

Research on the Integration Path of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Education and Professional Education in Higher Vocational Education

Qing Su

Sanya Vocational College of Science and Technology College of Tourism and Sports Industry, 572000

Abstract: This paper explores the integration of innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education in higher vocational settings. By analyzing theoretical frameworks, engaging in practical exploration, and proposing optimization strategies, the paper aims to offer an effective integration approach for nurturing innovative talents. Initially, the paper outlines the theoretical framework of the integration path, encompassing curriculum integration, practical teaching integration, and a teacher team integration model. Subsequently, the article delves into the analysis of specific practices and experiences in practical exploration, covering curriculum implementation, practical teaching, and the establishment of teacher teams. Finally, the paper presents optimization strategies, including enhancing the policy support system, strengthening teacher development, and establishing a diversified evaluation system, among other measures. Through these initiatives, the in-depth integration of higher vocational innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education can be promoted, enhancing the overall quality and effectiveness of education. This, in turn, provides a robust foundation for cultivating high-quality talents with an innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability.

Keywords: Words: higher vocational education; Innovation and entrepreneurship education; Professional education; Integration path; Optimization strategy

Introduction:

With the swift advancement of the global economy and the rapid progress of science and technology, innovation and entrepreneurship emerge as crucial catalysts for social progress and economic development. Higher vocational education serves as a pivotal foundation for cultivating skilled and high-quality talents. Effectively integrating innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education to enhance students' innovative spirit, entrepreneurial awareness, and entrepreneurial abilities is a pivotal concern in higher vocational education. This study aims to investigate the integration approach for higher vocational innovation and entrepreneurship education alongside professional education, offering valuable insights for the reform and development of higher vocational education.

1. Innovation and entrepreneurship education and professional education of the intrinsic link

1.1 The intrinsic logic of innovation and entrepreneurship

Innovation and entrepreneurship are two interrelated concepts, which are intrinsically linked in many aspects. First, innovation is the foundation of entrepreneurship. Without innovation, entrepreneurship loses its motivation and meaning. Innovation is the improvement of existing things or the creation of new things, and entrepreneurship is the transformation of innovative things into actual products or services, to the market and realize its value. Therefore, innovation is the source of entrepreneurship and the key factor to promote entrepreneurship development. Entrepreneurship is a practical platform for innovation. Innovation is not only an idea or a concept, it needs to be verified and realized through practice. Entrepreneurship provides a practical platform for innovation. Through entrepreneurship, people can transform innovative ideas into practical products or services, push them to the market and achieve commercial success. In the process of starting a business, innovation is tested and fed back by practice, which is helpful to further improve

and optimize innovation. In addition, the intrinsic link between innovation and entrepreneurship is also reflected in their goals and values. The goal of innovation is to create better products or services, meet people's needs and promote social progress. Starting a business is based on this to achieve business success and economic returns. Therefore, innovation and entrepreneurship have a high degree of consistency in goals and values.

Innovation and entrepreneurship are two interrelated and mutually reinforcing concepts. Innovation is the foundation and source of entrepreneurship, and entrepreneurship is the practice platform of innovation and the way to realize commercial value. This internal connection makes it possible and necessary to integrate innovative and entrepreneurial education with professional education. Through this integration, talents with innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability can be better trained, and greater contribution can be made to social progress and development.

1.2 The interaction between professional education and innovation and entrepreneurship

There is a close interaction between professional education and innovation and entrepreneurship. Professional education is the foundation of innovation and entrepreneurship. In the process of receiving professional education, students develop the ability to discover, analyze and solve problems by learning various professional knowledge and skills. These capabilities are indispensable in the process of innovation and entrepreneurship. Only with a solid professional foundation can we have better play and breakthrough in the process of innovation and entrepreneurship. Professional education provides direction and resources for innovation and entrepreneurship. Different professional fields have their own unique knowledge systems and skills requirements, which determine the fields and directions of innovation and entrepreneurship. Through professional education, students can be more clear about their interests and advantages, so as to choose their own direction of innovation and entrepreneurship. In addition, the courses, experiments and practices in professional education provide students with opportunities to integrate with the industry, help them to accumulate practical experience and human resources, and lay a foundation for future innovation and entrepreneurship. Innovation and entrepreneurship also have a positive impact on professional education. In the process of innovation and entrepreneurship, students need to constantly learn and explore new knowledge and skills, which is helpful to promote the reform and development of professional education. Through the problems and challenges in practice, we can find the deficiencies and defects in professional education, so as to adjust and improve the teaching content and methods, and make them more close to the actual needs. In addition, successful innovation and entrepreneurship practice can also become teaching cases, enrich teaching resources and improve teaching quality.

There is a mutual influence and promotion relationship between professional education and innovation and entrepreneurship. Professional education provides the foundation and resources for innovation and entrepreneurship, while innovation and entrepreneurship promote the reform and development of professional education. Through the organic integration of the two, talents with innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability can be better trained, and greater contribution can be made to social progress and development.

