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«THE MAIN ISSUES ON THE GENERAL BASIC SUBJECTS» PROGRAM REFORM IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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In this article, we mentioned about the main necessary and demand of program reform which was basic factor for higher education innovation. According to the research which related curriculum and annual program between state and non-state universities, it included the similarities and diversities of the basic subjects' name, plan, matter, volume and importance. Therefore we compared with the basic subjects' content and planning of the famous universities of USA and Europe. And it emphasized the aims and significations of the general basic subjects and suggested the opportunities and solutions to reform the program.

Keywords: Basic subjects of higher education; program; matter; content; Sustainable Development Goals 4 Education-2030 by UNESCO; Liberal arts education; James Freedman; General basic; Professional basic.

In recent years, our universities and colleges are implementing some reforms which related to training policy, organization, planning, matter, methods and program. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sport, which is the administration sector, the domestic, foreign or regional educational organizations, research sections, the universities management team, and all the teachers or researchers are joining and supporting to this reform. For all this innovations and reconstructions, we will only emphasize the issues about the general basic subjects of higher education.

The training program reform is one of the most important parts of the higher educational innovation. There are some significant reasons to reform training program such as modern individual's development goals, international universities or educational organizations' innovations, the employers' demand or necessity of the labor market. According to the «Sustainable Development Goals 4 – Education 30» by UNESCO, every student must be acquired the knowledge and skills to support the sustainable development such as sustainable development, sustainable lifestyle, human rights, gender equivalence, being against violence, being world citizen, joining various cultural events etc.

(«Disseminating the Sustainable Development Goals 4 – Education 30 by UNESCO» handbook, page 38, Ulan Bator 2018)

And on this paper, the program reform was shown as «Efficiency and suitable for lifestyles attitude demands the reform about training plan, matter, methods, and teaching manners or assignments process».

(«Disseminating the Sustainable Development Goals 4 – Education 30 by UNESCO» handbook, page 18, Ulan Bator 2018)

In the most of the higher education training program trend to create «technocrat human» who only considered professional skills caused by modern social factors such as science rapidly development, highly ranked technology, economy based on knowledge, and competition for treasure. On the other hand, international universities and colleges are suggesting the policy to create «right human or world citizen». At this moment, we have to reform the general basic subjects of higher education to improve Mongolians original skills and prepare the world citizen who can compete in the international sectors. So we need to change our program which pointed only high skilled specialists. Nowadays, more enabled program to suit for labor market, include individual's development values, can be reformed or competed, and flexible is more widening.

According to the research by Orkhon G, / Ph.D/, there are around 800 geminated professions in our country, but UNESCO approved only professions of 104 by international standard classifications in 2013. (The Magazine of «The State administration» 2013, №04, page 55)

To manage this situation, the Minister of Education issued the order A/78 which named «Renewing the professional directions and indexes» on 13 of March in 2013. So the number of professions decreased, and the 188 professions' programs which divided 10 general directions and 27 sub directions were approved.

(«The brochure of legislation on the educational sector» number 4, Ulan Bator, 2014)

It was the fundamental reason of the program reform because the legislation were updated and all the professional indexes were approved. Let's focus on the issues of program reform for general basic subjects about all the bachelor program of our universities.

According to the historical facts, the first basic subjects were named as a "The history of the party BO" and "The history of the party of Mongolian People's Revolution" in 1942 when The National University of Mongolia established. And

the number of basic subjects was increased, its names were changed. By 1960, all the 7 or 8 of basic subjects were planned on the program in every university. For example: «The history of Communist party in Soviet Union», «The history of the party of Mongolian People's Revolution», «The philosophy of Marksist and Leninist», «The theory of politic and economy science», «Ethics», «Esthetics» and «Russian». Whole the educational sector was changed caused by social revolutions and reforms in 1990s. Because the training goals, matters and manners were reformed, general basic subjects were changed as a the history of Mongolia, Mongolian, the fundamental of philosophy and the ethics of connection, and there are still these subjects.

But there are some questions and confuses around the parents and teachers such as «Is it right to again study the general basic subjects which acquired at high school through the secondary education program for all the first students at every university?». Maybe, some of them prefer the professional lessons rather than general basic subjects. We can see that any student, teacher or parents who hasn't got enough information about these subjects' aims, importance and evaluation, because most of university program team just answers it was related the approved program by ministry to this questions. So the general basic subjects' evaluation is low than the professional lessons at the universities. It is related to these subjects' matter, manner, and program policy. For most of the famous foreign universities and colleges, their programs include the general basic subjects were same with us, for preparation or 1st and 2nd course students. So let's see the subject of Liberal art education which covered humanities, social science and natural science for high educated person.

As we know, our general basic subjects look like the liberal art for construction, but there are many differences about the subject's goals, contents and manners to teach. The Liberal art subjects at the American Universities based on the traditional classic training manners. We know that the word of liberal has the bound of liber which means free or unlimited. So the main meaning of the «liberal» is open-minded and asking free. And the whole word of «liberal art» has the meaning of thinking, making, building and working without any confuse or demands. It sounds like know-how. According to the notes written by Orkhon G. /Ph.D/, The Liberal art education is not the training to give the knowledge, and it has own goal to provide the practices to process the knowledge, make new ideas, and create some innovations. (The Magazine of «State Administration» number 04, page 53 in 2013)

In ancient times, The Liberal arts were the traditional manner to prepare the aristocrats, kings, leaders, gentlemen, and soldier generals etc. By the beginning of 20th centuries, this method became the general basic subjects of every university in USA, caused by the social revolution. According to the some researches, the person who acquired liberal art education is better than any specialists.

