From regulation to development: the evolution and development path of undergraduate level vocational education policy

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Abstract. The article analyzes the importance and significance of the development of undergraduate level vocational education. The article reviews the historical development of undergraduate level vocational education and the changes and adjustments of policies in different historical periods. The influence and role of policies on the development of undergraduate level vocational education, and proposed development paths Provide reference and reference for the further development of undergraduate vocational education.

Keywords: Undergraduate level, vocational education, policy evolution, development path.

1. The Importance and Significance of Undergraduate Vocational Education Development

In today's society, vocational education at the undergraduate level has become increasingly important, which not only concerns personal career development, but also has a positive and undeniable impact on social development. Undergraduate vocational education not only provides individuals with higher-level professional knowledge and skills, but also helps students prepare for their future careers.

First of all, vocational education at the undergraduate level can not only improve individuals’ professional skills and knowledge levels. In the context of rapid technological development and global economic integration, the demand for personal skills and knowledge is becoming ever higher. In a highly competitive job market, in-depth professional knowledge, practical skills, innovative thinking and problem-solving abilities are all important factors in getting your dream job. In addition, vocational education at the undergraduate level also focuses on cultivating individuals' comprehensive qualities and abilities, such as leadership, innovative thinking, teamwork, etc., which are crucial to individual career and lifelong development. Secondly, vocational education at the undergraduate level can effectively meet society’s demand for talents. With the rapid development of the economy and the upgrading of the industrial structure, society's demand for high-end technical talents is more urgent than ever. Vocational education at the undergraduate level can not only cultivate professional talents with high-end skills and knowledge to meet the needs of society, but also improve the quality and ability of talents and promote social innovation and development. In addition, it is also one of the important ways to achieve educational equity. In the education system, vocational education and general education are equal, and vocational education has unique advantages in some aspects. Through undergraduate-level vocational education, more people can obtain better educational opportunities and resources and realize their career dreams and life values. This will also help alleviate the gap between urban and rural areas and between rich and poor, and promote social harmony and stability. Finally, undergraduate-level vocational education is also an important support for national economic development. With the advancement of science and technology and the adjustment of industrial structure, society's demand for high-quality skilled talents is growing day by day, and these high-quality talents are an important force in promoting national economic development. With the advancement of science and technology and the adjustment of industrial structure, the implementation of undergraduate-level vocational education will help
promote innovation, improve productivity, increase employment opportunities, and thereby promote the prosperity and progress of the country.

In general, vocational education at the undergraduate level is not only the key to personal development, but also an important component of social progress and national economic development. To innovate undergraduate vocational education, we must promptly adjust majors and curriculum according to market dynamics, and use diversified methods, such as general courses, club activities, and professional practices, to guide students to cultivate solid professional knowledge while shaping good communication and collaboration, leadership and other key qualities. Through this education model, we can provide more high-end skilled talents and knowledge-based labor for national strategies and regional development, inject vitality into the development of all walks of life, and thereby enhance the country's economic competitiveness and comprehensive strength. At the same time, we must be committed to improving the quality and influence of undergraduate vocational education so that it can play a greater role in the education field.

2. The Policy Evolution of Undergraduate Vocational Education

In the past few decades, undergraduate vocational education has become an important trend in the global education field. This type of education aims to provide students with in-depth theoretical knowledge while cultivating their practical skills, making them professional talents in specific industries.

