

The Study of Yale University's Running Principles

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Abstract

The study, at the heart of running principles, based on differentiating and analyzing concept of running principles, which chooses Yale University as example. By investigating and analyzing the features of Yale's running principles and stating the important part of advanced running principles that plays in the process of a College which becomes prestigious university, the study offers experience to the reformation of higher education.

Key words: Higher education, running principles, Yale University.

The research is "supported by the Fundamental Research Funds of China West Normal University" and it's the partial result of "a comparative study of the concept of Running University in China and the United States -- Based on the analysis of many cases" (Project No. 14D023).

1. Introduction

Running principles of universities are deeply associated with its construction of system. In order to realize the value of a university's running principles, they must be shown in the arrangement of system. Advanced running principles will be realized only by actualizing the system. Therefore, a university's running principles not only show on the rational cognition for them by itself, but also show on the all arrangement of its system. At the same, a university's running principles are not unchangeable and quiescent. It is influenced and restricted by the development of economical standard, then show the features of development and changes. The same university will adjust and improve its own running principles in different ages as the progress of society. At the same age, the same kinds of universities show different running principles with the influence of economic, culture and region.

2. The university's running principles

The principles of running a University essentially refers to what kind of a university would like to be. First of all, we need to distinguish between the idea of university and the idea of running University; they are not linked but distinct concepts. The first one regards the entire society as coordinate, and searches the same dream and object for universities' development in the system of entire society. While for the second one, it refers to the operators' ideas. In the aspect of time, it has a strong sense of contemporaneity; in the aspect of space, it emphasizes national and regional. Therefore, the idea of university underlines theories' direction in macro view and, owns universality and similarity. However, the idea of running university shows the personality of a university, which is the embodiment of the idea of the university, is closest to the target ideals and beliefs. It is like navigation light, guiding the development of universities in different directions. But it is important to note that, although university characterization of the general, faith embodies special, but it does not mean that the concept is not universal. Dialectic view, prevalent in particular, was included in the special. Having universal

significance in the history of the university are general and abstract idea of running a particular result, and special educational philosophy and are an integral part of the general ideas of university. Since educational philosophy reflects the operators of rational knowledge and rational knowledge is to understand the nature and laws of things, so the concept itself is universal and stability.

3. Yale University's educational philosophy

Yale University was founded in 1701, initially named "University College" (Collegiate School), also known as United States University of "mother of the College" has been in the United States ranked the top three positions at the university. Yale University, Harvard University and Stanford University have been called "big three." In 1701, James Pierre Pang lead a group of congregational missionaries to persuade Connecticut State Court to establish a mission school which can provide more opportunities for adults to study Art and Science, then service for The Church and The State. Besides, ten pastors who were the manager of the school took out four books from their poor libraries to build the school. And then, in 1701, the pastors elected Abraham Pearson who graduated from Harvard University as the first principal and the mission school was formally established. Yale is most famous of Humanities, Art, History and Law. It is one of the earliest schools which have set Humanities and Art. Yale possesses many top-ranking Humanities and the humanities research bases. The quintessence of Yale is that it emphasizes the responsibilities and contributions to society, the education of undergraduate especially the liberal education of undergraduate. Yale pursues freedom and initiates personality independence. This academic program has created tales of marvels for 300 and more years and cultivated a large number of top talent has its outstanding alumni and elites in each area. Yale created a series of the best of American in the history, such as it is the earliest American school which had gotten the qualification in terms of having the awarding qualification of doctorate. Not only has Yale the second of university library in the world which the collection of books is more than 11 million, but also its art corner of England is the largest British art collection except Blighty. Yale University adheres to the inheritance of the idea and spirit of the original in 1701 to develop into the world first-class university with the school motto called "Lux et Veritas".

