely "paid practice in the United States" program. Since 2008, thousands of people have participated in this training. Through the training of this mode, students can learn authentic English, feel the culture of other countries, and accept the most authentic language edification, and meanwhile, they can learn the knowledge they can not learn in class without financial burden, broaden their horizons and increase their life experience. This has become a great feat of the school in practical training, which can give some inspiration to foreign language majors in other brotherly colleges[1-2].

The second is the Xi'an Eurasia University. The characteristic specialty of Xi'an Eurasian University is Art Design and Financial Management, and both of these specialties need fixed training bases outside the school. Eurasian University is also taking this as its direction. Over the years, it has established various training bases related to specialties outside the school, which are relatively mature. At the same time, Eurasian University actively explores enterprises and invests in factories for students to learn and practice, so as to perfects teaching.

The third is the Xi'an International University. The characteristic training of Xi'an International University is mainly in the campus experimental training center. Especially in Nursing, Automobile Application and Automobile Electronic Technology, which have advantages, there are relatively complete experimental training centers[3-4]. Medical laboratories of Nursing specialty and experimental training centers of Cosmetology specialty can provide students with practical operation.

The fourth is the Xijing University. Xijing University is an application-oriented university with engineering as its main subject. In practice, it takes into account both in-school and out-of-school forms. Its engineering major involves mechanical design and manufacturing and its automation and so on. At present, there are one engineering training center, one experiment center and more than 30 professional laboratories for college students. Good experimental and practical training equipment provides excellent conditions for students to improve their practical ability. At the same time, it actively promotes the construction of off-campus training base, and has already formed fixed off-campus training bases with Shaanxi Machine Tool Factory, Shaanxi Jinshan Electronic Equipment Factory, Shaanxi Switch General Factory, Shaanxi Qunli Electronics Co., Ltd., Chang'an Hospital and Gaoxin Hospital, Hanzhong Central Hospital and other units. The construction of in-school and out-of-school experimental training bases provides a one-stop environment for students to improve their practical ability, cultivate their innovative ability and contact the society at zero distance[5].

The fifth is the Xi'an Huaxi University. Xi'an Huaxi University pays attention to school-enterprise joint cultivation in practical training, so that students can work while they go to school and feel the society ahead of time. The school has successively formed school-enterprise cooperation mode with Zhejiang Zhongxia Group, China Telecom, Shaanxi BC and TV Network and hundreds of famous enterprises in Zhejiang Province. Especially in recent years, the school-enterprise cooperation agreement has been signed with many enterprises in Wujiang, Kunshan and other economic development zones in the Yangtze River Delta region to form a training mode of district-school cooperation, so as to ensure that students have practical opportunities.

IV. TWO THOUGHTS ON PRACTICAL TRAINING OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Defining the Position of Practical Training in the Teaching of Private Universities. Firstly, practical training is an important part of college teaching and a base for training students' practical application ability. Every private university should first orientate itself, explore and develop practical training mode suitable for its students' characteristics and teaching needs. This can not only enable students to obtain practical work experience, but also cultivate students' comprehensive qualities such as organizational management ability, group communication skills and team spirit.

Secondly, practical training is the base of cultivating students' professional quality and consciousness. In the process of training, most of the students are in the simulated or real environment. The process is in the simulated normal state or the normal running state of the enterprise. The norms implemented are all professional standards. In this environment, it is conducive to cultivating students' post practice ability and cultivating students' technical ability and management ability to solve practical problems, and it is also conducive to cultivating students' professional quality and professional consciousness.

Improving the Training Conditions of Private Universities. First of all, the hardware facilities of private university training should be improved. The survey found that although some schools have their own training centers, they rarely let students go in for practical operation. As time goes by, many training facilities become obsolete or have been eliminated. Therefore, the school should update the hardware equipment in time, so as to better serve the experimental training.

Secondly, the teaching conditions should be improve. There are more students and fewer professional teachers. Especially in the second class major, there is a big gap between teachers and students, which can not meet the needs of students.

Therefore, students practical training of many majors has become a mere formality or an empty word, and the university should provide sufficient teachers to serve students.

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