On the «Idealism and Liberal education» written by James Freedman, the liberal art subject is the main weapon to prepare the citizen who has enough skill and knowledge to lead the satisfied life, motivation to contribute the society and high educated intelligence. If you study the liberal arts subjects, you will know about

the historical success and innovations which made by human. And your evaluation and esthetics will more improve and you will have motivation to create new ideas or science works. And it has opportunity to see all the true or false of ancient society, belief and hopes of human, positive or negatives sides of anything, being a right person or the meaning of our lives.

So all the students can know about themselves and they can be more patient and competitive. On the other hand, they see the individual's values which control our mind and views. If you study about the natural order, regularity, the reason of matters, consequences and features, you will lose any empty gospel, idle talk, superstition, extremism from your mind. This subject helps to recognize everything and wide your intelligence through all kinds of brainstorms such as thinking rapidly, comparing various theories, analyzing, imaging, asking, criticizing, testing and debating etc. And you will love the subjects from the heart. This subject shows the features of pluralism, then you will find the practices to respect other's views, be patient in any situation, make a decision without discrimination or extremism. The main aim of the Liberal art subject is sharing the democratic society's values, protecting from the social issues such as the difference between rich and poor, discrimination, accused for the own opinion, and teaching about educated citizen's duties in higher education of USA. The main factor to create humanity and democratic society is educated people. Liberal education is directed to these people. Wide range of liberal art subjects includes ideal views to engrain the educated citizen through the higher education program.

(James Freedman «Idealism and Liberal Education» 2003)

According to the Mongolian educational law, a higher education system contains 3 of parts such as general basic, professional, and detailed professional, then general basic subjects must include the fundamental theories of science to acquire higher education. It looks like that the aim of general basic subjects is giving the science knowledge. So the general basic subjects could not prepare the competitive and right citizen, it is only basic part to prepare the specialist. According to the article by Orkhon D. /Ph.D/, There were uncertain situation which related the most important principle was educating right citizen, not only specialist. We agreed with that statement. To prepare only good specialist is just common situation for our universities and colleges. But this manner won't run out the modern rapidly development through technological innovations. As we know, a new technology for today could be changed tomorrow. So maybe, we can't prepare good specialist who can work in 2020 or 2030. Because of that, we have to educate a «right and minded» citizen through the general basic subjects.

According to our research on the general basic subjects' names, planning, matter manner, program, main goals, demands from the students, attitudes from the teachers or administration, it can be included the following conclusions;

- 1. For the universities and colleges' program, it has different names the general basic subjects such as history of Mongolia, Mongolian and Philosophy.
- 2. All of various programs include the fundamental theories of science, and it was not mentioned about personal development or motivation to changing.

- 3. Most of universities don't follow the approved duration or content range of the basic subjects by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Sports.
- 4. There is different meaning or significance of these subjects for most of universities, especially, the subjects of History of Mongolia or Mongolian seems like similar to the secondary educational program.
- 5. To sum up, there are diversity program about the general basic subjects' names, contents, goals, manners, and durations for our universities. This is not suitable for main demands of modern university.

Recommendations:

- 1. To make a certain and similar names of general basic subjects of the universities.
- 2. The experts of Educational studies, teachers, researchers and representatives of employers have to analyze and compare these subjects' goals and program. To emphasize the subjects' goals and manners of teacher, create the fundamental factors to reform the training methods, and make the standard program with all educational institutions, research organizations, state administration department for this sector and accreditation organizations.
- 3. Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation has to consider the importance of the general basic subjects like other professional subjects during the university accreditation.

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К ВОПРОСУ ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИЯ ОСНОВНЫХ БАЗОВЫХ ДИСЦИПЛИН ПРОГРАММ ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ

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Данная статья посвящена системе высшего профессионального образования в Монголии, подвергшейся существенным преобразованиям за последние десять лет. Проведен анализ содержания программ высшего образования. Выделены особенности и проблемы определения основных базовых дисциплин в программах высшего образования. Государственные вузы Монголии в основном остались в своей отраслевой нише. С одной стороны, это связано с тем, что сложившаяся система подготовки в целом отвечает уровню занятости населения. С другой — в стране не было высокотехнологичных видов промышленности, определяющих научно-технический прогресс (машиностроение, нефтехимия и др.). Современный этап развития высшего образования в Монголии пришелся на период интернационализации образования — процесс интеграции международного, межкультурного или глобального измерений. Это ставит задачу перехода к образовательной модели воспитания «гражданина мира» путем изменения подходов к содержанию основных базовых дисциплин программ высшего образования.

Ключевые слова: система высшего образования, реформирование содержания программ высшего образования, основные базовые дисциплины, образование для устойчивого развития, инновации в образовании.