

Research on the Current Issues and Countermeasures of “Class-Youth League Integration” in Universities

Jiale Zan, Zihe Yan, Ke Tian

Shaanxi University of Chinese Medicine, Xianyang, China

Abstract

The integrated construction of college class and youth league is an important part of the reform of the Communist Youth League, which plays a key role in enhancing the vitality of grassroots organizations and strengthening the ideological and political education of college students. This paper analyzes the status quo of the integrated construction of college class and youth league, systematically analyzes the existing problems from multiple perspectives, and proposes targeted countermeasures, aiming at providing theoretical support and practical guidance for the promotion of the integrated construction of college class and youth league.

Keywords

Universities, Class-Youth League Integration, Grassroots Organization Construction, Ideological and Political Education.

1. Introduction

In 2016, the Central Committee of the Youth League and the Ministry of Education jointly issued the Implementation Plan for the Reform of the Communist Youth League in Colleges and Universities, pointing out that “the basic requirement of maintaining and enhancing the political, advanced and mass nature is tightly focused, highlighting the innovation of the basic system and the enhancement of organizational vitality, and constructing a more dynamic and more powerful Communist Youth League in colleges and universities”[1]. As important grassroots organizations for the growth and development of college students, college classes and Communist Youth League branches bear important responsibilities in the ideological and political leadership of students, comprehensive quality cultivation, and daily management services. However, the traditional relatively independent operation mode of class and youth league branch has gradually exposed the problems of insufficient work synergy, low degree of resource integration and declining attraction to students. The integrated construction of class and youth league, as a key initiative in the reform of the Communist Youth League in colleges and universities, aims to break down the barriers between the class and the youth league branch, realize the integration of organization, work and resources, enhance the cohesion and leadership of the class and youth league organization to young students, and promote the comprehensive development of students. An in-depth study of the current problems and countermeasures of class and youth league integration construction is of great practical significance for upgrading the level of grassroots organization construction in colleges and universities, and implementing the fundamental task of establishing morality and educating people.

2. The Connotation of “Class-Youth League Integration”

2.1. Integrated Organizational Structure

Organic integration of the organizational structure of the class and the Communist Youth League branch, usually implementing the cross-posting of the class president and the Youth

League secretary, the class committee and the Communist Youth League branch members cooperate with each other and work closely together to form a core leadership group of the class and the Youth League led by the Youth League committee and mainly implemented by the class committee, so that the class and the Communist Youth League branch become an integral whole on the organizational level, break the pattern of the two relatively independent in the past, and improve the efficiency of the work and the implementation of the decision-making power.

2.2. Integration of Working Mechanisms

Establishing a series of integrated working mechanisms, such as a sound assessment mechanism for class and youth league work. By holding regular meetings of the class and youth league, we can discuss and make decisions on various affairs of the class and the youth league branch, including making work plans, organizing activities, solving problems, etc., so as to realize synergistic promotion of the work. At the same time, the unified work assessment mechanism can make a comprehensive and objective evaluation of the class and youth league cadres, and stimulate their work enthusiasm and sense of responsibility.

2.3. Integration of Activities

Classes and Youth League branches cooperate closely in activity planning and organization, and jointly carry out various activities covering ideological and political education, cultural and sports activities, social practice and other fields. Combining the ideological and political leading function of the Communist Youth League branch with the daily management and service function of the class, through diversified forms of activities, the comprehensive quality of students is improved, the cohesion of the class and the attractiveness and combativeness of the Communist Youth League branch are enhanced, and the all-round development of students is promoted.

