

Construction of a Long-Term Mechanism for Safety Management in Universities in the New Era

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Abstract: *Currently, universities are facing a more complex situation in safety management. How to establish a long-term mechanism for safety management has become an important topic to ensure the healthy development of universities. This paper first analyzes the main characteristics of safety management in universities in the new era from the perspective of the development trends and changes in universities in the new era, including open sharing of educational resources, internationalization of academic exchanges, and diversification of campus environments. Based on these aspects, a path to constructing a long-term mechanism for safety management in universities is proposed, which includes building a sound safety management system, enhancing safety education and training for teachers and students, strengthening the construction of campus safety facilities, and promoting the informatization of campus safety management. Research indicates that the application of these four major strategies can effectively prevent and mitigate safety risks. Through the study of constructing a long-term mechanism for safety management, this paper provides theoretical support and methodological references for enhancing and developing the practice of safety management in universities, thus contributing to the improvement of the level of safety management in universities.*

Keywords: *Universities; Safety Management; Long-Term Mechanism*

1. Introduction

In the face of tremendous transformations, universities are experiencing significant changes under the new circumstances. These changes stem from shifts in the societal environment, manifested not only in the rapid technological progress in society but also in a series of security threats and challenges faced by universities themselves. On the one hand, with more educational resources becoming open and shared, academic exchanges among universities are increasingly internationalized, and campus populations are becoming more diverse, providing greater development opportunities for today's universities. On the other hand, with the rapid growth of the Internet, the threats to network security are increasing, including incidents such as data breaches and cyberattacks, posing serious threats to the information security of universities. Additionally, various risks such as campus violence and natural disasters cannot be overlooked, all of which present practical demands for security management in universities.

Faced with unprecedented security threats, universities must attach great importance to security management. In the past, security management in universities often involved remedial measures after incidents occurred, with little emphasis on preventive mechanisms from the source of accidents. Clearly, this approach is inadequate in addressing the diversified, variable, and complex security threats. Therefore, constructing a long-term mechanism for safety management in higher education has become an urgent necessity to ensure the sustained and healthy development of the higher education sector.

2. The Current Situation and Challenges of Safety Management in Universities in the New Era

2.1. Challenges Facing Safety Management in Universities in the New Era

The security management situation facing universities in the new era is extremely complex, with challenges arising mainly from new situations and issues brought about by the development of universities. These challenges manifest in the following aspects:

Firstly, while higher education resources are being opened up for sharing and international development, the boundaries of universities are becoming increasingly blurred, making long-distance

and multi-location training possible. On one hand, universities can enhance academic exchanges and collaborations, but at the same time, this poses significant problems for campus security work. Specifically, how to achieve academic freedom while also preventing security risks presents a new test that has not been faced before.

Secondly, the diversity of university faculty and students results in varied demands for security management. Security work needs to be personalized and differentiated to cater to the diverse needs of different groups. Faculty and students from different levels and backgrounds have differing security needs, posing a pressing issue in the current security management field – how to better meet these diverse requirements.

Thirdly, the development of science and technology has brought about conveniences in teaching and management, but it has also introduced new security issues such as network security and information security challenges. Effectively utilizing technological means to enhance the efficiency of security management and minimize technological risks is a new problem that universities in the new era are facing.

Lastly, society holds high expectations for and pays close attention to the development of universities, with an increasing focus on issues such as education quality and teaching safety. This necessitates that university security work not only addresses internal campus safety concerns but also actively responds to societal expectations and concerns. Universities need to proactively engage in communication and cooperation with society to collectively create a safe and harmonious environment.

2.2. The Current Status of Safety Management in Universities

At present, the safety management work in Chinese universities is still in the exploratory stage^[1]. While many universities have achieved certain results in safety management, there are also challenges and issues that need to be addressed. For some universities, the level of attention and the intensity of improvements in safety management still need to be enhanced. This is mainly reflected in the lack of standardized safety management mechanisms, inadequate development of safety management systems, and overall relative weaknesses in daily governance and crisis response capabilities, leading to numerous safety hazards.

In terms of safety awareness, there exists a significant gap between students and teachers. While the vast majority of students and teachers recognize the importance of safety management, their understanding of specific safety management systems, routine procedures, obligations, and responsibilities in safety management is limited. The safety awareness and self-protection capabilities of students and teachers are weak, and they struggle to effectively prevent and address safety hazards in their daily study, work, and life processes.

Another more complex reality is that the development of technology and changes in the campus environment can give rise to new safety issues. For instance, with the widespread use of information networks and the continuous increase in digital resources, universities are facing increasingly severe challenges in network security^[2]. Therefore, universities urgently need to consider how to protect students' personal information security, configure firewalls, prevent hacker intrusions, among other critical issues that will shape the future of university safety management. Furthermore, as the campus environment becomes more diverse, new safety issues like campus bullying and mental health problems emerge, presenting universities with new challenges in safety management.

While progress has been made in safety management in current universities, there is still a need to refine management mechanisms, enhance the safety awareness of faculty and students, and address the diverse challenges emerging in the new era. Only by doing so can universities ensure their sustained and healthy development, providing students and faculty with a safe and harmonious learning environment.

