Vol.2 No.5 2021
https://doi.org/10.37420/j.cer.2021.037

Realistic Dilemma and Realization Path of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges under the "National Governance System"

Chunmei Zhang*
Suzhou Vocational University, Jiangsu, China
*Corresponding author,e-mail: 1765473952@qq.com

Abstract: *Under the framework of "national governance system", how to modernize and how to modernize the higher education institutions will become an important issue. With the social and economic transformation and industrial upgrading, there are many problems in the modernized governance mechanism of higher vocational institutions, the authority of relevant governance subjects and the system supply of higher vocational institutions. The modernization of governance of higher vocational colleges requires insisting on diversified participation in governance subjects, openness and cooperation in governance structure, precise policy-making in governance mode, and charter leading in governance system to promote the modernization of modern governance of higher vocational colleges.*

Keywords: *National governance system; Higher Vocational Colleges; Governance modernization; Dilemma; Path*

Introduction

Xi Jinping clearly pointed out in the report of the 19th National Congress that "it is clear that the overall goal of comprehensively deepening reform is to improve and develop the socialist system with Chinese characteristics and promote the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity; it is clear that the overall goal of comprehensively promoting the rule of law is to build a socialist rule of law system with Chinese characteristics and build a socialist rule of law state." (Xi, 2017). As an important part of higher education, higher education institutions shoulder the important mission of talent training, scientific research, cultural heritage and social services, and play an important role in the historical process of building a moderately prosperous society and realizing the Chinese dream of great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Meaning of National Governance System and Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges

National Governance System

1. Meaning of governance

In James March and Johan Olsen's Ambiguity and Choicein Organizations (1976), the term "university governance" was first used in the article. The idea of "governance" became popular in the 1990s and has three interrelated interpretations: first, it refers to the action, style, or fact of governing; government, and includes control, mastery, and the state of being ruled Second, it refers to the function or power of governing, the authority to rule, and the person or organization that governs; and third, it refers to the direction of life, business, or conduct (Hughes, 2013).

2. Modernization of national governance system and governance capacity

The Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Several Major Issues of Comprehensively Deepening Reform puts forward the concept of "modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity" among the overall objectives of the reform. The "modernization of the national governance system and management capacity" also sets out the direction of efforts to advance towards the modernization of management in developed countries, including the concept of governance, the adjustment of the governance structure, the improvement of the market economy, the implementation of the rule of law, and the guarantee of full enjoyment of democracy and freedom by citizens.

A country's governance system and governance capacity is a centralized expression of a country's system and governance capacity. China's national governance system is the system of the Party's leadership of national governance. It includes the institutional mechanisms and laws and regulations for economic construction, political construction, cultural construction, social construction, ecological civilization construction, and Party construction. It is a set of closely connected and coordinated state system.

State governance capacity refers to the ability to manage all aspects of reform, development and stability, domestic and foreign affairs and social affairs such as national defense, and to manage the party and the state and the military with the state system. Modernization of state governance capacity refers to the ability of state governance to adapt to the requirements of modern social development, i.e. to the requirements of democratic politics, market economy, rule of law construction, social development, eco-social development and modern cultural development.

The Connotation of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges

The governance generation of higher education institutions is to place the universalism of governance in the context of higher education institutions, including the three elements of governance system: namely, governance subject, governance mechanism and governance effect, embodying the dual attributes of value rationality and instrumental rationality, carrying educational values, having certain technicality, and manifesting as an organic, coordinated, holistic and dynamic system operation system, in the practical process of continuous adjustment and optimization (Li, 2015). By understanding and grasping the specific logic among the elements of the governance system of higher education institutions, we can promote the perfection of the governance realization mechanism.

The Importance of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational

Vol.2 No.5 2021
https://doi.org/10.37420/j.cer.2021.037

Colleges on the Context of "National Governance System"

As an important connotation of socialist modernization, modernization of national governance system and governance capacity is the core part of comprehensive reform of higher vocational education in the context of "national governance system", and the urgency has risen to a new height due to the transformation of social and economic structure.

1. Modernized governance of higher vocational colleges is an important part of the national governance system and will develop in the direction of modernization.

The evaluation of a country's modernization level and comprehensive national power includes not only hard power, such as economic power, scientific and technological power, military power and other elements, but also soft power, such as institutional soft power, cultural soft power and international influence, and institutional soft power is an important element of national modernization (Sun, 2015). The modernization of national governance places more emphasis on the construction of institutionalization and rule of law, using the power of the legal system and the market to achieve the modernization of governance, and the system and institutional mechanism are more scientific, more perfect and more standardized. The modernization of educational governance is an important part of the modernization of national governance, and as an integral part of the education field, higher education must also modernize its governance system and governance capacity.

2. Modernized governance capacity of higher vocational colleges is to deepen comprehensive reform in the field of vocational education, build double-class vocational colleges and accelerate the construction of vocational education governance system.