2.4. Integrated Ideological Guidance

Compared with the social group, students in colleges and universities as a whole are more youthful and have more characteristics of the times. As the reserve force of the country and society, their ideological and political education should be placed in an important position. In the face of the increasingly diversified market environment, college organizations should have a strong sense of responsibility and mission, deeply understand what students think and feel, and provide them with targeted help and services[2]. With the Communist Youth League branch as the core, ideological and political education is carried out in all aspects of class work, guiding class members to establish a correct world view, outlook on life and values. Politically, highlighting the core role of the Communist Youth League branch mainly lies in rationalizing the relationship between the class Communist Youth League branch and the class committee, highlighting the class Communist Youth League branch as the core of the class collective construction is the implementation of the “integration of the class and youth league” operation of the fundamental motivation and the first task[3].

3. Current Status of “Class-Youth League Integration”

3.1. Organizational Integration

Under the impetus of the reform of the Communist Youth League, most colleges and universities are actively exploring the organizational structure of class and youth league integration. A system of cross-posting between the class president and the Communist Youth League branch is commonly practiced, i.e., the class president serves as the deputy secretary of the Communist Youth League branch and the Communist Youth League branch secretary serves as the deputy class president, while the members of the class committee and the Communist Youth League

branch cross over each other in terms of duties and work in concert. This structural adjustment has, to a certain extent, broken down the organizational boundaries between the class and the reunion branch, and has facilitated the rapid flow of information and the synergistic development of work.

3.2. Progressive Establishment of Working Mechanisms

In order to ensure the smooth progress of the integrated construction of class reunions, a series of working mechanisms have been gradually established in various colleges and universities. Among them, the joint meeting system of class and youth league has become an important platform for the work coordination mechanism, with regular meetings held to discuss the work plans, activity arrangements, student affairs management of the class and youth league branch, as well as to solve problems encountered in the work. Since its founding in 1922, the Young Communist League has gone through more than one hundred years of development and has formed a relatively sound working mechanism. Especially in recent years, with the deepening of the reform of the YCL, the strict observance of the Constitution of the YCL and the implementation of the "Three Meetings, Two Systems and One Lesson" system (a foundational mechanism for Communist Youth League branch operations) of grassroots Communist Youth League organizations have effectively remedied the problem of loose and inconsistent classroom management systems, and have led to a more standardized and orderly development of all the work of the classroom and the youth league[4].

3.3. Activity Promotion Shows a Linkage Trend

With the in-depth promotion of the integrated construction of class and youth league, the frequency of joint activities carried out by class and youth league branches has increased significantly. The contents of the activities have also become richer and more diversified, covering a wide range of fields such as ideological and political education, cultural and sports activities, social practice and voluntary service. In terms of ideological and political education, we jointly carry out thematic group day activities to enhance students' political awareness and patriotic sentiment through lectures, exchange discussions, field visits, keynote speeches, etc.; in terms of cultural and sports activities, we jointly organize group sports games, cultural evenings, and knowledge theme competitions, etc., to enrich the after-school life of the students, cultivate their team spirit and sense of competition, and enhance the cohesion of the class; in terms of social practice, we cooperate with various clubs and organizations on campus. In terms of social practice, the school and various associations and organizations jointly carried out community service, social research, volunteer activities, etc., which cultivated the students' hands-on ability and sense of social responsibility.

4. Existing Issues

4.1. Overall Lack of Vitality in Communist Youth League Branches

First, the construction of grassroots groups is not standardized, and the operation of the organizations is not dynamic enough. Many grassroots youth league branches are unable to carry out their organizational life in accordance with the "three meetings, two systems and one lesson" system. Secondly, the positioning of the organizations is not clear, and the vitality of their work is insufficient. grassroots organizations are not only the main position for the organizational life of the youth, but also assume the responsibilities of ideological leadership, quality improvement, innovation and entrepreneurship, career development and so on. However, many universities lack the sense of responsibility of the youth league branch, and do not help the youth to grow up and become successful in a comprehensive way[5].

