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# Research on the Role of Student Associations in the Innovation of Campus Culture

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#### **Abstract**

Colleges and universities shoulder the fundamental task of Building Morality and cultivating people. Campus culture plays a subtle role in the process of students'growth and development. Student associations are the important carrier and grasp of the Communist Youth League organizations in guiding, serving and cohesing young people. They should play an important role in inheriting and innovating campus culture. Based on the current situation of students'associations in Dangjing University of Finance and Economics, this paper analyses the relationship between campus culture and students' associations, puts forward ways to strengthen the construction of associations, and explores ways to inherit and innovate campus culture.

## **Keywords**

Student associations, Campus culture, Inheritance, Innovation.

#### 1. Introduction

The report of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Youth League of China points out that the important responsibilities of Communist Youth League organizations are to guide young people, publicize Party policies and provide services for youth development. Youth league organizations at all levels should be guided by the needs of young people and provide appropriate services, and they should play the role of acting as a strong bastion for contacting and serving young people.

The Youth League of each university often organizes young people, serves young people, guides young people and protects the rights and interests of young people through student clubs, and the activities carried out by student clubs help to promote the campus cultural construction, promote the realization of the educational goal of students' growth and success, and improve the comprehensive quality of students in various aspects. Student clubs are mass student organizations formed spontaneously by students with common interests and hobbies to communicate with each other and achieve common goals, and carry out activities in accordance with certain rules and regulations, which have the characteristics of basic human education, universal participation, diversity of interests, psychological compatibility, exemplary growth, fashionable leadership, and wide openness.

## 2. Properties

## 2.1. Status of student organizations in higher education

In the past ten years, the development of higher education in our university has been extremely rapid, along with the expansion of colleges and universities and the merger of institutions, the number of new students enrolled in each year is growing rapidly, and the student associations on campus are also growing year by year in terms of types, numbers, and size of the associations,

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and the student associations, as the main organizational carriers of college students' selfeducation, self-management, and self-service, have become an important part of the construction of the school campus culture, and play an irreplaceable role in the construction of campus culture. Campus culture construction plays an irreplaceable role. College student organizations can be divided into six categories according to their contents and characteristics: volunteer service, academic science and technology, cultural exchange, practice and development, performing arts and entertainment, and sports and athletics. At present, college clubs are generally divided into two levels: school-level clubs and college-level clubs. Schoollevel clubs are under the direct guidance of the school league committee and managed by the school-level clubs federation, while college-level clubs are under the guidance of college league teachers or counselors and managed by the college clubs federation. The activities of the two levels of associations are linked and have their own characteristics, such as the author's Nanjing University of Finance and Economics school-level associations "Mental Health Association" in all colleges have "Mental Health Association" branch. At the same time, each college also has its own special clubs, such as the Food Talking Club in the College of Food Science and Engineering and the English Sharing Association in the College of Foreign Languages.

#### 2.2. Relationship between campus culture and student organizations

College campus culture is created, accumulated and shared by teachers and students of colleges and universities in the process of long-term education and teaching according to the needs of economic and social development. It is centered on the core beliefs of teachers and students and the pursuit of campus spirit, with all the material forms, spiritual wealth and the creation and formation process of the characteristics of the university campus. Student clubs carry and manifest the campus culture, and the campus culture influences and promotes the development of student clubs, the relationship between the two is mutually reinforcing and complementary. First of all, student clubs in colleges and universities are important carriers of campus culture in colleges and universities.

By carrying out various campus cultural activities, student clubs enrich the spare time life and spiritual world of college students, and also cultivate the interests and specialties of members within the clubs and participants in the activities. It plays an important role in building a good campus spirit and creating an excellent campus cultural atmosphere. For example, Nanjing University of Finance and Economics five-star student club Civic Association, with "thinking about the world should be thinking about things, planning; arguing the world can be discerned reasoning, the power to overcome the group of heroes" as the slogan of the club. With the aim of enriching the after-school life of college students, exercising their eloquence and improving their comprehensive quality; with the goal of cultivating college students' language expression ability, organization ability and adaptability, and improving their interpersonal communication ability; it insists on holding the freshmen debate tournament among the freshmen. As of December 2018, 10 consecutive Freshmen Cup Debate Tournaments have been held.

