Challenges and Strategies for the Operation of University Department: The Duty of Government, University and Industry

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In recent years, there is a collective anxiety in Taiwan. There are more and more college graduates; more and more resources devoted into higher education. However, the economic performance and quality of living are in general not increasing significantly. In the campus, students are complaining about disorientation; professors feel powerless and frustrated. This research aims to discover the reasons behind, propose suitable policies, and find the feasible solutions to resolve the issues.

In the 2013 report, this research has confirmed that the environment is changed drastically, so should be the goal of universities, classification system and management approaches. Meanwhile, in a microscopic point of view, the teaching methods in Universities should also be improved. In the year of 2014, this research will further explore how department should be better to position itself, improve courses, and interact with other departments.

In 2013, this research explored the cooperation approach between the academia and the business sector, especially focus on research and development. In 2014, we will further explore how the business sector should cooperate with the academia to understand the complex, plural, and ever-changing industrial world. This cooperation is necessary in order to help students pursue their career path and forge their advantages.

In 2013, this research explored how the government and the academia utilize the resources as well as how policy was produced. In 2014, we will focus on how to direct the school and the departments to conduct teaching innovation, regulation improvement and engage with the business.

In terms of methodology, this research will use interviews, publications, focus group, international case studies, etc. In 2013, the interviewees were mainly focused on professors. In 2014, we will include more opinions from graduates. Their experience and observation about current society will also be an important source of material to help to understand the problems and establish right policies for higher education.

It is anticipated that this project will come up with practical and feasible policies based on the integration of the resources of government, industry and university. It should be very useful to provide guiding principles for the operation of departments in universities and cultivate young talents of next generation.