4.2. Lack Of Clarity in the Division of Responsibilities

Despite the implementation of cross-posting, in practice, some class and youth league cadres still have ambiguous definitions of their duties. The class president and the secretary of the youth league sometimes have overlapping or shirking responsibilities in their work, resulting in the implementation of some tasks not being in place. For example, when organizing class culture construction activities, there is a lack of clear division of labor between the class president and the secretary of the youth league for specific tasks such as activity planning, organization and implementation, and fund management, which makes it easy for them to rely on each other and no one to be responsible for the phenomenon. Because under the pressure of higher education, the role of junior high and high school group branch is weak, on the contrary, the class committee composed of class president, study committee member, sports committee member, etc., which is needed for the improvement of learning power and physical exercise, is active among the students, which leads to a one-sided understanding of the group branch by the majority of the students, and thus negatively migrates to the stereotypical understanding of the work of the group branch in the university period[6]. As a result, most students rely mainly on the class committee, which also leads to the division of responsibilities between the class committee and the members of the Communist Youth League branch is also not sufficiently detailed, which makes it easy to work in a chaotic and inefficient manner when carrying out activities.

4.3. Low Motivation of Students to Participate

In the process of class and youth league integration construction, some students are not enthusiastic about participating in the work of the class and the youth league branch. First of all, some students think that the activities of the class and youth league have little relationship with their academic and future development, and lack the intrinsic motivation to participate in them; secondly, some cadres of the class and youth league lack effective communication and interaction with the students in the process of organizing the activities, failing to fully mobilize the enthusiasm and creativity of the students; lastly, according to the visit and survey, the proportion of the Communist Youth League members in colleges and universities is over 90%, and this high proportion has caused the youth members to have insufficient understanding of their own identity and lack of the advancement that they should have. Lastly, according to the survey, the percentage of Communist Youth League members in colleges and universities is more than 90%, and the high percentage of Communist Youth League members causes young members to have an insufficient understanding of their own identity and to lack the advancement that they should have. For example, in the decision-making process of class affairs, there is a lack of broad participation of youth league members, and often a few class cadres dominate the decision-making process, which makes it difficult for some decisions to be supported and cooperated by students. In addition, the singularity of the form and content of activities is also an important factor affecting students' motivation to participate, and some activities lack interest and attraction, failing to meet the diversified needs of students.

4.4. Inadequate Assessment and Evaluation System

At present, the assessment and evaluation system for the integrated construction of college and university classes and groups is not yet perfect, and there are problems such as unscientific assessment indicators and a single evaluation method. The assessment indexes often pay too much attention to the quantity and form of activities, but neglect the quality and actual effect of activities, and pay insufficient attention to the participation and satisfaction of students and the impact of activities on their growth and development. The evaluation method is mainly based on teachers' evaluation and superiors' evaluation, and there is a lack of students' self-assessment and mutual evaluation, which results in the assessment results not being able to comprehensively and objectively reflect the actual situation of the integrated construction of

class groups. This imperfect assessment and evaluation system is not conducive to motivating class and youth league cadres to work actively, and it is also difficult to find problems in the construction process and make timely improvements.

4.5. Imbalanced Allocation of Resources

In the process of class and youth league integration, there is the problem of uneven allocation of resources among different classes and youth league branches. Some classes and branches have abundant resources in terms of activity funds, venues and facilities, instructors, etc., and are able to carry out all kinds of activities smoothly due to the attention and support of colleges and universities; while some other classes and branches are often restricted in carrying out their activities due to insufficient resources, and their work results are not obvious. For example, some popular majors or key classes are able to obtain more adequate financial support and better venue resources, while some relatively cold majors or ordinary classes face the plight of tight funding and insufficient venues, which to a certain extent affects the advancement and development of the integrated construction of class and youth league.