2. The theoretical framework of the fusion path

The construction of the fusion path relies on a solid theoretical foundation, drawing primarily from relevant perspectives in vocational education, innovation and entrepreneurship management, and interdisciplinary education theory. Vocational education, with its emphasis on practicality and career orientation, provides a guiding direction for integrating innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education. Innovation and entrepreneurship management theory focuses on nurturing innovative thinking and entrepreneurial skills, along with the ability to identify opportunities and navigate risks in uncertain environments, thereby setting specific training objectives for the integration path. Interdisciplinary education theory underscores the intersection and integration of disciplines, offering methodological guidance for merging innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education.

The theoretical framework encompasses integration at various levels and dimensions. At the curriculum level, integration involves incorporating innovation and entrepreneurship education into the curriculum, facilitating the organic blending of the two. Practical teaching integration necessitates students experiencing the innovation and entrepreneurship process through experiments, practical training, project practice, and other means. Integration at the teacher team level requires the formation of a team comprising educators well-versed in both the professional field and innovation and entrepreneurship, fostering interdisciplinary teaching and guidance.

3. Practical exploration of integration path

3.1 Curriculum integration model

When formulating professional courses, the content of innovation and entrepreneurship education should be integrated into them, so that students can learn professional knowledge and at the same time be exposed to knowledge of innovative thinking, entrepreneurship awareness and other aspects. For example, innovative case analysis, entrepreneurship project planning and other content are added to professional courses, so that students can gradually cultivate innovative thinking and entrepreneurship awareness in the learning

process. Optimization of curriculum structure. The traditional professional curriculum structure often pays attention to the integrity of disciplines, while ignoring the needs of practical application. Under the curriculum integration model, the curriculum structure should be optimized, emphasis should be placed on interdisciplinary and integration, and interdisciplinary courses or comprehensive courses should be set up, such as "practical courses combining innovation and entrepreneurship with major", in order to cultivate students' comprehensive quality and innovation ability. The reform of curriculum implementation. The traditional way of curriculum implementation is often teacher-centered and students passively accept knowledge. Under the curriculum integration model, students' active participation and experience should be paid attention to, and teaching methods such as project-based learning and turning over the classroom should be adopted to guide students to take the initiative to think and practice, so as to cultivate their innovation ability and entrepreneurial spirit. The curriculum integration model stands out as an effective approach for achieving the amalgamation of innovation and entrepreneurship education with professional education in higher vocational settings. By reforming and implementing changes in course content, structure, and delivery, this model aims to enhance students' innovative thinking and entrepreneurial awareness. The ultimate goal is to cultivate a greater number of high-quality talents equipped with an innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability.

3.2 Practice teaching integration model

Practical teaching holds a pivotal role in higher vocational education, serving as a crucial avenue for fostering students' practical abilities and innovative thinking. As such, the practical teaching integration model becomes a focal point in the practical exploration of merging innovative entrepreneurship education with professional education. This model emphasizes the synergy between practical teaching and innovation and entrepreneurship education. During practical teaching, it is essential to prioritize students' active engagement, guiding them to proactively participate in the practical process, thereby nurturing their innovative thinking and entrepreneurial awareness.

For instance, incorporating practical projects or simulation projects into practical teaching allows students to engage in the design, implementation, and summary of projects, fostering their innovative thinking and problem-solving skills in practical scenarios. The aim is to achieve a profound integration of practical teaching with professional education. This involves deeply intertwining innovative and entrepreneurial education with professional education during practical teaching, enabling students to acquire professional knowledge and skills in practice while concurrently cultivating their innovative thinking and entrepreneurial abilities. For example, the introduction of enterprise cases or industry cutting-edge technology in practical teaching enables students to understand the industry development trend and market demand in actual operation, thus cultivating their innovative thinking and entrepreneurial spirit. Practical Teaching and the Promotion of Cooperation with Industry-University-Research. Industry-University-Research Cooperation is an important direction for the development of higher vocational education and an important support for the integration of practical teaching. Through Industry-University-Research cooperation, students can be provided with more practical opportunities and resources, so that they can be exposed to the actual working environment and market demand in practice, thus better cultivating their innovative thinking and entrepreneurial ability.

4. Summary

The integration of higher vocational innovation and entrepreneurship education and professional education is the key to cultivate innovative talents. In this paper, the theoretical framework, practical exploration and optimization strategies are discussed in detail. The theoretical framework provides guidance for the integration path. Practical teaching and the integration model of teachers' team are the focus of practical exploration, while improving the policy support system, strengthening the construction of teachers' team and building a diversified evaluation system are the keys to optimizing the strategy. Through these measures, we can promote the in-depth integration of higher vocational innovation and entrepreneurship education and professional education, improve the quality and effect of education, and provide a strong guarantee for cultivating high-quality talents with innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability.

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About the author:

Qing Su (1992-), female, Li nationality, Sanya, Hainan province, assistant professor of Hunan University, research direction: Medical law