

About the selection of graduate student enrollment source and system reform

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ABSTRACT. Graduate education is the highest level in China's national education system. The quality of graduate students affects the quality of talent training. It is of great significance to improve the quality of graduate student recruitment and selection and help the stable output of high-level graduate talents. In recent years, China has been seeking to deepen the reform of graduate education. This paper puts forward some countermeasures and suggestions, aiming at the problems existing in the postgraduate entrance examination system, such as the insufficient independent admission right of the admission unit, the limitation of the candidates' selection and adjustment, the unreasonable weight of the score and the content of the second examination. Then, in the face of the existing problems, countermeasures and suggestions are put forward, such as increasing the decision-making power of admission units, reforming the mode of admission examination, formulating the weight of the score of the second examination reasonably, and the participation and decision-making power of tutors in admission. It is hoped that this paper can provide reference for educational administrators to make policy.

KEYWORDS: postgraduate, academic master, professional master, system reform

1. Introduction

After the continuous efforts and development in recent years, China has made great achievements in the construction of postgraduate admission examination system. The functional orientation of the first and second examination is more clear and accurate, which is a breakthrough in the postgraduate enrollment examination system in China. Nowadays, the initial examination focuses on the basic quality, general ability and basic discipline literacy, while the second examination focuses on the in-depth examination of professional ability, innovative spirit and comprehensive quality. This examination system first examines the basic quality, and then the professional quality, which is conducive to the selection of talents with excellent comprehensive quality.

Judging from the current situation of postgraduate enrollment in domestic colleges and universities, I think there is more or less room for reform and

coordination in terms of examination system, examination methods and admission scheme. It is reported that in 2021, the total number of applicants for the unified postgraduate examination was about 3.77 million, an increase of 10.5% over last year. Only about 447000 people have applied for the universities in Beijing, accounting for about 12.5% of the country's total enrollment. Ten universities have more than 10000 applications, accounting for about half of Beijing's total enrollment, followed by Peking University, Renmin University of China, Beijing Normal University, Tsinghua University, Beijing University of technology, Beijing Jiaotong University, Communication University of China, Central University of Finance and economics, and foreign economic and trade Yi University and Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics are almost all "211" and "985" engineering colleges.

2. Classification of Postgraduates

Therefore, first of all, we roughly divide the enrollment of master's degree into two categories: national key universities with master's authorization points and local universities. There are academic master and professional master respectively. Professional masters are classified according to current and on-the-job. The structure is as follows: the box at the back represents the direction of training, and the star level at the top represents the roughly estimated difference in cognition and recognition of the whole society (without investigation).

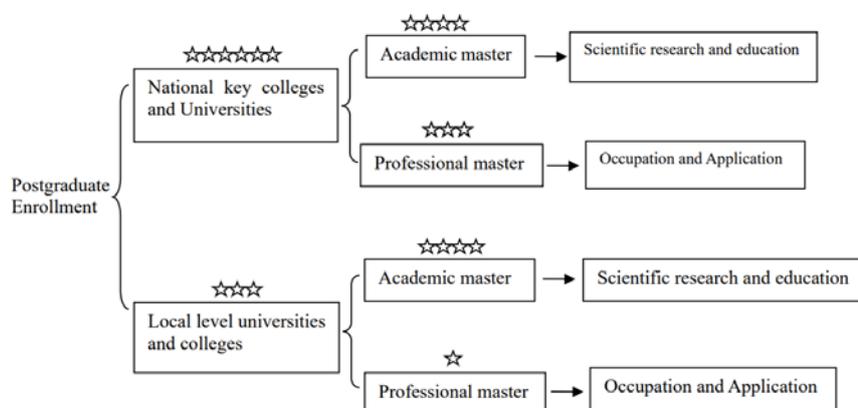


Figure 1 Classification of postgraduate enrollment based on social cognition and recognition

First of all, from the perspective of social cognition, people from all walks of life understand the relevant information of colleges and universities mainly from the mass media, word-of-mouth of people within the scope of social contact, relevant to residence, conscious inquiry and consultation. The largest and most influential force is the mass media, followed by social groups. These two ways of communication

tend to be one-sided and have strong subjective color for the dissemination of information. However, the cost of verifying the true information by information collectors is high. In the case of low degree of interest and limited information processing ability of the receivers, the information they can get will be mainly concentrated in the state-level key universities which are often mentioned and appear in the media, In contrast, the popularity of local universities is much lower than that of national key universities.[1] In the same way, the degree of cognition of the new professional master is far lower than that of the academic master with a long history.