4.6. The Effectiveness of Thought Leadership Needs to Be Improved

The Communist Youth League is an important reserve force of builders and successors for the socialist cause with Chinese characteristics. Doing a good job in the ideological and political education of the majority of young members of the youth league is the basic requirement of the Party for the organization of the youth league, and it is also an important content and direction of the work of the youth league in the new era[7]. Although one of the original purposes of the integrated construction of classes and groups is to strengthen the ideological and political leadership of students, in practice, the effect of ideological leadership needs to be further improved. When some classes and branches carry out ideological and political education activities, the form is relatively single, the content is relatively boring, lacking in pertinence and attractiveness, and it is difficult to arouse the resonance of students. For example, some theme group day activities only stay in the theoretical study and documents conveyed, the lack of vivid and vivid cases and interactive communication links, resulting in students' resistance to ideological and political education activities, and can not really achieve the purpose of thought leadership. In addition, in the era of new media, students' access to information is becoming increasingly diversified, and traditional ideological and political education is difficult to adapt to the needs and characteristics of students, so how to utilize the new media platform to innovate ideological and political education and improve the effectiveness of ideological leadership is an important challenge facing the integrated construction of the class and youth league.

4.7. Poor Activity Quality

Colleges and universities, while organizing activities, only consider the need to run more activities, often ignoring the quality of the activities, which also resulted in the number of activities, but the quality of the embarrassing situation, although it seems to be a variety of activities, but the poor quality of the activities of the problem can not stimulate the enthusiasm of the students[8].

5. Recommendations For Response

5.1. Clarifying The Division of Responsibilities and Improve the Working System

Further clarify the division of responsibilities among class and youth league cadres, formulate a detailed workbook, and clarify the duties, workflow and work standards of the class president, youth league secretary, and members of the class and youth league committees. Establish a

sound work coordination mechanism, improve the system of joint meetings of the class and youth league, and make clear the determination of topics, organization, decision-making procedures and implementation and supervision of the meetings, so as to ensure that all the work can be fully discussed and effectively decided at the joint meetings of the class and youth league. At the same time, it strengthens the training of class and youth league cadres, organizes regular business training and experience exchange activities, and improves the sense of responsibility and working ability of class and youth league cadres, so that they can master the working process and methods and better perform their duties.

5.2. Innovative Approaches to Enhance Activity Quality

We have a deep understanding of students' interests, demand characteristics and professional background, and innovate the form and content of class group activities by combining the hot spots of the times and social demands. Focusing on the ideological, interesting and practical nature of the activities, integrating ideological and political education into all kinds of activities, and guiding students to establish a correct worldview, outlook on life and values through lively and interesting forms of activities. For example, practical activities, academic competitions, innovation and entrepreneurship projects related to specialties can be carried out to organically combine professional learning with ideological and political education, and to improve students' learning enthusiasm and participation. At the same time, students are encouraged to actively participate in the planning and organization of activities, give full play to the main role of students, and stimulate their innovative thinking and creativity, so as to improve the quality and effect of activities.

5.3. Strengthened Publicity and Guidance to Enhance Students' Awareness of Participation

Nowadays, the youth in colleges and universities are mainly "post 00s", they grow up in the era of rapid development of information, and they receive information from the outside world all the time with the network as the carrier. The Communist Youth League in colleges and universities deeply recognizes that it is necessary to strengthen the new media construction of the Communist Youth League, promote the integration of the work of the youth league and the network, and give full play to the important role of the new media in ideological leadership, public opinion guidance and information communication[6]. Colleges and universities can strengthen the publicity and guidance for the integrated construction of class and youth league through a variety of channels and ways, so that students can fully realize the significance and purpose of the integrated construction of class and youth league, and enhance their sense of identity and belonging to the class and youth league branch. Utilizing theme class meetings, league classes, new media platforms, etc., widely publicize the contents and achievements of class and reunion activities, show students' style and gains in the activities, and stimulate students' enthusiasm for participation. Establish an incentive mechanism to recognize and reward students who actively participate in class and youth league activities and have excellent performance, and incorporate the participation in class and youth league activities into the comprehensive quality assessment system of students, linking it to the evaluation of merits and scholarships, etc., so as to improve the enthusiasm and initiative of students in participating in class and youth league activities. In addition, class cadres should strengthen communication with students to understand their needs and ideas, adjust the content and form of activities in a timely manner, and improve students' satisfaction with class activities. On the other hand, class cadres should set an example by actively participating in class activities and driving students around them to participate in the activities.