2.3. Challenges Faced by Safety Management

University safety management is facing unprecedented challenges, which are diverse and complex in nature.

The advancement of network technology is increasingly challenging the security defenses of universities. With the development of technology, daily teaching and logistical management in universities rely heavily on network technology support. The openness and anonymity of the internet

make it convenient for malicious users. Examples include network attacks, online fraud, and the dissemination of harmful information, which can lead to damage or leakage of school-related data, harm to the reputation of the institution, as well as compromise the personal information of faculty and students. Strengthening network security protection and inspections, enhancing network security management for faculty and students, is an urgent task in safety management.

Campus violence incidents pose a hidden danger in university safety management. Campus violence includes not only physical assaults and bullying but also verbal attacks and psychological violence. Such behavior can harm the physical and mental health of victims, disrupt the overall atmosphere of the campus, and compromise the psychological safety of faculty and students. Therefore, universities should focus on preventing campus violence incidents by conducting thorough campus security patrols, monitoring, and promptly intervening to create a safe and peaceful environment for faculty and students.

Additionally, factors such as natural disasters bring unpredictability and uncontrollability to emergency situations in universities. Natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and fires are unpredictable catastrophic events that increase the difficulty of safety management in schools. Universities must continuously improve corresponding contingency plans and preventive measures, conduct regular drills and training, provide counseling to alleviate stress among faculty and students, and enhance their abilities for self-rescue and mutual assistance. They should effectively integrate various physical and human resources and relevant social forces to quickly establish a large and effective collaboration mechanism. In the event of a dangerous incident at a university, all parties must mobilize immediately, support each other, and carry out emergency response actions.

Insufficient safety awareness and weak safety skills among faculty and students are prominent issues in university safety management. Some faculty and students lack adequate safety knowledge, awareness, and self-protection skills. In the event of a safety incident, they may not immediately respond correctly. Therefore, universities need to prioritize safety education and training for faculty and students. This can be achieved by introducing mandatory safety education courses, organizing safety knowledge seminars, and conducting practical safety training sessions. It is also essential to establish a sound safety responsibility system, clearly outlining the responsibilities that various personnel should fulfill. This approach ensures that every staff member and student eliminate any sense of luck, fostering a culture where everyone takes responsibility, participates, collaborates in prevention, and works together.

3. Construction of a Long-Term Mechanism for Safety Management in Universities in the New Era

We believe that in university campus safety management, on the basis of comprehensive prevention, it is essential to effectively integrate a complete prevention mechanism, efficient coordination mechanism, and widespread participation mechanism through institutionalized means. This integration aims to establish a long-term mechanism for campus safety management, providing a reliable guarantee for the construction of a safe and harmonious campus^[3].

3.1. Establishing a Sound Safety Management System

The campus safety management system is an important component of campus safety prevention and serves as the basis and guarantee for schools to administer in accordance with the law and regulations^[4]. In the process of establishing a sound safety management system, universities need to focus on several aspects.

First, it is crucial to revise and improve safety policies. Each university should tailor specific safety policies based on their own circumstances, in accordance with relevant national laws and regulations. These policies should outline the objectives, principles, specific measures, methods, and procedures of safety management, serving as comprehensive guiding norms for the school's safety management.

Universities should establish detailed safety standards covering various aspects such as campus safety, network security, fire safety, food hygiene, among others, ensuring that all safety measures have clear and followable standards. These standards should be operational and assessable, facilitating execution and supervision in daily management.

Schools should also have robust inspection procedures, including safety inspection, hazard

identification and rectification, accident reporting, and accident handling procedures. Standardized procedures enable schools to swiftly and accurately address various safety issues, reducing the likelihood of accidents.

Universities should establish a comprehensive talent development system, emphasizing the professionalization of safety education^[5]. Regular safety education and training should be conducted to enhance the safety skills of administrative staff, faculty, and students, fostering a safety-conscious culture in compliance with safety regulations to maintain a stable and secure campus environment.

3.2. Strengthening Safety Education and Training

Strengthening campus safety education and training is an essential requirement for establishing and developing a long-term effective mechanism for university safety work in the new era. Only through systematic safety education can faculty and students consciously realize the importance and necessity of campus safety, actively safeguard campus security, and lead safe lives. Long-term training for faculty and students equips them with the ability to self-protect, resolve disputes, and evacuate in emergencies, thereby reducing safety risks on campus.

Diverse educational content and methods should be tailored to different groups. When designing training content for safety education, it is important to highlight subject-specific features and practicality. Tailored educational content and methods should be implemented for different audiences such as faculty, students, and administrative staff. For faculty, emphasis should be placed on education and training in areas like network security and information security. For students, various activities such as safety knowledge quizzes and simulated safety drills can be organized to enhance their safety awareness and self-rescue capabilities.