Secondly, from the perspective of social recognition, the effect of famous universities is well reflected in the employment situation of students after graduation. This effect is partly due to the different cognition of enterprises to national and local universities, and the other part is from the preference tendency of enterprises to choose the best talents and avoid the employment risks. However, on the contrary, the employment preference and selection mechanism of enterprises affect the expectation of graduate students studying for master's degree, which is mainly the expectation of employment prospect. In terms of employment expectation, the graduates of famous universities are much higher than local colleges in terms of social status, salary level and personal development opportunities. In the same way, the recognition degree of professional master is lower than that of traditional academic master.

If we regard cognition as a beginning and recognition as a result, the embarrassing position of local colleges and universities will undoubtedly appear. Xu Amei thinks that there are many problems in the postgraduate education of local colleges and universities in his article: 1. There are still problems in the quality of graduate students; 2. The psychological problems of new graduate students are easy to occur; 3. Teachers are relatively weak; 4. The training orientation is not clear enough. On the issue of student source, the author mainly thinks that the attraction of key universities and famous universities to the source of students is too large, which leads to the relative lack of improvement in the number and quality of students in local colleges and universities. Therefore, local colleges and universities will accept more transferred students, which is not a long-term plan for local colleges and universities. On the issue of teachers, the author thinks that excellent university teachers will also have a tendency to choose the best, which leads to the concentration of excellent teachers in a few famous universities, but it is difficult to improve the teaching staff of local colleges and universities.[2] On the whole, it will restrict the enrollment of local colleges and universities, and may lead to a vicious circle.

In the academic and professional master's issues, there is a similar situation, but different from the above point of view, the contradiction between the two in the employment problem is much greater than the reputation of colleges and universities. Nowadays, the army of postgraduate entrance examination is more and more year by year, and the number of people with high educational background is also gradually increasing. The social requirements on the threshold of education will also be improved, so the pressure of employment competition is greater. In the labor market

where supply exceeds demand, enterprises and various organizations that pay money to hire people as buyers have more advantages in monopolizing the market. In the face of academic and professional master graduates from the same university with similar professional direction, enterprises often choose the traditional academic master in order to avoid the risk of employment errors. On the contrary, professional master graduates trained for professional work are discriminated against without any reason. This kind of social evaluation and screening mechanism leads to the vast majority of candidates who apply for academic master's degree and the quality of students is better, while the proportion of candidates who apply for professional master's is relatively small and the quality is not high. However, the contradiction lies in the fact that the training direction of academic master's degree focuses on theory and research work, which will lead to the employer's doubt on the professional ability and practical ability of academic master, and in fact, the social evaluation is not high. In addition, there are many types of academic master's major, and many majors and social needs do not match. A large number of people who have completed academic master's degree go to the society, but find that they may not be able to get satisfactory jobs, or even can not find a job. According to Cao Junjie and Sheng Kerong in "Research on professional master's degree education in local universities", local colleges and universities should bear more burden in training professional masters to transport high-level applied talents for local economy and society, while national key colleges and universities should focus on training education and research talents and give full play to their advantages of advanced experimental equipment and integration of learning and research. This view is equivalent to dividing the two types of colleges and universities according to their functions and levels, so that local colleges and universities can give full play to their comparative advantages, and there is no need to have direct conflicts between the enrollment and training of various disciplines and famous universities.

3. The reality of Postgraduate Education

First of all, since 1991, the professional master education has made great progress in more than 20 years. However, the concept of commercialization has been paid more and more attention in the society, which makes many colleges and universities recruit a large number of social and working people in the development of MBA, MPA and other majors. As a result, professional masters in economic and management disciplines tend to have working experience groups, and for a long time, they will enroll fresh graduates. Because of the social group's exclusion, most of the graduates who can't find a job enter the ranks of the academic postgraduate entrance examination, but they still can't get the recognition that the society needs.