Promoting the modernization of higher vocational education governance requires systematic and long-term planning. It follows the concept and principles of national governance modernization and is based on the construction of higher vocational education governance system so as to improve the governance capacity of higher vocational education. Modernization is a system including elements such as system and culture, and also a continuous and dynamic process, i.e. politics, economy, culture, etc. are transformed to modern society with the change of times (Lan, 2014). The core work of modernization of higher education governance system is to establish equal consultation relationship between higher education governance system and enterprises and schools. The focus of governance modernization is to design reasonable ways, methods and technical means to deal with the relationship between the government, market, society and school, and to scientifically coordinate and plan the transformation and development of governance structure.

3. The Internet, big data and artificial intelligence have put forward new requirements for the modernization of governance of higher education institutions in terms of professional settings and talent training mode.

With the widespread use of the Internet, big data and artificial intelligence, traditional technical occupations are gradually and rapidly replaced by new occupations, and manufacturing is transformed into service manufacturing. Production is an industrial chain manufacturing process that integrates pre-production,

production and post-production and runs through R&D, design, logistics, supply, marketing and after-sales. Higher vocational education should adapt to industrial transformation and upgrade and keep pace with industrial upgrade.

4. The modernization of governance of higher vocational institutions from the perspective of "national governance system" is necessary for the sustainable development of higher vocational education and for the long-term development and innovation of higher vocational education.

The transformation of management of higher vocational institutions from "unidimensional" to "multi-dimensional" is an inherent requirement for the modernization of national governance and an important method to promote the sustainable development of higher vocational education. The development of modern technology is becoming more and more complex and comprehensive. Faced with the challenges of improving the specification and ability of talents, higher vocational colleges and universities must explore the integration mode of industry-education, break through the professional barriers and realize the interoperability of professional resources.

5. The development of higher vocational institutions has shifted from "scale expansion" to "internal improvement", which poses new challenges to the governance capacity of higher vocational institutions.

Facing social students with different social experiences and family backgrounds, the professional construction, curriculum development and teaching methods of higher education institutions are facing brand new challenges. As students have different abilities and different career development needs, the organizational structure, resource allocation, academic registration and student management of higher education institutions need to be reconstructed.

The Real Dilemma of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges on the Context of "National Governance System"

No synergy between school autonomy and administrative power, and blurred boundaries of responsibility and power between the polity and the school

Although higher vocational institutions are legal persons, the independence of school operation is not enough. The relevant affairs of the school are interfered by the government. In order to get more administrative resources, colleges and universities give up their autonomy to run schools, which makes them overly dependent on the government's policy support. There is a strong dependency relationship between higher vocational institutions and the government, and the traditional "government-controlled and school-run" higher vocational institutions cannot get rid of government intervention. The overstepping of administrative power and the resistance of academic power cause the lack of administrative power and affect the operation of administrative power (Zhang, 2015).

The rights and responsibilities of schools and enterprises are unclear, and social

Vol.2 No.5 2021
https://doi.org/10.37420/j.cer.2021.037

supervision is not really put into practice

The external environment is not perfect, the government is slow to decentralize, and it is difficult to truly realize the separation of "management, administration and evaluation", and the autonomy of school operation is still restricted. The status of enterprises in the process of training vocational talents is not high, and the conflict of interests with the cooperation of higher vocational colleges and universities affects the in-depth promotion of school-enterprise cooperation. The importance of participation of industry and enterprises in governance has not been revealed, and it is difficult to improve the diversified governance system and realize the common governance of all stakeholders.

Failure to establish a scientific and distinctive governance structure for vocational education

Higher vocational colleges and universities are not strong enough in "industry-education integration", their governance mode of differentiated and characteristic schooling is lagging behind, their internal organization is not open enough, and they lack effective communication and in-depth cooperation with enterprises. Moreover, most higher vocational colleges and universities are merged from secondary schools, which contain obvious characteristics of secondary school operation. This will expose the disadvantage of showing a serious lack of governance capacity in the process of management style and market change, which seriously affects the realization of open governance function (Zhou, 2019).

Inadequate rights system, which restricts the improvement of governance capacity

Most higher education institutions lack an institutional culture with characteristics and timely updates. Due to the serious lag of system construction and the imperfect legal person system, the autonomy of some institutions is not fully used. In addition, the autonomy of higher vocational institutions in personnel management and enrollment is insufficient, and there is a crossover between executive and decision-making authority, which affects the improvement of internal governance capacity of schools.

The Path of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges in the context of "National Governance System

The modernization of higher education institutions' governance requires systematic design and planning, the construction of higher education institutions' governance system, and the improvement of higher education institutions' governance capacity.

Implementing the Guiding Principle of National Governance

To carry out teaching, scientific research and social services, cultural inheritance, etc. within the framework of the national governance system, to follow the concept and principles of national governance modernization, to understand and grasp the strategic objectives and other policies, laws and regulations, to improve the modern university system, and to implement the implementation of autonomous management in higher

education institutions, which is the basic premise of modernized management in higher education institutions.