Universities should fully utilize modern technological means to innovate and experiment with new methods of safety education and training. On one hand, by utilizing online learning platforms, multimedia courseware, and resources, implementing “Internet + safety education” breaks the barriers of time and space, enabling faculty and students to access safety knowledge education anytime and anywhere. On the other hand, through techniques like simulation and virtual reality, creating virtual safety scenarios makes safety education and training more vivid, intuitive, and realistic.

Furthermore, universities need to establish an assessment and feedback mechanism to regularly evaluate the effectiveness of safety education and training. Prompt adjustments should be made in response to identified issues. Encouraging active participation from faculty and students and actively seeking their feedback can better benefit from their input, enhancing the precision of education and training and practical skills tailored to faculty and students.

Strengthening safety education and training is a crucial component in constructing a long-term effective mechanism for safety management in higher education in the new era. Through systematic educational content, innovative training formats, and a comprehensive assessment and feedback mechanism, faculty and students’ safety awareness and abilities can be significantly enhanced, laying a solid foundation for creating a secure and harmonious campus environment.

3.3. Enhancing the Construction of Campus Safety Facilities

Strengthening the construction of campus safety facilities can effectively enhance the level of safety prevention and management in schools, ensuring the personal safety of students and faculty. When procuring relevant facilities, universities should strive for a scientific, advanced, and practical approach to maximize the effectiveness of campus safety and prevention.

Reinforcing fire-fighting facilities forms the foundation of establishing a campus safety protection network. Universities should reasonably allocate fire-fighting facilities based on the characteristics of the school’s physical buildings. For example, equipping buildings with fire extinguishers, fire hydrants, and other necessary devices. It is essential to educate faculty and students on the proper use and maintenance of fire extinguishers, and conduct disaster drills on self-rescue, evacuation, and firefighting to cultivate their ability to help themselves and others in times of crisis.

Optimizing the setup of surveillance systems is another effective measure for preventing campus safety incidents. Key areas in the school such as academic buildings, dormitories, and libraries can be equipped with high-definition cameras to ensure comprehensive monitoring, effectively supervising campus safety. This constant surveillance can promptly detect any anomalies and provide evidence for

future incidents.

In addition to security system construction, universities should enhance emergency lighting, safety signs, and markings. Although seemingly simple, these facilities play a crucial role in guiding faculty and students to swiftly evacuate disaster scenes during emergencies.

The construction of campus safety facilities is a dynamic process. With continuous technological advancements and changes in the campus environment, schools need to regularly evaluate and upgrade existing safety facilities to maintain them in optimal condition. Furthermore, schools should establish a sound system for facility maintenance management, clearly defining the responsibilities and procedures of maintenance personnel to promptly and efficiently address daily malfunctions.

3.4. Advancing Safety Management Informatization

The informatization of safety management in universities is an objective requirement for the safety management work in higher education institutions in the new era. In recent years, with the rapid development of informatization, the safety work in universities has entered an opportune period. It is necessary to actively utilize modern scientific and technological means to more quickly and effectively prevent and mitigate various safety risks and hazards, thereby enhancing the overall safety level of universities.

Firstly, it is essential to establish a diversified safety management information system. The safety management information system should encompass campus fire safety, public security management, food hygiene, and other related safety aspects, integrating different categories of safety information for centralized management. Through the establishment of such a system, universities can comprehensively and accurately grasp real-time dynamics of various safety information on campus, identifying and addressing potential safety risks and hazards. Furthermore, the safety management information system should feature data statistical analysis functions, enabling universities to swiftly analyze the current safety situation based on historical data within the system, providing more precise and scientific safety recommendations for the institution.

Secondly, it is crucial to enhance the development and utilization of safety management software. By developing safety management software tailored to the actual safety management needs of universities, the overall level of safety management in higher education institutions can be improved. For instance, developing campus inspection software can enable integrated inspections with location and designated checkpoints in various areas, ensuring the presence of safety facilities.

Thirdly, strengthening the security management of information is essential. Since the information systems of safety management store a large amount of sensitive data, measures need to be taken to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of this information. This can include enhancing network security protection, establishing robust data backup and recovery mechanisms, and conducting regular or irregular inspections of information.

It is important to note that the informatization of safety management work is a systematic project that cannot be achieved overnight. Each university should construct a highly feasible system of safety work informatization based on its own conditions and circumstances. It is necessary to proceed step by step, gradually and consistently, while conducting regular assessments and reflections. For any issues that arise, corrections and improvements should be made promptly to ensure the orderly advancement of the informatization of safety work in universities.

4. Conclusion

This paper discusses the establishment of a long-term effective mechanism for safety management in universities in the new era. It analyzes the current status of safety management in universities, highlighting how new issues such as cybersecurity threats and campus violence have brought about new requirements for safety management work. Based on the situation and problems faced by safety management in universities in the new era, specific approaches to constructing a long-term effective safety management mechanism are elaborated upon, covering aspects such as improving systems, training and education, facility development, and informatization.

This study provides valuable theoretical support for the construction of a long-term effective safety management mechanism in universities and offers beneficial insights for safety management in higher education institutions. It is believed that universities will continuously enhance their own safety

management mechanisms, improve safety management levels, and collectively create a safer and more harmonious educational environment.

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