

## *Original Paper*

# The Direction and Path of University Serving the High-Quality Development of the Country

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### ***Abstract***

*Achieving high-quality development is the primary task of building a modern country comprehensively. On the new journey of building a modern country comprehensively, university should shoulder the important mission of serving the high-quality development of the country more consciously, provide comprehensive theoretical support, talent support, scientific and technological support, and cultural support, and contribute the wisdom and strength of universities by improving the quality of talent training, promoting scientific and technological development, and serving social and economic development. This is the path that contemporary university must follow in order to run higher education that satisfies the people.*

### ***Keywords***

*University, High quality development, Path research*

Chinese President deeply pointed out in the report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China that education, science and technology, and talent are the basic and strategic support for building a socialist modern country in an all-round way, in which science and technology is the first productive force, talent is the first resource, and innovation is the first driving force. As an important junction of technology, talent, and innovation, universities are the core carriers of the strategy of revitalizing the country through science and education, strengthening the country through talent, and driving development through innovation. In the new era, universities should firmly grasp the core essence of high-quality development, apply a systematic concept, stand at the national strategic height, promote the coordination and integration, jointly shape new driving forces and advantages of development, and serve the high-quality development of the country.

## 1. The Historical Context of High-Quality Development

High quality development is based on the judgment of the stage of China's economic development.

1) On December 10, 2013, at the Central Economic Work Conference, Chinese President first put forward the concept of "new normal" of high-speed economic growth turning to medium and high-speed economic growth. In the report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Chinese President defined a new stage of China's economic development with high-quality development, and proposed for the first time that "China's economy has shifted from a stage of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development".

2) In December 2017, at the Central Economic Work Conference, Chinese President pointed out that "high-quality development is the development that well meets the people's growing needs for a better life, reflects the development of new development concepts, is the development that innovation becomes the first driving force, coordination becomes an endogenous feature, green becomes a universal form, openness becomes the only way, and sharing becomes the fundamental purpose". For the first time, it clearly combines high-quality development with major social contradictions and new development concepts, revealing that the essence of high-quality development is people centered.

3) In October 2020, Chinese President further emphasized in the Statement on the CPC Central Committee's Proposal on Formulating the Fourteenth Five Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and the Vision for the Year 2035 that "the requirements of high-quality development should be embodied in the economic, social, cultural, ecological and other fields." He expanded high-quality development from the economic field to various fields of economic and social development, and defined promoting high-quality development as the theme of socialist modernization.

4) In October 2022, the report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China clearly pointed out that "high-quality development is the primary task of building a socialist modern country in an all-round way", achieving high-quality development is one of the essential requirements of Chinese path to modernization, and "we should adhere to the theme of promoting high-quality development". This important conclusion has raised high-quality development to an unprecedented strategic height of socialist modernization.

## 2. The Profound Connotation of High-Quality Development

### *2.1 It Is Necessary to Fully, Accurately, and Comprehensively Implement the New Development Concept*

The new development concept is a systematic theoretical system that reflects the deepening of our party's understanding of the laws of economic and social development. Chinese President pointed out that "the new development concept must be fully, accurately and comprehensively implemented, and the internal unity of innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing must always be used to grasp, measure and promote development". China's economy has shifted from a stage of high-speed growth to a stage of high-quality development. Faced with an external environment of significant

instability and uncertainty, as well as a deeply complex domestic development environment, the traditional development model is difficult to sustain. It is necessary to achieve high-quality development where innovation becomes the primary driving force, coordination becomes an endogenous characteristic, green becomes a universal form, openness becomes a necessary path, and sharing becomes the fundamental goal, promoting changes in the quality, efficiency, and driving force of economic development.

### *2.2 It Is Necessary to better Coordinate the Effective Improvement of Quality and the Reasonable Growth of Quantity*

Chinese President stressed that "we must better balance the effective improvement of quality and the reasonable growth of quantity, always adhere to the principle of quality first and efficiency first, vigorously enhance the quality awareness, regard quality as life and pursue high quality". Without effective improvement in quality, there can be no high-quality development; Without reasonable growth in quantity, high-quality development loses material and technological support. We must firmly coordinate the effective improvement of quality and the reasonable growth of quantity, and continuously strengthen China's economic strength, technological strength, and comprehensive national strength.

### *2.3 We must Firmly Deepen Reform and Opening up, and Deeply Transform the Development Mode*

Chinese President pointed out that "we must unswervingly deepen reform and opening up, deeply transform the development mode, promote quality change with efficiency change and dynamic change, and accelerate the formation of sustainable high-quality development systems and mechanisms". The reform and opening up is never-ending, only when it is ongoing but not when it is completed. High level opening up to the outside world is an important driving force for us to solve development problems. Promoting reform, development, and innovation through openness, unleashing new reform dividends, and promoting high-quality development.

### *2.4 It is Necessary to Take Meeting the Growing Needs of the People for a Better Life as the Starting Point and Foothold*

Chinese President stressed that "we must take meeting the people's growing needs for a better life as the starting point and end result, constantly transform development achievements into quality of life, and constantly enhance the people's sense of gain, happiness, and security". High quality development refers to the development that can effectively meet the growing needs of the people for a better life. Improving people's well-being is the fundamental purpose of development, and the people's longing for a better life is our goal. We must take meeting the growing needs of the people as the starting point and foothold, and continuously transform the achievements of development into quality of life.