To this end, the Ministry of Education issued the "Notice of the Ministry of Education on the arrangement of the enrollment Plan for full-time professional Degree Postgraduate students in 2020" to increase the number of full-time professional master degree graduate students, and strive to broaden the direction of professional degree disciplines for the majority of undergraduate students to choose. But in fact, the proportion of professional masters is still too low compared with

academic masters, and the choices of candidates who intend to choose full-time professional masters are still very limited. However, it can be seen from the general trend that the enrollment scale of academic masters will be reduced year by year, while that of professional masters will be increased year by year. The notice also gives priority to the development of professional masters in famous universities in the enrollment plan.

In my opinion, local colleges and universities which are in the disadvantage of enrollment and those in non key construction projects should make efforts to improve their social cognition and evaluation. Different from the direction and social orientation of training education and scientific research talents under the planned economic system, in the context of China's efforts to develop market economy, more and more people are taking the professional trend of western higher education as the guidance, and choose to engage in the relevant work of emerging service industries such as economy, management, law and finance, and actively integrate with international standards. To a certain extent, this preference is more in line with the development direction of local colleges and universities to cultivate talents. Therefore, local colleges and universities should improve their own information transmission mechanism in enrollment publicity to ensure that their own characteristics and advantages can be fully and accurately transmitted to candidates and excellent teachers, especially to local people, so as to expand the source of students and attract excellent teachers.[4]

At the same time, local colleges and universities should actively strive for professional master's enrollment quota and expand the enrollment scope while developing academic research. However, publicity and striving for places only play a supporting role. The most important point lies in the quality of talents trained by colleges and universities.

Nowadays, the development trend of enrollment examination in the world is generally towards the direction of unified examination. Combined with the actual situation of our country, we can explore some system reform on the way of enrollment in the future, so as to make the postgraduate admission examination more fair and fair. The following measures may improve the current postgraduate enrollment examination system more or less.

1) The postgraduate entrance examination in China has obvious administrative characteristics. However, in the United States, the postgraduate examination is also a unified examination, but its examination is not hosted or held by the administrative department of education in the United States, but is jointly organized and implemented by graduate schools of different universities. The biggest feature of the examination is that it is non-governmental and professional. The current postgraduate enrollment and examination system in China should be reformed in a professional direction, and a professional postgraduate education steering committee should be set up to formulate the policy decision-making body of postgraduate enrollment and examination.

2) We should change the direction of postgraduate entrance examination and adjust the examination subjects. The main purpose of postgraduate entrance

examination should not be to select and eliminate applicants, but to screen the basic quality of applicants to ensure the quality of postgraduate enrollment, so as to provide basic reference materials for the admission of graduate students. In terms of examination subjects, we should pay attention to the basic theory of the subject,

3) Change the way of postgraduate entrance examination. At present, postgraduate entrance examination is divided into two parts: qualification examination (preliminary examination) and professional examination (second examination). To reform the qualification examination, we can regard it as the key point to change the way of postgraduate entrance examination. The so-called reform of qualification examination is to transform the selective test into the norm reference test. The examination focuses on testing the basic knowledge and ability of applicants. As long as the basic requirements are met, applicants can obtain the corresponding qualification without limiting the pass ratio in advance.

4. Conclusions and recommendations

To sum up, the reform of postgraduate enrollment system should continue to sum up experience in practice, consolidate the reform results of the first and second examinations, and continue to deepen the reform. We should improve the level of graduate education from the selection of students, so that we can cultivate more excellent talents with comprehensive quality.

Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank my colleague Meng Yifang. We have contributed our meager strength to the postgraduate enrollment of our university. We have done a good job according to the requirements of our superiors. She has helped me a lot since I was engaged in the recruitment work for many years. Last my thanks would go to my beloved family for their loving considerations and great confidence in me all through these years. I will continue to make great efforts to repay them for their help and love.

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