Secondly, college student clubs are the main force in the cultural construction of university campuses.

The educational goal of colleges and universities is to cultivate academic talents, and members of the clubs show their personal style to the school through the activities carried out by the student clubs, and the wonderful club activities are also an important part of the campus culture. Because the student clubs are composed of students, club activities for the main group is the university students, so students participate in various types of club activities, actively participate in the ranks of the campus culture construction. They not only contribute to the innovation and development of campus culture, but also spread the healthy and upward spiritual civilization on campus in the process of participating in the activities.

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Third, the activities of college student organizations are a bright landscape for building campus

Various kinds of club activities carried out by student associations not only add color to students' after-school life, but also promote the generation of campus cultural achievements in colleges and universities. For example, Nanjing University of Finance and Economics, Nanjing University of Finance and Economics College Students' Art Troupe was established in 2002, under the Dance Troupe, Chorus, Ethnic Orchestra, Tongxin Drama Club, Pop Orchestra, five art troupes, has hosted on-campus and off-campus performances of nearly a hundred major performances, organizing culture and art to the rural areas of the volunteer team to the community, factories, mines and villages to the well-choreographed programs; for six years in a row, took part in the National College Students' Arts and Cultural Performances jointly hosted by the Propaganda Department, the Ministry of Education and the Central Committee of the League, and the CCTV. For six consecutive years, the troupe has participated in the National College Students' Cultural and Artistic Performances jointly sponsored by the Central Propaganda Department, the Ministry of Education and the Youth League Central Committee and organized by the CCTV; for four consecutive years, the troupe has won eight first prizes and two second prizes in the series of competitions sponsored by the Ministry of Education, enriching the students' spare time life and spiritual world, increasing the influence of the university in the society, and promoting the campus culture of the characteristics of the University of Finance and Economics of Nanjing.

### 2.3. Initiatives to enhance the building of student organizations

At present, the student associations in colleges and universities have cumbersome procedures for registration and establishment, a small number of full-time association instructors who can carry out targeted professional guidance, a small area of dedicated space for association activities, a lot of overlapping types of activities organized by the associations, the school's awareness of the management of associations' ideology is weak, the backbone of the associations change frequently, and the lack of funds for associations' activities in general, and other phenomena. Student clubs play a vital role in building and innovating campus culture, and every teacher engaged in student work in colleges and universities must give full play to the positive role of student clubs and attach great importance to the internal construction of student clubs.

First, to create a favorable environment for the development of student associations. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out at the national ideological and political work conference of colleges and universities that the whole process of education and teaching should be carried out through ideological and political work, realizing the whole process of education, all-round education, and striving to create a new situation for the development of China's higher education. The important carrier of the "three-whole" goal of educating people on campus is the student clubs, school leaders at all levels must attach great importance to the important role of student clubs in the process of building campus culture, to guide and develop the construction of student clubs into the school's central work of the overall consideration of the invitation of a group of teachers who can carry out professional and technical guidance and supervision of the clubs to devote themselves to the development and guidance of the clubs, the establishment and improvement of the student clubs. Invite a group of teachers who can provide professional and technical guidance and supervision to devote themselves to the work of guiding the development of student clubs, establish and improve the mature mechanism of how to select, assess and evaluate the cadres of student clubs, and carry out the assessment and evaluation of student clubs on a regular basis in order to enhance the level of development and construction of the promotion of student clubs.

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Second, it is actively formulating and improving the management mechanism of student associations. In January 2016, the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League, the Ministry of Education, and the All-China Federation of Students promulgated the Interim Measures for the Management of Student Associations in Colleges and Universities, which states that the Party Committee of each college or university unifies the leadership of the student associations of its own school to carry out their work, and that the Party Committee of each college or university should put in place a mechanism to strengthen the work of student associations, and that the associations are an important carrier for the school to carry out the Party's educational goals and quality education. The Youth League Committee of each university is responsible for the political leadership of the university student associations and the usual management and guidance work; relying on the resources of the faculty, so that the student associations are dependent on specific colleges, and the establishment of the school and college management system at two levels. The new mode of club management should be led by the party committee of the school, coordinated and assessed by the league committee of the school, managed by the faculties and departments, guided by professional teachers who are interested in one-on-one work of the clubs, and promoted by the backbone of the clubs to promote the rapid development of the clubs.

