



Research on Students' Participation Right in Internal Governance of Universities

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DOI: 10.32629/jher.v2i6.582

Abstract: The state is vigorously promoting the modernization of educational governance ability and governance level and building a high-level university. Students are the basis for the survival and development of the university. Paying attention to students' participation right is the need to adapt to the development of democratic society and promote the modernization of internal governance of the university. The development history of students' participation right has experienced a long process. It is also a key point of the internal reform of colleges and universities and a legal right allocation to balance various stakeholders. Today, with the popularization of higher education, we should pay attention to students' participation right and promote the modernization of university governance system and governance ability.

Keywords: internal governance of colleges and universities, students' right to participate, governance modernization

1. Introduction

The Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee proposed that one of the general objectives of comprehensively deepening reform is to promote the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity. The Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee decided to promote the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity as a major strategic task of the whole party. During this period, China's higher education developed rapidly. In 2020, the gross enrollment rate of China's higher education reached 54.4%, and the total number of students in school reached 40.02 million. China has built the world's largest higher education system.

According to Martin Trow's three-stage theory on the development process of higher education, China's higher education has entered a popular development stage. With the arrival of this stage, the number of students is increasing. With the rapid development of information technology, the popularization of the Internet, the era of we media has come, and students' awareness of safeguarding their rights is increasing. The demands of student groups for stakeholders are also increasing, and the requirements for the right to know and participate in relevant things in Colleges and universities are increasing day by day. In this case, Martin Trow told us in his research that the main feature of the popularization of higher education is that in the process of internal governance of colleges and universities, students will gradually have the right to influence decision-making, and their degree and form of participation is a problem to be solved.

At present, most colleges and universities in China are still in the exploratory stage of students' participation in internal governance, which is more regarded as a manifestation of the democratization of colleges and universities. The degree and form of students' participation in school management are very limited, and some school leaders still have some deviation in their understanding of students' participation in school governance. In practice, the contradictions between schools and students appear on the Internet from time to time, causing heated discussion among Internet users.

2. A review of relevant research on students' right to participate

2.1 Research on university power and student rights

Burton R. Clark, an American scholar, believes that the operation mechanism of higher education revolves around the relationship and role of the three basic elements of government, market and academic power. He believes that university power can be divided into four modes: Continental mode represented by Germany, British mode, American mode and Japanese mode. No matter how to classify university power, its essence is that whoever can provide resources for the university has the control power over the University. Therefore, the power of the university comes from the state and can only operate within the scope of power stipulated by the state. Many experts and scholars in China have realized that the core issue of university governance is the issue of power, and the internal power of university governance is the result of the game among various internal stakeholder groups. Professor Xie Anbang and Professor Yan Guangcai noticed the issue of students' rights earlier. In their article "power structure and adjustment of power structure in Colleges and universities", they pointed

out that colleges and universities not only include academic power and administrative power, but also include the power of teachers and students, which are all part of the internal power of colleges and universities. Subsequently, domestic scholars gradually recognized that the power structure within the university is composed of three basic powers: administrative power, academic power and student power.

2.2 Research on the system and theoretical basis of students' participation in university governance

The philosophy of higher education by American scholar Brubeck is the first pedagogical monograph named after the philosophy of higher education in the West. In this book, he pointed out that the most basic problem of university organizational structure is the status of students in autonomy. Administrative and academic institutions should treat students as a member of university organizations and enjoy the same membership status. In other words, students must be "absorbed" into colleges or graduate schools, and their membership constitutes the "citizen" status of the academic community; He also believes that the course selection system carried out by students through personal preferences is a prominent manifestation of students' participation in internal governance. Chinese scholars Chen Yukun and others pointed out in their article on the power mechanism of internal management of colleges and universities in China: "ignoring the existence of students' power will prove to be a serious mistake. Students should have their own voice in school affairs".