2.1. Initial Stage: Policy Initiation and Pilot

In the initial stage of policy evolution in undergraduate vocational education, policy initiation and pilot are the most crucial links. Policy makers need to fully consider the development direction and goals of vocational education, and formulate corresponding policy measures based on specific situations. This stage is the foundation of the entire policy evolution. It is necessary to conduct in-depth research on the current development status and future trends of vocational education, and clarify the positioning and development direction of vocational education. At the same time, it is also necessary to clarify the goals of vocational education, such as cultivating talents with professional skills and knowledge to meet economic development and social needs. In addition, it is necessary to widely listen to the opinions and suggestions of industries, enterprises, schools and other aspects, and understand their needs and expectations for vocational education. At the same time, it is also necessary to pay attention to comparing and drawing on advanced international experiences, and absorbing successful experiences from other countries and regions. In the pilot stage, it is necessary to select representative regions or schools for pilot work to test the feasibility and effectiveness of policies. The purpose of the pilot work is to identify problems and deficiencies, and to make timely corrections and improvements. The pilot work can also provide reference and inspiration for other regions or schools, promoting the comprehensive development of vocational education. At this stage, it is necessary to establish a sound supervision and evaluation mechanism to comprehensively, objectively, and fairly evaluate the pilot work.

2.2. Development stage: Policy improvement and expansion

In recent years, undergraduate vocational education has undergone continuous improvement and expansion in policy evolution and development stages. In this process, the education system is able to meet constantly changing social and economic needs, and policy makers, educators, scholars, and industry leaders are constantly striving. In the initial development stage of vocational education, policies mainly focus on cultivating technical talents for specific industries or fields. These policies mainly target students majoring in technology and engineering, helping them acquire the skills and knowledge required for specific professions. However, with the progress of society and economic
development, policy makers have begun to realize that vocational education should not be limited to the technical field. Therefore, policies have begun to expand to a wider range of fields, including commerce, healthcare, education, and the arts. The policies at this stage are more comprehensive, focusing not only on the skill development of students, but also on their overall quality and future development. After the stage of policy improvement, policy makers began to focus on how to improve the quality of vocational education. They have introduced more practical and innovative teaching methods, such as internships, project-based learning, and industry collaborations. At the same time, policies have also begun to focus on how to improve student satisfaction and the employment rate of graduates. These efforts have significantly improved the quality and impact of vocational education. With the continuous development of society and the acceleration of economic globalization, vocational education policies have also begun to develop towards diversification. The policy not only focuses on the skill development of students, but also on their personal development and lifelong learning. In addition, policies have also begun to seek cooperation with other educational institutions, enterprises, and industries to provide students with more learning and development opportunities.

2.3. Transformation stage: policy reform and deepening

In the policy evolution of undergraduate vocational education, it can be seen that several important transformation stages are taking place. These stages not only reflect the progress of the education system, but also the transformation and deepening of socio-economic forms. We have entered a new stage of transformation, with policy reform and deepening becoming new themes. At this stage, educators and policy makers need to pay attention to new models and innovative practices of vocational education to ensure its sustainable development and adaptation to the needs of society. This may require exploring new educational methods and tools to adapt to the changing learning and employment environment. In addition, we need to consider how to integrate more deeply into the market and economic environment to ensure that the goals of vocational education are consistent with the employment market for graduates. Another important aspect of policy reform and deepening is the transparency and fairness of policies. It is necessary to ensure that the process of policy formulation and implementation is fair and transparent, so that all students have the opportunity to benefit from vocational education. It is also necessary to ensure the effectiveness of policy implementation and supervision mechanisms to ensure that policy implementation does not deviate from its original intention. In the transformation stage, we need to maintain an open mindset and a continuous learning attitude to cope with new challenges and opportunities. We also need to continuously evaluate and adjust our strategies and methods to adapt to the constantly changing social and economic environment. However, with the development of the economy and social progress, policy evolution has begun to enter a deepening stage. At this stage, policies no longer only focus on the expansion of vocational education and the improvement of teaching quality, but also pay more attention to the comprehensive development and innovation of vocational education. The policy encourages vocational education institutions to cooperate with higher education institutions to provide more comprehensive and in-depth education. At the same time, policies also encourage vocational education institutions to carry out innovative education and cultivate students with more innovative spirit and practical abilities. In addition, the policy deepening stage also emphasizes the close connection between vocational education and the industry. By establishing mechanisms such as industry advisory committees, we can better understand industry needs and provide courses and education that better meet industry needs.

