



# The Impact of Lifelong Education on the Educational Career of Higher Education Institutions in China

**Weijun Zhang**

Teachers' Teaching Development Center, Wenzhou Radio and Television University, Wenzhou 325024, Zhejiang Province, China. E-mail: 993380195@qq.com

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**Abstract:** Lifelong education means insisting on lifelong learning, which is fundamental to cultivating the all-round development of people, and it also requires people to have a certain level and ability to fulfill the tasks of talents needed by society. With the continuous updating of modern higher education, the issue of lifelong education for college students in China's higher education institutions has become one of the most urgent and realistic issues, that is, how to better and faster promote the learning performance of college students and further improve the teaching quality of higher education institutions, so that they can be more in line with the requirements of modern development and the trend of the times is the main content of the current urgent research. This paper analyzes the current situation and problems of higher education development in China from the meaning of lifelong education, and proposes corresponding countermeasures.

**Keywords:** Lifelong Education; Higher Education Institutions; Educational Careers

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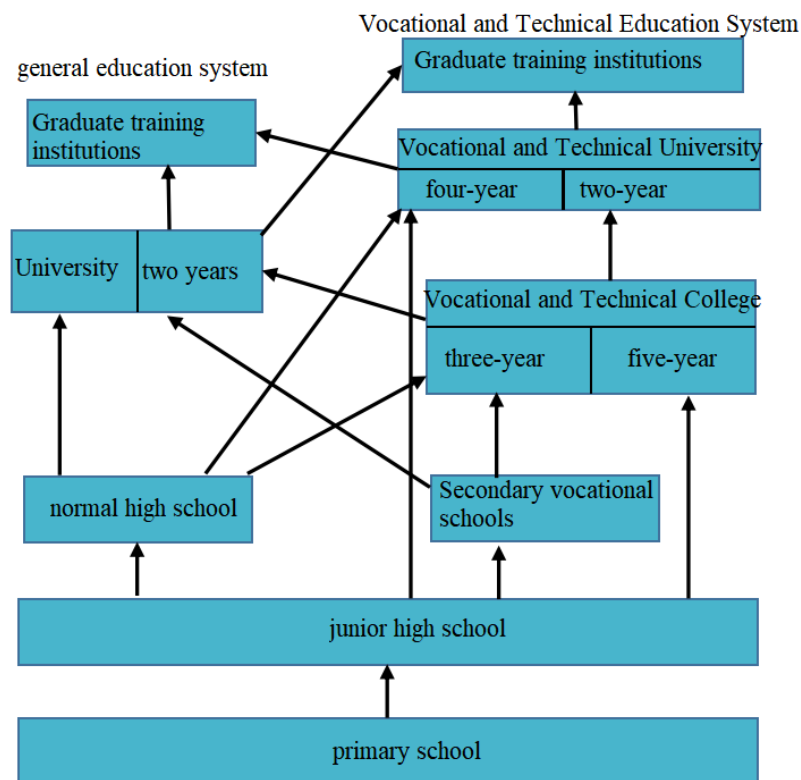
## 1. Introduction

As a fundamental work in China, higher education is facing many challenges in the process of its development. First of all, people's living standard is improving and the concept of education is being updated and improved, which leads to great changes in the mode and requirements of higher education personnel training. This requires universities to carry out innovative reforms in the teaching process to meet the market demand. As an important teaching mode, lifelong education is irreplaceable in promoting the overall development of college students. Therefore, the integration of lifelong education into higher education is an inevitable choice<sup>[1]</sup>.

## 2. Theoretical basis of lifelong education

Lifelong education is aimed at the all-round development of the learner's body and mind, and in the process of school teaching, it cultivates students into talents with a certain level and adaptability, ideological and moral cultivation and social practical experience. China's higher education career continues to make new breakthroughs and innovative growth results<sup>[2]</sup>. The scale of higher education continues to expand and the quality of education is significantly improved, the quality of the teaching staff is significantly improved, the teaching staff is strong, and the teaching work is gradually moving towards a scientific track. The professionalism of the teaching staff is improving, teaching methods are being further transformed, and the quality of education has been significantly improved, which provides the source of power for the development of higher education in China. The system of lifelong education is shown in **Figure 1**<sup>[3]</sup>.

In the process of China's higher education development, lifelong education as an important concept has become a very hot topic, it is not only the training goal and teaching mode for college students, but also provides more and better human resources for the country to support its own long-term healthy, stable and sustainable development, and it allows universities to understand more comprehensively and deeply the contradictions between social needs and talent requirements, and it can make corresponding countermeasures in time to adjust to the needs of society for higher education<sup>[4]</sup>.