Thirdly, efforts are being made to improve the level of activities of associations and to increase appropriately the financial input for their management. The main financial income of student associations is the dues paid by the members of the association, and the collection standard of dues is stipulated by the association's own constitution. Between the colleges and universities, between different types of associations, there are differences in the standard of payment of dues, due to the collection of dues is not a direct source of income of school students, so the general cost is not high, such as the author's area of Nanjing, the university student associations dues ranging from 5 yuan to 30 yuan. These dues are the main source of funding for associations to organize various activities. Schools should be based on the school's specific income and expenditure, moderate increase in funding for student clubs, and the development of perfect rules and regulations, the introduction of associations and business sponsorship funds, so that the clubs to hold activities have sufficient financial security, which is conducive to enhance the level of club activities, help make college clubs activities continue to "boutique", "Branding".

Fourthly, the selection and cultivation of club cadres should be the key work of club management. Higher education student association is a group of many students with common interests and hobbies, and the activities of the association are the group behavior of all the association members. A flourishing society must have a cadre team that is willing to dedicate itself and has outstanding organizational and executive ability and comprehensive quality. The systematic training of the backbone of the students of the club will not only be conducive to the smooth implementation of club activities, but also promote the faster and better development of the club. Therefore, the school should pay attention to the selection of club cadres, do a good job in the training of the backbone members of the club, establish and improve the selection and training system for club leaders and backbone members. Selected with relevant qualities and strong sense of responsibility, but also willing to dedicate to the club, have the time and energy of the club members selected as club leaders and club backbone.

#### 3. Conclusion

The Implementation Plan for the Reform of Communist Youth League in Colleges and Universities was jointly promulgated by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League and the Ministry of Education in November 2016, which pointed out that student associations in colleges and universities play an important role in the party-led "one heart and two rings" organization pattern of the league and school. Therefore, if colleges and universities want to

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inherit and innovate campus culture, they must take the construction of student associations as the focus and key point of their work.

First of all, the inheritance and innovation of campus culture, to ensure that it has the correct value orientation, student associations can play an important role in this process. The vast majority of members of college student clubs are members of the Communist Youth League, with high comprehensive quality and aesthetic level. With the in-depth development of the comprehensive and strict rule of the league work, the college student league members actively practice the socialist core values, all have high political quality, the student club composed of them, will continue to make a clear direction for the flourishing of the campus culture, to ensure that the campus culture inheritance of the value orientation.

Secondly, the inheritance and innovation of campus culture need a good external environment, which requires the active contribution of student organizations. College student associations on campus to carry out a rich and colorful variety of community activities, not only for the members of the association and participate in the activities of college students to provide entertainment and leisure occasions, for the members of the association can provide a stage to show their ability and charm, while in the process of organizing activities to enhance the organization and coordination of the association in charge of the management capacity, not only for the inheritance of the campus culture and innovation has brought vitality and vitality, but also It not only brings vitality and vigor to the inheritance and innovation of campus culture, but also contributes to the physical and mental health development of the participants and the audience, and actually plays a role in promoting the cultural construction of the second classroom of the school.

Thirdly, the inheritance and innovation of campus culture also requires a development carrier, and the most vigorous and innovative solid carrier on campus is the student association. School characteristics, disciplinary background and regional characteristics usually determine the contents and forms of activities carried out by different colleges and universities and different types of student clubs. In the process of development, student clubs need the guidance of the school Youth League, insist on combining the characteristics of the clubs with innovative development, and constantly innovate their own activities and forms of activities, combined with the tradition and characteristics of the clubs, to promote the construction of campus culture and enhance the vitality of campus culture. Different student clubs play a role in adding to the cultural connotation of the campus. At the same time, the scope of activities carried out by the clubs will often go out of the campus, to the community, in the process, directly or indirectly, the clubs belonging to the school's campus culture into the community, expanding the space and breadth of the campus cultural construction, and broaden the extension of the campus cultural construction.

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