3. From Regulation to Development: Reflections on the Development Path of Vocational Undergraduate Education

When considering the development path of vocational undergraduate education, we cannot ignore some important trends and challenges in the current higher education system. With the rapid development of technology and the intensification of global economic competition, vocational
undergraduate education is becoming increasingly important in the higher education system. However, there are some problems with the existing vocational undergraduate education, such as a disconnect between curriculum design and market demand, insufficient teaching staff, and weak practical teaching links. This not only affects the quality and efficiency of vocational undergraduate education, but also has a certain impact on its status. Therefore, we need to change traditional educational models and thinking, achieve a transformation from regulation to development, and find new paths for the development of vocational undergraduate education.

3.1. Improve the policy and regulatory system for vocational undergraduate education

3.1.1. Develop comprehensive vocational education regulations

Vocational undergraduate education aims to provide students with practical skills and knowledge to meet industry needs and drive economic development. However, due to the lack of clear regulatory support, many vocational undergraduate colleges face difficulties in operation and fundraising. Therefore, the government should give vocational undergraduate colleges more autonomy, so that they can flexibly adjust their curriculum and teaching methods to meet industry needs. The government should increase investment in vocational undergraduate colleges and provide sufficient financial support to ensure teaching quality. Regular evaluations of vocational undergraduate colleges should be conducted to ensure that their teaching quality and operation meet industry standards. At the same time, the government should also supervise the fundraising activities of vocational undergraduate colleges to ensure their transparent and legal use of funds. Improve vocational undergraduate education regulations to promote the healthy development of vocational undergraduate education. Vocational undergraduate education, as an important component of the education system, plays an irreplaceable role in cultivating high skilled talents and promoting economic and social development. [3]

3.1.2. Clarify the status and role of vocational undergraduate programs

Vocational undergraduate education is developed on the basis of vocational education, which not only covers the characteristics of vocational education, but also has the advantages of undergraduate education. Vocational undergraduate education aims to cultivate high-quality, highly skilled, and applied talents to meet the needs of social and economic development. With the popularization of higher education, more and more people have obtained undergraduate diplomas, which has also made the competition in the job market more intense. Vocational undergraduate education focuses on cultivating students' professional skills and practical abilities, enabling them to gain rich practical experience and professional skills during their school years. This is crucial for improving their employment competitiveness. Vocational undergraduate education cultivates applied talents, who are widely applied in various fields of society. They not only have a solid theoretical foundation, but also rich practical experience and professional skills, which are crucial for promoting social and economic development.

3.1.3. Strengthen the supervision of vocational education

Vocational education aims to cultivate talents with professional skills and knowledge to meet the needs of various industries in society. These talents are the key forces driving socio-economic development. However, some schools and educational institutions blindly expand enrollment in pursuit of economic benefits, but neglect the quality of education. In this situation, the professional skills and professional ethics of students are not guaranteed, which not only affects their future development but also brings hidden dangers to society. Strengthening the supervision of vocational education is a manifestation of fairness. Vocational education students often face greater employment pressure, and if their education quality is not guaranteed, their competitiveness in the job market will be greatly reduced. Therefore, the government, schools, enterprises, and all sectors of society must work together to ensure that every student receiving vocational education receives the fair educational opportunities they deserve through strict supervision. This not only helps vocational education
establish a good image in society, but also allows vocational education to be recognized and respected by society.

With the popularization of higher education, more and more undergraduate graduates are entering the job market, which undoubtedly increases the competitive pressure in the job market. Vocational undergraduate education must focus on improving the quality of education, strengthening supervision, and ensuring that students can obtain high-quality practical experience and professional skills to enhance their employment competitiveness and provide more opportunities for students to achieve their career dreams.

