

# The Adjustment and Influence of Colleges and Departments in Hunan Province in the 1950s

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**Abstract:** As the main task of the internal adjustment of colleges and universities, the adjustment of colleges and universities is still of key significance in the context of building a powerful education country. Through the research, it is found that the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province can provide a driving mechanism for the adjustment of departments and the construction of key educational demonstration institutions. This paper focuses on the causes and effects of the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province, and believes that the adjustment of colleges and departments is an important basis for responding to the needs of national economic construction and unified leadership. In view of this, the good effect of the adjustment of the departments is the key driving force to build a powerful education country and promote the development of education modernization.

**Keywords:** Higher education; Faculty adjustment; Colleges and universities in Hunan Province

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From June to September 1952, the government of the People's Republic of China massively adjusted the establishment of colleges and universities across the country, transforming the university system modeled after the United States and Britain during the Republic of China into one modeled after the Soviet Union. Department adjustment refers to the internal and inter-school integration of educational resources, including the merger of departments, the expansion of institutions, and the adjustment of majors<sup>[1]</sup>. On this basis, institutions of higher learning have formulated unified teaching plans and syllabuses, and established a unified national entrance examination system for institutions of higher learning. As a milestone event in the history of higher education reform, the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province in the 1950s had a key impact on the development of higher education in Hunan Province. As a guide, this paper focuses on further digging and sorting out the relevant archives of the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province, mainly focusing on the reasons for the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province and the impact after the adjustment. In the process of sorting out the above texts, it also points out the optimization path and future prospects for the adjustment of faculties.

## 1. Analysis of the reasons for the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province in the 1950s

### 1.1 Economic Dimension

As the fundamental driving force and key factor for the progress of human society, productive forces play a role in promoting and restricting the rapid development of economy. In this situation, education, as an important basis for promoting the progress of human society, is bound to promote and restrict it<sup>[2]</sup>. It is not difficult to find that the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province in the 1950s was closely related to the rapid development of economic productivity. Specifically, it can meet the needs of national economic construction and drive talent training. In other words, the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan

Province must meet the needs of the actual development of productive forces, which is a universal law.

## **1.2 The Social Dimension**

In the 1950s, there were few engineering colleges and universities, and it was difficult to meet the needs of economic construction and development efficiently. In addition, affected by warlords' infighting, the government pays little attention to education, which makes education funds unable to be put in place, resulting in the failure to effectively promote education reform<sup>[3]</sup>. This led to a serious imbalance in the construction of higher education in Hunan Province in the 1950s, resulting in the abnormal development of liberal arts and the shortage of science, and the outstanding performance was that the construction of engineering colleges was always backward. It still needs to be noted that engineering colleges play a vital role as the mainstay of national industrial construction and development, but the higher education of Hunan Province during the Republic of China could not meet the needs of national industrial construction for skilled talents. Therefore, based on the goal of new China's economic construction, the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province became one of the key contents of education development in the 1950s.

## **2. The influence of the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province in the 1950s**

### **2.1 Influencing Factors of Macro Factors**

Considering the historical background of the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province, whether it is the replacement of large-span colleges by independent colleges and universities in the late 1990s, or the adjustment of colleges and universities in 2015, external macro factors are the key criticisms that affect the adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province. Specifically, in the 1990s, the government issued Several Opinions on the Reform of the Internal Management System of universities directly under its Control, pointing out that the reform of the internal management system of universities should be implemented. In 1993, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and The State Council issued the Outline of China's Education Reform and Development, which marked a new climax in the reform of the internal management system of colleges and universities, and began to require colleges and universities all over the country to carry out promotion. Under the guidance of this policy, colleges and universities generally began to adjust their departments, mainly manifested in the reform of the college system. The adjustment of colleges and universities in Hunan Province was guided by this, and gradually began to integrate the previously dispersed independent colleges and departments into colleges in response to the national management system reform strategy.

### **2.2 Influencing Factors of Micro-Factors**

Observing the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province, it can be seen that the adjustment of colleges and departments is also affected by many micro-factors such as internal management mode and internal subject attribute difference. It is mainly manifested in two aspects: First, the internal management mode, the discipline belongs to the late discipline, and in the 1950s, the humanities and natural disciplines were restructured, most of the social disciplines were hit hard, so that the vast majority of disciplines were directly cancelled. To some extent, this indicates that there is a possibility of reconstruction and new construction of the natural, cognitive and social disciplines in colleges and universities in Hunan Province. Second, the internal subject attribute. Hunan Higher University is built around a certain discipline, covering humanities and social sciences, science and engineering and other aspects, but in fact, it is the basic practice of developing liberal arts in engineering colleges from the 1980s to the 1990s.

## **3. The optimization path of the adjustment of colleges and departments in Hunan Province in the 1950s**

### **3.1 Promoting the Coordinated Development of Faculty Adjustment and Discipline Optimization**

As an important part of the sustainable development of colleges and universities, the integration with the relevant resources and colleges can stimulate the agglomeration effect and chemical reaction among disciplines. In detail, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should formulate scientific development strategies according to their own development advantages and characteristics, guide the upper and lower levels to reach strategic consensus, and constantly optimize the discipline organization structure, so as to realize the coordination of faculty adjustment and discipline optimization. At the same time, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should strengthen the content and curriculum optimization of basic disciplines, flexibly apply different resources to help discipline training, establish special, personalized and specialized disciplines, and keep the development of disciplines forward-looking, so as to

optimize the allocation of disciplinary education resources, achieve balanced development among different disciplines, and promote the coordinated development of faculty adjustment and discipline optimization.

### **3.2 Promoting the Reform of The Internal Governance System of Higher Education**

With the national emphasis on higher education and the improvement of national governance system and governance modernization, colleges and universities in Hunan Province pay more attention to the optimization and improvement of internal structure governance. Therefore, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should take the construction of “double first-class” as the main line, take high-level development as the goal, and strive to drive the reform of internal governance system, so as to stimulate the vitality of colleges and promote themselves to achieve sustainable development. On the one hand, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should establish an internal governance system with independent voice around college leaders and committees, further standardize and clarify the responsibilities and rights between different management levels, and achieve internal transparency and openness, so as to help adjust the internal governance structure of the department. On the other hand, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should integrate teaching resources through the merger of faculties and departments, enhance the synergistic effect, and improve the level of teaching and research. At the same time, in the process of department adjustment, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should fully consider the rationality and actual needs of the professional Settings of the departments, so as to achieve the consistent development of external image and brand.

### **3.3 Promoting the Rapid Integrated Development of Disciplines**

Based on the above analysis, the adjustment of departments is to achieve the goal of integration and optimization of inter-discipline resources, to exert the comprehensive effect of most disciplines, and finally to realize the substantive integration of disciplines. In view of the social reality, the adjustment of the department not only needs to realize the simple physical change, but also should promote the real integration of disciplines. Based on this, colleges and universities in Hunan Province need to combine the current situation and development trend of disciplines, realize the key role of realizing the true integration of disciplines, and set up major projects to adjust faculties and departments based on different disciplines and social needs from the dimension of institutional development, so as to promote solid disciplinary cooperation with cooperation foundation and development space. On this basis, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should pay attention to the construction of teachers and research platforms, introduce excellent educational talents according to the needs of discipline construction and development, form a high-level teaching team, and promote the rapid integration of disciplines. Further, colleges and universities in Hunan Province should also strengthen student management and service work, according to the demands of students’ training, improve discipline development planning, establish and improve student training programs, strengthen student guidance and service work, and provide strong support for the adjustment of departments.

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