3.1 Committed to developing leadership talent

The most prominent feature of Yale University's educational philosophy is leadership education; this is also direct reflection of social responsibility that is stressed by Yale University all the time. Among the excellent schoolfellows of Yale University, there are five American presidents, such as George Bush, Bill Clinton; four schoolfellows signed their name on *the Declaration of Independence* in America; there are more than 40 founders or the first presidents of American universities; and 9% of members in the United States Cabinet are from Yale University. As the president of Yale University, they insist on working hard in generations, and devote themselves to cultivate leaders of all fields. As Richard Levin, the present president of Yale University, said "Yale University attracts very potential students; help them to maximize their potential by the specific educational means. What's more, the encouragement among the excellent students leads them to be successful." Yale in 1701 charter reads: "the purpose of education is to make young people can learn the art and science... and to enable young people to serve the church and state". It is clear that Yale as a university which started with only 40 books has responsibility to cultivate talents for the church and the state. That is to say, this kind of leader talents training principle, established and kept going right from the beginning, the mission of education is to promote students to play a great service to the church, to serve the country. Yale in the process of training leading talent, emphasis on students' practice, into the community is generally taking measures, so that they understand the grassroots, community, which is an important class of leadership training quality. Based on this concept, moral education in Yale's goal is to train the students' patriotic spirit and sense of responsibility. The most pride of the Yale students than the Americans called the national hero Nathan hale, with fiery patriotism of

Nathan Hale in the American War of independence of the British lines to gather intelligence and was arrested, was sentenced to death by hanging, died before he left handed down from generation to generation of Rhetoric: "I only regret there is no second life to contribute to my country."

3.2 Committed to building the undergraduate teaching

Contrasted to many celebrated modern research-based colleges, Yale, particularly, attaches great importance to the basic education on undergraduate and even pursue persistently the quality of undergraduate education, a great importance placed less in the same type colleges in the United States. The undergraduate education is perfectly penetrated in the General Education, hence Yale stresses paying much attention to Basic Sciences on the talent training. Yale College, the undergraduate department of Yale, equips itself with seventy specialties aimed at General Education, among whose engineering students are required and encouraged to explore and acquire the knowledge beyond engineering academically. The General Education, the dominance in talent training, aims fundamentally at the cultivation of comprehensive quality and emphasizes the equality of knowledge, capability and development of personality and interest, all which plays the most vital role in undergraduate education. With the intention to penetrate the ideal of undergraduate education, Yale has taken a series of measures, among which demands the professors to give lectures to undergraduates who are all proud of it. Because they have opportunities to be taught by world-class master in America in their first class in college and have a sensation of the characteristic feature of Yale. Aimed at carrying on General Education and the all-round development of students, they are demanded to finish thirty-six courses, among which twelve courses completed beyond the major of students, simultaneously, to finish three respectively among social sciences, humanities, language and science. The Yale students are required to master a foreign language before graduating. The college puts a large part of attention on the undergraduate teaching in different times or during the diverse principal administration. In Yale, all the professors teaching undergraduates are their obligations regardless of their age or level and even the winner of Noble Prize or Pulitzer Prize should think it is their duty to teach the students there. The reason why Yale is good at teaching undergraduate is that it advocates small-class teaching, with the number of students per class less than twenty-five, over percent of eighty in college. Compared with the number of undergraduate in other colleges in America, the size of our classes is bigger in China.

3.3 Committed to remain tradition of Faculty Governance

There is a tale which has often been retold within America higher education that president makes the choice in Harvard University, chairman have the power in Princeton University and Yale Professor shots. "Faculty Governance" has a very long history at Yale which is the most prominent feature of management, and Professors, the impact on American higher education is to produce far-reaching and enormous, even for many countries, construction and management of both universities had important impact. Of course, this tradition is not been established at first. But in the constant struggle, through the tireless efforts of several generations of the principal, the Yale professor will gradually before the formation of school governance, specifically direct participation by professor school of management as Yale regulations as formalized down. Faculty Governance had a significant and profound influence, and become the driving force and source of Yale to continue moving forward. The most direct benefit of it is that it fully mobilizes the professors involved in school management and promotes school construction and development initiative. From 300 years, regardless of how the development of Yale and how the evolution of the management of Yale, the traditional of attaching importance to the governance of professors has remained unchanged. Yale is also because there are "Professors" tradition, which in turn reminds and inspires Yale professors constantly improve themselves, whether it is diligent in teaching or will diligently pursue academic managerial excellence, they are required to do the best professors,