3.2. Promote the integration of industry and education, strengthen school enterprise cooperation

3.2.1. Promote the participation of enterprises in vocational undergraduate education and teaching

Firstly, the participation of enterprises in vocational undergraduate education can help improve the quality of talent cultivation. The traditional education model often focuses on theory and neglects practice, while enterprises can provide students with practical platforms to exercise and grow in practical work. At the same time, enterprises can also collaborate with schools to develop talent training programs, combining theory with practice to make education more targeted and better meet market demand. Secondly, the participation of enterprises in vocational undergraduate education can help strengthen the connection between schools and enterprises. Through cooperation, schools can understand the needs and feedback of enterprises, continuously optimize curriculum and teaching methods. Enterprises can also obtain high-quality talent resources through cooperation, promoting their own innovation and development. This mutually beneficial and win-win cooperative relationship will bring long-term benefits to both parties and reflect the corporate social responsibility. Furthermore, the participation of enterprises in vocational undergraduate education is also a manifestation of social responsibility. As a member of society, enterprises have an obligation to contribute to social development. Through participating in education, enterprises can cultivate more useful talents for society, improve the overall quality and skill level of society, and contribute to the prosperity and progress of the country.

3.2.2. Establish a long-term mechanism for school enterprise cooperation

Establishing a long-term mechanism for school enterprise cooperation is a crucial step in promoting education development and economic transformation and upgrading. School enterprise cooperation can not only provide schools with abundant teaching resources and employment opportunities, but also provide stable human resources for enterprises, achieving a win-win situation. Establishing a long-term mechanism for school enterprise cooperation is of great significance for improving education quality, promoting innovative development of enterprises, promoting economic development, achieving educational equity, and promoting social harmony. The government should increase its support for school enterprise cooperation and strengthen its supervision to ensure its healthy and orderly development. Schools and enterprises should strengthen communication and cooperation to jointly explore new models of talent cultivation. All sectors of society should also pay attention to and support the development of school enterprise cooperation to provide more resources and assistance. Students and parents should also actively participate in school enterprise cooperation to lay a solid foundation for their future development. Only with the concerted efforts of all parties can a good mechanism for school enterprise cooperation be established, cultivating more outstanding talents for society and making greater contributions to economic development and social progress. [4]

3.2.3. Give full play to the important role of industry associations in vocational education

In order to cultivate more outstanding talents and make greater contributions to economic development and social progress, we need to leverage the important role of industry associations in vocational education. Industry associations have a profound understanding and recognition of vocational education, and can accurately grasp the development trends and needs of the industry,
providing practical and practical educational content and curriculum design for educational institutions. This allows students to be exposed to practical work environments and tasks during their school years, improving their practical abilities and employment competitiveness. The close connection between industry associations and enterprises enables them to timely access the latest technology, equipment, and industry trends. These pieces of information are extremely valuable resources for educational institutions, as they can keep teaching content updated and dynamic. Industry associations can also provide professional teacher training and career development opportunities, improving the professional competence and teaching quality of teachers. The government and society should recognize the unique advantages of industry associations in vocational education, and encourage and promote cooperation between industry associations and educational institutions through legislation, financial support, and other means.

3.3. Strengthening the construction of teaching staff and innovating talent training models

3.3.1. Improve the recruitment and training system for teachers, strengthen their training and learning, and enhance their teaching level and professional competence

Improve the teacher recruitment and training system, strengthen teacher training and learning, and improve the teaching level and professional competence of teachers. As is well known, teachers are the core force of education and play an irreplaceable role in the growth of students and the progress of society. However, in reality, problems such as single teaching methods, untimely knowledge updates, and outdated educational concepts commonly exist among teachers. Therefore, strengthening the construction of the teaching staff is crucial. To improve the teaching level and professional competence of teachers, it is necessary to first improve the teacher recruitment and training system, pay attention to the education qualifications, experience, and enthusiasm and innovation ability of teachers. At the same time, provide a comprehensive training plan for newly hired teachers to help them quickly adapt to educational work and improve their teaching level. Strengthening teacher training and learning is also crucial. The times are advancing, knowledge is updating, and teachers need to constantly learn new teaching methods and concepts. Teachers should be encouraged to actively participate in various training activities and improve their professional competence. Schools should also provide teachers with more learning resources and opportunities, such as regularly organizing academic exchange activities and dispatching teachers to study abroad.

