

# Practice and thought about establishing "Student Instructor" system

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## Abstract

The University occupies an extremely important position in the national personnel training strategy, but student's personality development is still difficult to reach. Most of the students get education and knowledge only in a passive way. As an innovative educational reform, the "student instructor" system is an exploration that provides the students with the platform, makes students the source of the knowledge, and helps instructors get teaching feedback. So it is a useful exploration on innovative educational reform.

**Keywords:** education, student instructor, innovation

"Student Instructor" system is a method that some students act as instructors of certain course or an interest group to help other students acquiring knowledge. During their tenure, the student instructors not only help other students, but also consolidate their own knowledge, in the way of getting more exercise, and thus enhancing their self-confidence. After renovation, "student instructor" system will become a scientific system to cultivate innovative talents for the society.

## 1. The purpose of establishing the "student instructor" system

### 1.1. Through peer counseling, the excellent students could motivate others, and promote learning atmosphere

In the ordinary teaching process, there is an age gap between teachers and students, some of the students don't dare to raise their own doubts due to the conservatively traditional education. But student instructor, as a friend and classmate of the same age, is proved to be easier to let listeners speak out their doubts. The processes such as asking questions, discussing, and solving problems, have a potential effect on fostering their creativity and a sense of cooperation.

### 1.2. Through discussion and contrast, turn knowledge into capability, provide a platform for exercise.

Aristotle once said: "Thinking begins from doubt and surprise!". The student instructor is not bound by the syllabus, so the form and content of lectures are open. Through getting involved in different areas of extracurricular knowledge and generating thinking collision in the process of heated argument, students can find out the nature of the problem in different perspectives, in this way, they expand the depth and breadth of understanding, and truly turn knowledge into capability. At the same time, it is also a very suggestible

method to practice the skills of public speaking, which also contributes to logical thinking and language skills.

### **1.3. Through teacher-student interaction, combine class with extracurricular, help obtain feedback information of teaching.**

Teaching is a process that both sides of teaching and learning constantly adjust their behavior according to teaching feedback in order to effectively complete the teaching objectives <sup>[1]</sup>. Student instructor can collect useful information on students learning through homework counseling, heart-to-heart chat, etc, teachers make analysis and judgment as well as some necessary corrections based on the feedback on the state of the entire teaching activities so that teaching can become more active and effective

## **2. The basic requirements of selecting “student instructor”**

### **2.1. The quality of selfless dedication and helpfulness**

A student instructor must have a sense of social responsibility at the first place, is willing to help others, and take the initiative to care for students who need help in learning. The student instructor not only imparts knowledge and learning methods to students, but also affects others in correcting their learning attitude through personal contact, and thus enables them to establish the correct values of life.

### **2.2. The ability of autonomous learning and thematic studies**

A student instructor must be able to efficiently absorb knowledge in class, and autonomously learn out of class through independent analysis, exploration, practice, questioning, and creating to achieve learning objectives. When encountering difficulties and problems with research

value, he can take the initiative to collect all aspects of information, and do have his own unique insights within at least one thematic area.

### **2.3. The ability of clear expression and affecting others**

One of the most important responsibilities of the student instructor is to explain the key and difficult point in their own language to other students, so the student instructor must be able to accurately and clearly express their insights with humorous and plain words which are exclusive to the after 90s, flexibly control the class atmosphere, and make students be willing to accept and master well, but without losing refined demeanor. It would be best to make imparting knowledge an art.

## **3. The steps of carrying out “student instructor”**

### **3.1. The selection of student Instructor**

The selection of student instructor should be targeted, considering the school personnel training ideas, campus culture, curriculum system, students' interests and many other factors. The positions include: course student instructor and specialty student instructor. The selection process include: self-registration, written examination and interview, public lecture, integrated appraisal. Make sure that professional interests and specialties match the position, perform best on the duty.

### **3.2. The training of student instructor**

Invite experienced teachers to guide student instructor to ensure the quality; Organize seminar in particular subjects to summary ideas, especially in those subjects close to the contents of the instructors; Arrange internal test lectures which take part of the students as the audience before the formal lectures, according to

the feedback, make further adjustments and improvements when open to all students.

### **3.3. The teaching of student instructor**

#### **3.3.1 Course student instructor as the effective supplement of teachers' teaching**

Help students solve doubts: through the establishment of a fixed room, course student instructor shifts to provide consulting, one-on-one help and guidance. By setting Q & A remedial classes, course student instructor sorts out course difficult points, supplements the insufficient of syllabus session. To help the students get a better understanding of some basic knowledge, course student instructor could arrange some of the exercise as homework, solve the problems specifically.

Help teachers correct assignments: select some of the course student instructors on staff as teacher assistants, help teachers check assignments, assist teachers search literature on the subject, organize group discussions, divide a large class into small ones seminar-style teaching, and thus deepen students' understanding.

Help get teaching feedback: teaching feedback includes three aspects: The first is the learning performance feedback from students to teachers, teachers adjust their teaching methods based on this feedback; The second is the imparting performance feedback from teachers to students, students adjust their own learning activities on this feedback information; The third is mutual feedback between students, this feedback contributes to exchanges and cooperation and can help promote feelings.<sup>[2]</sup> Course student instructor plays an important role as a bridge to transfer the feedback, and helps make teaching activities more effective.

#### **3.3.2 Specialty student instructor as an effective support of the second class**

In academic and industry, the standard of talent has long transcended the normal one. Although standardized school has no crisis on their survival, but the development of the future is uncertain; qualified students, although have "certificate" in hand, but can only become ordinary<sup>[3]</sup>. Develop the students' interests and hobbies, and combine them closely with the international, national, provincial, university level competitions. Establish kinds of associations to expand the exchange of experiences and skills training such as ACM programming, web design, electronic design, mathematical modeling, debate, art, music, literature, and etc. Specialty student instructor provides technical training and individual guidance under various stages of the competition to enhance students' level of personalization development.

#### **3.4. The award mechanisms of "student instructor"**

Take encouraging measures to promote the talents cultivation. Integrate student instructor mechanism as part of work-study program. Have regular review and summary as well as competition elimination mechanism, and award the student instructor "The Student Instructor Qualification Certificate", pay wages in accordance with the teaching effect to commend the outstanding instructors.

### **4. Several issues that need immediate attention and thinking**

According to the previous experience, the student instructor system has still some inadequacies. It is not very easy for student instructor to arouse the enthusiasm of the students, and they are lack of teaching skills and authority. The most important point is that student associa-

tions such as student instructor system haven't become a common practice, and there is still a tough road ahead for personnel training reform.

## 5. References

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