## **3. The Direction of Universities Serving the High-Quality Development of the Country**

### *3.1 Provide Theoretical Support*

higher education is a key driving force, major contributor, and important birthplace for a country's

economic hard power, cultural soft power, influence smart power, technological sharp power, and scientific meta-power (Wu, 2022). Chinese universities should shoulder the historical task of grasping the era with theory, and actively shoulder the task of effectively building a Chinese discourse system with strong theoretical penetration and era interpretation, so as to form a disciplinary, academic, and discourse system with Chinese characteristics. It is necessary to fulfill the practical responsibility of leading the times with theory, understand the changes in the world, times and history, take the initiative to play the role of wisdom, and solve and provide theoretical answers to China's questions, the world's questions, the people's questions, and the times' questions in the theoretical thinking of serving Chinese path to modernization.

### *3.2 Provide Talent Support*

The university is the main position of talent cultivation. The fundamental task of the university is to establish morality and cultivate people. The most direct embodiment of contemporary Chinese universities serving the construction of a Chinese path to modernization power is to strive to cultivate new people of the era who can take on the task of national rejuvenation, and continuously provide high-quality modern talents with both ability and integrity for the construction of a socialist modern power. Youth people should have the lofty ideals and beliefs, solid professional skills, broad knowledge and vision, outstanding practical ability, and good comprehensive quality, and become the Endeavors, Pioneers, and Devotees.

### *3.3 Provide Technological Support*

Actively integrating into the system of technological self-reliance and self-improvement, guided by major national needs, actively facing national economic construction, and accurately positioning universities in the national innovation system of technological self-reliance and self-improvement. Universities should improve the output capacity of scientific and technological innovation achievements, take enhancing the original innovation capacity of science and technology as the focus and breakthrough, aim at cutting-edge, advanced, revolutionary, and subversive high-tech fields to carry out high-level research, continuously produce scientific and technological achievements that promote economic and social development, and transform them into huge productivity that boosts Chinese path to modernization.

### *3.4 Provide Cultural Support*

Contemporary Chinese universities should play an important role in leading society with culture, strengthen cultural confidence, and stimulate cultural vitality. Chinese universities must actively promote the reconstruction of national civilization, fully stimulate the cultural innovation and creativity of universities, provide support for meeting the growing spiritual and cultural needs of the people, consolidate the common ideological foundation of unity and struggle of the whole party and people of all ethnic groups in the country, enhance the country's cultural soft power and influence, and promote the better globalization of Chinese culture.

#### **4. The Main Path for High-Quality Development of Higher Education Services**

##### *4.1 Improve the Quality of Talent Cultivation*

Higher education should seize the significant historical opportunities of the new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation, optimize the setting of disciplines and majors in higher education, strengthen the coordination of science and education and the integration of industry and education in education, and promote the structural reform of the supply side of innovative talent cultivation. Chinese universities need to coordinate the reform of education methods, educational models, management systems, and guarantee mechanisms, strengthen the independent cultivation of top-notch innovative talents, cultivate a large number of national strategic talents, urgently needed talents, and high-quality skilled talents to support and lead high-quality development, and continuously deliver new talents to the modernization construction cause. Coordinate the educational responsibilities of families, schools, governments, and society, and deepen the promotion of the "three pronged education" in higher education (Wang, 2019).

##### *4.2 Achieve High-Level Technological Self-Reliance and Self-Improvement*

Universities are the convergence point of education, technology, and talent, gathering a large number of top scientists and dynamic young teachers and students. There have numerous interdisciplinary and first-class research and innovation platforms that blend with each other. Based on national needs, Chinese universities should empower high-quality development with high-level and organized discipline layout, scientific research breakthroughs, scientific and technological achievement transformation, and innovative talent cultivation. Universities should regard serving the country as their the highest pursuit, aim at the forefront of world science and technology and major national strategic needs to promote scientific research and innovation, continuously improve the original innovation level in the field of basic research and the ability to solve key core scientific problems.

##### *4.3 Enhance the Ability to Serve Socio-Economic Development*

Chinese universities need to adjust the setting of disciplines and majors, as well as the direction of talent cultivation, to provide urgently needed talent support for regional development. The talent cultivation of local universities should be rooted in the land of China, based on regional needs, and focus on solving the structural contradiction between the talent supply side and the industry demand side, solidly cultivating high-quality applied talents who can learn well, use well, and retain. Chinese universities must closely focus on serving national strategies and regional economic and social development, find our own breakthroughs and entry points in serving regional economic and social development, actively focus on local strategic layout, effectively integrate resources and advantages in talent gathering, scientific research, and achievement transformation, continuously enhance our technological innovation and social service capabilities, and strive to contribute university wisdom and provide university solutions to achieve new breakthroughs in regional development.

## 5. Conclusion

University is an important indicator of a country's development level and potential. In all countries or regions that have achieved modernization, higher education has been popularized (Du, 2024). As the cradle of talent cultivation, the source of scientific and technological innovation, and the promoter of innovation practice, their support and contribution are directly related to the speed and quality of high-quality development. We must adhere to the coordinated promotion of education, technology, and talent, vigorously enhance the influence and competitiveness of higher education, continuously enhance the support and contribution of higher education to high-quality development, and strive to contribute to the promotion of high-quality economic and social development in China.

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