By implementing the above measures, it is expected to improve the teaching level and professional competence of teachers, thereby better cultivating outstanding talents. The essence of education lies in cultivating people, and as educators, their level and literacy directly affect the quality of talent cultivation. Therefore, strengthening the construction of teaching staff and innovating talent training models is not only to improve the quality of education, but also for the long-term development of society.

3.3.2. Promoting curriculum reform and setting standards, strengthening practical training for students, enhancing their innovation ability and awareness cultivation

Promote curriculum reform and set standards, strengthen practical training for students, and enhance their innovation ability and awareness cultivation. When we think about how to improve the education system and cultivate more innovative talents, we need to recognize that this is not only a reform of curriculum content, but also a transformation of the entire educational philosophy. What we need is not just more teachers, but more teachers with innovative spirit, practical ability, and profound professional knowledge. Firstly, we need a strong team of teachers who can lead students to explore new knowledge areas, inspire innovative thinking, and discover and solve problems in practice. Secondly, it is necessary to reform the curriculum. The courses we need are not only traditional and theoretical, but also courses that can guide students to actively explore and practice. In addition, standards should be set to ensure the scientific and forward-looking nature of course content, keeping it up-to-date and more in line with the development needs of modern society. At the same time, students should strengthen their practical training. While learning theoretical knowledge
is important, practical application is more crucial. Schools should set up more practical activities to enable students to learn and apply theoretical knowledge in practice, cultivate practical skills and problem-solving abilities. Finally, students should enhance their innovation ability and awareness cultivation. Innovation is an important force driving social progress. We need to emphasize the importance of innovation in education, encourage students to unleash innovative thinking, and try new methods and ideas. Only in this way can our education truly cultivate talents that meet the needs of society, and our students can showcase their talents on the stage of globalization. Let's work together to strengthen the construction of the teaching staff, innovate talent training models, and cultivate more innovative talents for our future.

3.3.3. Establish and improve incentive evaluation mechanisms, encourage teachers to actively participate in school enterprise cooperation and industry practice activities

Strengthening the construction of the teaching staff and innovating talent training models are two indispensable key links in our pursuit of educational excellence. This is not only related to the learning experience of every student, but also to the strategic focus of our country's future development. Firstly, we need to focus on the establishment of an evaluation mechanism. A fair, open, and fair evaluation mechanism can enable every teacher to unleash their maximum potential in a fair environment. This not only requires us to pay attention to the teaching achievements of teachers, but also to value their educational innovation practices. Establish a reward mechanism to encourage teachers to actively explore new teaching methods and means to improve teaching effectiveness. At the same time, we also encourage teachers to participate in school enterprise cooperation and combine theoretical knowledge with practical applications. This not only helps to enhance the professional competence and practical ability of teachers, but also enables them to impart knowledge more vividly and vividly in the classroom. In addition, the implementation of industry practice activities can enable teachers to timely understand the latest trends and developments in the industry, and master the latest technologies and developments.

4. Summary

Vocational undergraduate education is an important direction and trend in the development of vocational education, and policy evolution is an important guarantee and support for promoting the development of vocational undergraduate education. On the development path, we need to think and practice from multiple aspects such as improving the policy and regulatory system, promoting the integration of industry and education, strengthening the construction of teaching staff, and innovating talent training models. In the future, it is necessary to further strengthen policy support and practical exploration for vocational undergraduate education, in order to promote the sustainable development of vocational education.

Acknowledgements

Fourteenth Five-Year Plan” (2022) Fund Project of Social Sciences in Jiangxi Province: Under the background of the type of undergraduate level vocational education development path and countermeasure research (number: 22JY35D, host: Cheng Shubing)

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