The regulations on the management of students in Colleges and universities (2005 Edition) promulgated and implemented by the Ministry of education states that "colleges and universities shall establish and improve the organizational form of students' participation in democratic management, and support and ensure students' participation in democratic management of colleges and universities according to law." The concept of "people-oriented" advocated in the reform of higher education and the concept of democratic and legal management of higher education have been expanded. The 2017 edition of the regulations issued by the Ministry of education has added a new chapter on student complaints, and a student complaint handling Committee has been established. The members of the committee are composed of relevant principals of the school, principals of functional departments, teacher representatives, student representatives, heads of relevant institutions responsible for legal affairs, etc. It covers the interests of various groups in the internal governance of colleges and universities, and further protects the rights of students to participate in the governance of colleges and universities. Specifically, colleges and universities, such as Fudan University, Tianjin University and East China Normal University, have set up special posts of president assistant in the school, set up student members in the academic committee of Peking University, and Liaoning University has implemented a temporary training program for outstanding college students. These posts are selected as representatives of outstanding students, so that students can actively participate in the high-level internal governance of the school, Improve the degree of democratic management. Of course, these beneficial attempts provide a platform for students to participate in university management, but most universities have a long way to go from the form of students' participation in management to the substantive content.

3. On the inevitability of students' participation right in university internal governance

3.1 It is an inevitable requirement for China to enter the stage of popularization of higher education

In the stage of popularization of higher education, with the improvement of people's education level, receiving higher education has become an obligation in the hearts of most people. At this stage, the boundaries between many courses have been broken. With the development of Internet information technology, the relationship between students, schools and teachers has become more complex than ever. In terms of leadership and decision-making, Democratic decision-making is more popular. Teachers, students and graduates can participate in the decision-making of higher education. In internal management, students continue to have the right to participate in decision-making, and the corresponding conflicts of interests and ideas will become more common, so democratic decision-making will become more and more common. Professor Chen Yukun of East China Normal University believes that higher education can not ignore students' rights, and students must have a say in university management. Wang Jiankai clearly pointed out that students play an irreplaceable role in the process of university governance, and a power pattern of three main bodies must be formed within the University: teachers, administration and students.

3.2 The need for the improvement of China's higher education system and related theories

The outline of the national medium and long term education reform and development plan (2010-2020) provides a good paradigm for the development direction of China's future higher education and the reform of university governance. Improving the modern university system with Chinese characteristics and strengthening the construction of Student Congress provide basic institutional support for students to participate in University Governance. On the contrary, with the development of

higher education, strengthening the rights of students as the interest subject in universities is also an inevitable requirement for China to promote the reform and construction of higher education. The CPC Central Committee and the State Council issued 2035 of China's educational modernization, which requires to improve the cultivation and innovation ability of first-class talents, promote the modernization of educational governance system and governance ability, and improve the school governance structure.

This is bound to further improve the relevant rules and regulations for students to participate in the internal management of the school, so as to promote the cultivation of high-quality talents. China's research on this aspect is relatively late. At present, the practice of many colleges and universities still stays at the level of participation in management and does not rise to the level of governance. With the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity, the expanded field of education is to promote the modernization of the educational governance system and governance capacity, and improving the participation right of college students is its due meaning.

3.3 The need for reform and innovation in colleges and universities

Since the 18th National Congress, the CPC Central Committee has unwaveringly implemented the strategy of strengthening the country through education, given priority to the development of education, continuously promoted the modernization of education governance system and governance structure, and improved the modern university system and school governance structure. Students are the backbone of building socialism in the future. The school is student-oriented. Students' participation in the improvement of university governance can make students feel their individual value and improve their enthusiasm and initiative in learning affairs; The improvement of students' participation right is also to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of students. At the same time, it can supervise and restrict the abuse of administrative power and bad value orientation of relevant administrative staff in the process of participation.

The power of students to participate in the internal governance of universities is not only a right given by national laws and regulations, but also an endogenous demand for students to work and study in Colleges and universities, but also a requirement as stakeholders of colleges and universities. Of course, the relationship among students' rights, administrative rights and teachers' rights in Colleges and universities varies with each other due to different interests, but the strength of rights has a threshold, which needs to be controlled within a certain range. In short, the right of students to participate in university governance is an important aspect of promoting the modernization of university governance ability and level.

Acknowledgments

This paper is the project of Sichuan Center for Education Development Research of China West Normal University, a key research base of philosophy and social sciences in Sichuan Province (CJF21059).

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