THE MISSION OF UNIVERSITY LECTURERS IN THE PROCESS OF CONSTRUCTING A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY IN VIETNAM TODAY

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Abstract

The article is set in the context of the development of the current knowledge economy, asking countries around the world not to stay out of this trend. Vietnam is in the process of industrialization, modernization of the country, construction, and development of the knowledge economy is inevitable. One of the essential solutions to implement this policy is to build a team of high-quality human resources. To make this team, the author affirms the vital role of lecturers in universities and colleges. University lecturers are educators and trainees and important forces when building the knowledge economy. From there, the author points out the specific tasks of university lecturers in the education and training career and the common cause of the country.

Keywords: Lecturers, Knowledge economy, Vietnamese higher education.

1. INTRODUCTION

With the current development trend of the world economy, the knowledge economy is a number one priority trend. From there, they affirm the value of knowledge, the role of the intellectual team in this revolution. Building and developing intellectuals have become an age-long strategic issue. From there, each agency, department, and union, depending on their unit’s capacity and specific conditions, have different participation in building the knowledge economy. Educational and training institutions, especially universities and colleges, which produce high-quality intellectual labor, must be more aware of their role and position in the country’s development trend. Therefore, identifying the part of university lecturers is a requirement in this career.

2. MAIN CONTENT

From the 80s onwards, due to the strong impact of modern science and technology, especially information technology, biology, new materials, energy, etc. This is a turning point of great historical significance for the development of humanity. The world economy is profoundly and comprehensively transforming, shifting from an industrial to a knowledge economy. The knowledge economy is the trend of the modern economy, in which knowledge and gray matter labor are promoted its profitability and bring excellent economic efficiency in all economic sectors: industry, agriculture - forestry - fisheries, and services, serving economic development.

Understanding this trend, Vietnam mobilizes all resources to implement the strategies. In particular, key strategies are always focused. One of the key strategies is to promote human resources. This is considered the leading factor in ensuring economic growth and development. People in the intellectual economy are understood as highly qualified, trained laborers. There is no other solution to focus on education and training to create a source of skilled and qualified labor. Therefore, teaching at the university level plays a significant role. The position of the university lecturer is to build and train this team. With the current process of building socialism in our country, university lecturers are a vital human resource for promoting industrialization and modernization in the face of the increasing demands of the knowledge economy, the process of integration, and the internationalization of higher education. Vietnamese university lecturers’ positions, roles, and tasks are...
increasingly clearly shaped in that sense. The functions of a university lecturer include: teaching charges; scientific research, application, and technology transfer; organizing and managing pedagogical activities to improve the people’s intelligence, train highly qualified human resources and develop talents for the Country; The third function of university lecturers can be collectively referred to as providing services to the community. From these functions, we identify the basic tasks that university lecturers need to perform.

**Firstly**, university lecturers directly link training with scientific research, linking the university’s activities with community products and services through teaching, applied research, effectively implementing scientific and technical and technological advances into teaching, learning, and community life. Currently, our country has 72,792 university lecturers (according to statistics in 2020). This is the most elite intellectual workforce in society.

**Secondly**, lecturers are the core force directly building advanced Vietnamese higher education, making an essential contribution to the revival of education in the country. They are a pioneering force on the front of improving higher education towards the goal: to make a decisive shift in human resource development, bringing our higher education out of backwardness compared to countries in the region and the world. The impact and decision on the quality of higher education have many different factors. Still, the focus of all resources belongs to the role of teachers’ intellectuals because only they can solve the quality of human resource training, the function of producing and reproducing “goods” with unique products intellectual people.

**Thirdly**, as intellectual resources, university lecturers directly participate in training high-quality human resources, building a team of experts and scientists who meet the requirements of the labor quality of the socio-economic and the requirements of industrialization, Modernize the Country in a socialist-oriented way. At the same time, lecturers of Vietnamese universities also directly foster and build scientific talents, form and develop creative, honest, highly ambitious personalities in the young generation. They have the political courage and solid scientific bravery to directly motivate industrialization, Modernize the Country. If general education is considered the foundation in the education system, higher education is the determining factor of human resources. In the face of the development of the knowledge economy, the relationship between the quality of resources and the labor market is becoming stronger. Universities are forced to be closely linked to the needs and changes of the labor market to train human resources to meet the requirements for society. This is the goal and, at the same time, the university’s responsibility to the community. But for universities, the quality of resources is always the desire to conquer in the process of competing with each other. Most of the school’s activities, such as setting operational regulations, promoting scientific research activities, and union organizations’ activities, aim to improve the quality of training. The main task of universities is to train quality resources that meet the appropriate requirements in both quantity and quality of society, prepare autonomous people with professional attributes and competencies, and equip them with skills to deal with their surroundings. Since then, university lecturers must also constantly develop themselves to meet the requirements.

**Fourth**, university lecturers contribute to improving the national science and technology potential. They are a pioneering force and have a great influence on thinking innovation, building a scientific thinking style that enhances the intellectual capacity of people to master the advanced technologies of the world, exploiting it in a reasonable and useful way for economic growth, promoting social progress, gradually develop reasoning, build advanced science and technology of the country. With a high level of education and deep expertise, university lecturers in our country must promote the improvement of scientific and technological potential by making efforts to enlighten and encourage information, knowledge, scientific and technical, and technological achievements in the people and social life.

**Fifth**, university lecturers are the force to bring their creative talents, enthusiasm, and responsibility into the development of scientific arguments as the basis for the Party and State's guidelines and policies, especially higher education policies, development, and transfer of science and technology.

In general, from the perspective of human resources, Vietnamese university lecturers must make a worthy contribution to the development of the country’s talents. From there, it is necessary to have appropriate policies and regimes to improve the quality of this team
and create motivation for them to devote themselves to the cause of education. Specifically, university lecturers need to be fostered, professional qualifications, and capacity by training to improve professional qualifications and use information technology for teaching. Applying advanced forms to the activity of lecturers, promoting scientific research, fostering towards research, and improving foreign language proficiency; it is necessary to focus on developing teaching capacity, including specific contents such as curriculum development at the subject level; determine the academic objectives of the subject and each unit of student learning; identify appropriate content to achieve the set goals; identify proper learning and teaching methods to convey content and achieve goals; identify appropriate assessment methods to encourage learners to assess the level of learners properly; step by step perfect the standards of teacher ethics and regularly cultivate political qualities, etc. In general, regardless of the era, the perspective of teaching has changed. University lecturers always play a leading role in the training of intellectuals. This team has enough qualities, capacity, and qualifications to contribute and serve the people and the country in accelerating industrialization, modernization, and deep international integration in globalization.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Training, fostering, and providing high-quality human resources to society is the responsibility of the education sector, but higher education always plays an important role. Accordingly, university lecturers always have a crucial position to make an essential contribution to the implementation of the goal of educational revival to revitalize the nation. As a part of Vietnamese intellectuals, university lecturers in our country are full of characteristics of the intellectual class in general. In addition, the specificity of professional activities always requires university lecturers to self-consciously bring their talents, wisdom, and enthusiasm to serve the country and people. In them, labor is seen as a job or a value that the development, maturity, and character improvement of human resources has become the highest goal.

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