which are derived from traditional subtle influence. And it also reflects from the other side that as a Yale teacher is initiative, creativity and independence. Increasing professor levels, student quality and management level of the inevitable next level, so the overall level of Yale remains in the forefront. Today, the fundamental principles governing the Yale school is still a “university professor will rule,” and this principle better ensure academic freedom and development, and effectively prevent the breeding of bureaucracy and erosion.

3.4 Committed to keep Individual independence

“Adhere to individual independence, freedom of thought heritage, safeguard academic freedom”, which is the spirit of Yale. Yale always adheres to the independent individual who always abides by the credo, which runs through the Yale 300 years of ups and downs. From Yale in 1701 the school began, 10 pastors in local government issued ‘school license’ ago, created by way of books to Yale, this approach proved Yale school has a unique theology and church-based, but also reflects on the management of the independence. 300 years of the Yale independence, freedom of thought, was not only reflected in the school’s governance strategy, also reflected in the students’ training. On schools, Yale has always stressed the school’s independence from political pressures and unyielding, more unyielding material inducements, local government intervention, the school has always been the attitude is resolutely resist, not blind obedience. During the Vietnam War in the 1960s, Yale University, the school adhered to the independence of the interpretation of the head. At that time, the US government required that moral or religious grounds antiwar students cannot get a scholarship. Many schools have responded to the US government regulations and the only criterion alone Yale, insisted independent schools, ignoring government interference, still as a scholarship student achievement assessment. Yale’s insistence that it has lost a lot of the federal government’s support fund, the economy struggling, but it has not changed this practice, and ultimately survived, and hailed as a model of school governance uphold independence. At the same time, the number of three hundred years of Yale’s goal is to guarantee absolute freedom of thought, this principle of “free education” that Yale can accommodate a variety of schools of thought, and always maintain the vitality, the free academic atmosphere generation to generation. This tolerance, respecting for others, fair and frank treatment on quality is also reflected in the Yale professor attitude, Department of Biology, Altman (Sidney Altman) professor in the beginning years of the study, almost everyone thinks that their research is wrong but the school has given him full freedom and support, and in 1989, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Yale also actively advocates contending encouraging all kinds of ideas on campus collisions. At Yale, the school also requested and actively created conditions for the students want them to learn to play. As long as the completion of the courses, Yale students can freely leave even unfettered travel.

4. Revelation and Conclusion

American higher education has made remarkable achievements. Construction level represents the level of American universities world-class university. Universities of Berlin, Germany in the early school to serve national needs as the school’s purpose, respected academic freedom, focusing on the combination of teaching and research, At the time all these creative initiatives in higher education, for this reason, these advanced concepts not only the achievements of the University of Berlin, now in the higher education sector has an important impact. American University initially developed slowly, so that by the 1860s still did not form their own school characteristics, and educational levels are more general. American higher education is mainly followed the cultural heritage of the United Kingdom and other Western European countries, the German school system mimics University, followed by the formation of their own elite higher education philosophy. But from the 1870s to the first half of the 20th century, the American University of timely reforms in the traditional university on the basis of inheritance, from the advanced university philosophy, focusing on needs of the

country's political, economic, cultural, and keep up the pace, adhere to the development of high-level American universities on the basis of first-class universities and improve the quality of outstanding features, formed its own unique educational philosophy, laid. It should be said, the success of American universities is multifaceted, but their educational philosophy is the key.

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