**Figure 1.** Lifelong education system.

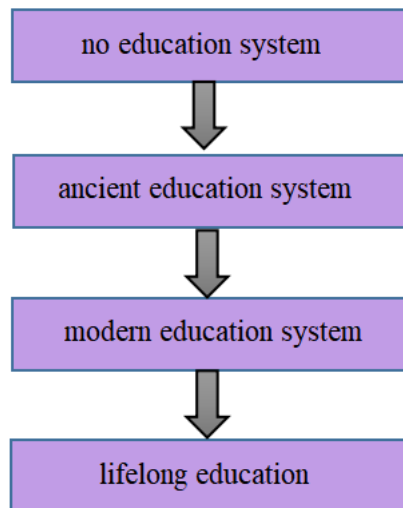
Lastly, the concept of lifelong learning has had a profound impact on the education sector, which has laid a good theoretical foundation for the development of higher education in China.

### 3. The current situation of higher education in China

With the development of society, the system of higher education in China has been developing and reforming, and its historical development is shown in **Figure 2**. In recent years, the development of higher education in China has achieved certain results, but there are also some problems. First of all, the funding for higher education is insufficient<sup>[5]</sup>. Although the state has increased the efforts to run higher education institutions and given strong support and guarantee measures, meanwhile, it is pointed out in “China College Student Employment Report”: “With the implementation of the expansion policy of colleges and universities and the increase in the number of graduates, the average growth rate of college students is more than 10% every year”. However, the current situation of education development in China’s higher education institutions is not optimistic, the main problem of which is insufficient funding and shortage of funds<sup>[6]</sup>. This requires universities to increase the investment in the development of education. Secondly, the employment pressure of college students is high. Every year, a large number of excellent graduates from our higher education institutions enter the society and jobs, but at the same time, there are problems such as a large gap between talent cultivation and real demand and unreasonable professional settings. Lastly, there is the reason of poor teaching quality as well as insufficient motivation of students to study, which leads to low quality of higher education. This requires higher education institutions to solve these difficulties at the root and actively carry out educational reform and innovation<sup>[7]</sup>.

### 4. Analysis of the reasons of lifelong education for the development of higher education institutions in China

The education of higher education institutions in China serves to realize the development of the country, so that it can cultivate high-quality talents who can adapt to the requirements of social economy and the times, and it is necessary to make great efforts in constantly improving its own structure and enhancing its comprehensive strength. However, with the rapid development and growth of higher education and the gradual improvement of market economy system, this makes it necessary for higher education institutions to promote their rapid, healthy and stable growth through re-



**Figure 2.** Diagram of the historical development of the education system.

form. Lifelong education is an important part of higher education, which can not only help students develop comprehensively, but also effectively promote socio-economic and scientific progress<sup>[8]</sup>.

## **5. Suggestions for countermeasures to promote the development of education in higher education institutions in China**

### **5.1 Strengthen school education and college training**

At present, most of the colleges and universities in China are actively exploring and implementing talent cultivation mode, which can not only effectively improve students' quality and ability level in all aspects, but also deliver more excellent highly technical, comprehensive skillful and management knowledge-rich and competitive composite professionals to the country<sup>[9]</sup>.

With the social and economic development, higher requirements are put forward for education. Lifelong learning concept has become a trend, China's higher education institutions should seize this opportunity to vigorously promote and popularize lifelong teaching, it is also necessary to continuously improve the school education system, so as to improve the level of students' quality and ability; learning lifelong education concept can improve the overall quality of students, so as to promote the better and faster development of China's higher education.

### **5.2 Improve education specialization**

In the current new situation of the development of higher education in China, it is necessary to continuously strengthen and improve education specialization, which can make it adapt to the development needs of social economy, politics and other aspects. First of all, it is necessary to establish a mechanism for cultivating talents with high quality and high level. At present, many colleges and universities do not set up special courses and teaching contents, so schools should inject educational concepts into students, then find problems and solve them, and also strengthen the professional ethics of teachers and comprehensive ability training, so that they can better perform their jobs and serve the society, and finally realize the common development of schools and society.

### **5.3 Improve the education mode of our higher education institutions**

There are some gaps between the education mode of our higher education institutions and that of western countries. First of all, many universities have not established a perfect, standardized and strict teaching management system and teacher qualification system in terms of teachers' qualifications. Finally, the education model lacks innovation. The traditional philosophy of our higher education institutions is that it is enough to provide students with good learning conditions<sup>[10,11]</sup>.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, higher education is an important symbol of a country's development, and the importance of lifelong education as an integral part of higher education in China is self-evident. The development of higher education is the key to the progress of human society and the improvement of innovation ability. Lifelong education aims to promote the all-round development of people, and it is one of the ideological and political theory courses with far-reaching significance, which has a pivotal role in the reform of China's colleges and universities. It not only can cultivate high-quality talents, but also can make students get more opportunities to exercise in learning, so as to achieve the improvement of their own value, so that lifelong education is an inevitable trend and social demand.

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