Aligning the Interests of All Parties

Respect the interests of all parties inside and outside the institutions of higher education, coordinate the interests of all parties, reflect and maintain their own interests in governance, to direct their respective interests to the overall interests of the institutions of higher education, and integrate the strength of all parties to achieve the goals and philosophy of the institutions of higher education.

Clarify the Subject of Governance

The most powerful guarantee of modernized governance of higher education institutions is to fully mobilize all relevant parties in higher education institutions to participate in the modernized governance of higher education institutions through institutionalized design, and to clarify the power boundary of each subject in the modernized governance of higher education institutions.

Strengthen the Joint Participation of Relevant Subjects

Construct a new system of decision support based on institutional research, cultivate a new culture of internal quality assurance consciously on its own, and form a new pattern of joint participation of stakeholders. Under the guidance of multi-subject governance theory, the government should give full play to the synergistic role of society. In the modernized governance of higher education institutions, it is necessary to achieve a balance between two kinds of powers by clarifying the boundary between them, so as to build a governance model involving multiple subjects such as higher education institutions, the government and the society.

Establishing an Open Cooperation Platform

Higher education institutions need to establish innovative concepts to better play the role of stakeholders and better meet the needs of each stakeholder by optimizing the governance requirements of each stakeholder, permeating power and interests into all aspects of talent cultivation in schools, and providing targeted governance according to the characteristics of students (Wang & Chen, 2019).

Focus on Internal Governance Structure Optimization

On the premise of establishing the same management system, higher education institutions should promote the construction of modern universities based on improving the internal operation mechanism and execution system, improving the governance structure and operation mechanism, breaking through the bottlenecks that restrict the development, and forming the development mechanism of self-management, self-development, self-regulation and self-restraint (Hu, 2015).

Develop a Scientific Decision-making Process

Vol.2 No.5 2021
https://doi.org/10.37420/j.cer.2021.037

Ensure the right of each subject to speak in the decision-making process of higher education institutions and the smooth flow of interest appeal channels, so that different subjects can give full play to their respective roles in governance. Clarify the responsibilities of each participating subject to ensure that each subject upholds a rigorous attitude in the decision-making process to put forward pertinent suggestions and integrate into the rights of the group or department on the basis of respecting individual rights (Xiao & Huang, 2015).

Conclusion

The governance capacity of higher vocational colleges is an important part of building double-class higher vocational colleges and accelerating the modernization of the governance system and governance capacity of higher vocational education. The governance of higher vocational institutions should implement college autonomy, mobilize the active participation of social subjects, coordinate the interests of all subjects, stimulate the vitality of higher vocational institutions, promote the equal cooperative relationship between relevant interest subjects and improve the governance mechanism of higher vocational institutions. The construction of governance capacity of higher vocational colleges should be based on the premise of establishing management system, realizing its own development, improving governance structure, breaking through the bottlenecks that restrict the internal development of higher vocational colleges, and establishing self-management, self-development, self-regulation and self-restraint mechanism through sound operation mechanism, implementation system and optimization of internal governance structure.

Funding

This paper was supported by the 2020 Suzhou Vocational University Higher Education Research Project, “Realistic Dilemma and Realization Path of Governance Modernization in Higher Vocational Colleges under the ‘National Governance System’” [No. G2020001006].

References.

Xi, J. P. (2017). *Winning to build a moderately prosperous society across the board and seizing the great victory of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era—Report at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China*. Beijing: People's Publishing House.

March, J., & Olsen, J. (1976). *Ambiguity and Choicein Organizations*.

Hughes, O. E. (2013). *Public Management and Ad-ministration: an Introduction* (Fourth Edition). Second Edition Macmillan Education Australia.

Li, L. G. (2015). The connotation and system construction of university governance. *University Education Science*, (1), 23.

Sun, X. Q. (2015). A study on the governance structure of higher education institutions based on international comparative perspective. *Vocational & Technical Education Forum*, (23), 50.

Lan, J. (2014). A framework for modernizing the governance system and governance capacity of vocational education. *Chinese Vocational and Technical Education*, (20), 9-13.

Zhang, H. M. (2015). The contradictory relationship of internal subjects in the governance structure of China's universities. *Modern Education Management*, (3), 79.

Zhou, F. H. (2019). Establishing an industry-education integrated enterprise certification system to

promote the formation of a community of destiny between vocational colleges and industry enterprises. *Chinese Vocational and Technical Education*, (7), 86-92.

Xiao, F. X., & Huang, X. L. (2015) Vocational education governance : main features, practical experience and research focus. *Journal of Hebei Normal University (Education Science Edition)*, (2), 35-39.

Wang, F., & Chen, P. (2019). Characteristics and rational review of the assessment of industry-education integrated enterprises—an analysis based on the prior key cultivation enterprises of the Ministry of Education. *Chinese Vocational and Technical Education*, (18), 21-27.

Hu, C. M. (2015). The uniqueness of internal governance of higher education institutions and its realization path. *China Higher Education Research*, (5), 91-94.