5.4. Improving The Assessment System and Result Utilization

Establish a scientific and reasonable assessment and evaluation system for the integrated construction of class and youth league, optimize the assessment indexes, and pay attention to the assessment of activity quality, student participation, and actual effects. Increase the number of diversified evaluation forms, such as students' self-assessment and service recipients' evaluation, to ensure that the assessment results are comprehensive, objective and fair. In addition, the application of the assessment results is strengthened, and the assessment results are taken as an important basis for the selection and appointment of class and youth league cadres, the evaluation of excellence and precedence, and the allocation of resources to the class and youth league branches. The class and youth league cadres and classes and youth league branches with excellent appraisals are recognized and rewarded, setting up examples and playing the role of demonstration and leadership; those with unqualified appraisals are supervised and rectified, and helped to find problems and improve their work. At the same time, through the feedback of the assessment results, we can summarize the lessons learned in time, find out the problems and deficiencies in the process of class and youth league integration construction, and provide a reference basis for further improving the work.

5.5. Optimizing resource allocation for balanced development

Colleges and universities should strengthen resource support for the integrated construction of class and youth league, establish a fair and reasonable resource allocation mechanism, and ensure a balanced allocation of resources among different classes and youth league branches. Increase investment in activity funds, set up special funds to support the development of class and youth league activities, and reasonably allocate funds according to the actual needs and activity plans of classes and youth league branches. Strengthen the construction and management of venues and facilities, and provide adequate venues and equipment support for class group activities. At the same time, professional instructors are equipped to provide guidance and assistance for class reunion activities, so as to improve the professionalism and quality of the activities. In addition, classes and youth league branches are encouraged to broaden the channels of obtaining resources and enrich the activity resources through independent innovation and school-enterprise cooperation, so as to promote the balanced development of the integrated construction of class and youth league.

5.6. Innovative thought leadership to enhance effectiveness

Make full use of the new media platform to innovate the way of ideological and political education and enhance the effectiveness of thought leadership. Establish new media matrices for classes and group branches, such as microblogs and TikTok, etc., to release ideological and political education content and information on class and youth league activities in a timely manner, and attract students' attention and participation. Produce new media works in various forms and with rich contents, such as short videos, animation, H5 interactive pages, etc., to carry out ideological and political education in a way that is pleasing to students, and to increase students' interest in learning and participation. We carry out ideological and political education activities combining online and offline, such as online thematic discussions and offline practical experiences, to enhance the interactivity and infectiousness of ideological and political education. In addition, it strengthens the monitoring and guidance of students' online public opinion, finds and solves the problems in students' ideological understanding in a timely manner, and creates a good online public opinion environment.

6. Conclusion

The integrated construction of college and university groups is a systematic project, which is of great significance for improving the level of grassroots organization construction in colleges

and universities, strengthening the ideological and political education of college students, and promoting the all-round development of students. "The integration of class and youth league is in line with the requirements of the current ideological and political work in colleges and universities; the importance attached by the Party and the State to the ideological and political work in colleges and universities also provides fundamental guidance and strong guarantee for the work of "integration of class and youth league"[9]. Although certain achievements have been made in the integration of organizational structure, the establishment of working mechanism, and the synergy of activities, there are still problems such as unclear division of responsibilities, insufficient depth of integration of activities, low motivation of students' participation, imperfect appraisal and evaluation system, unbalanced allocation of resources, and effectiveness of thought-leading to be improved. By clarifying the division of responsibilities, innovating the form of activities, strengthening publicity and guidance, improving the assessment and evaluation system, optimizing the allocation of resources, and innovating the way of thought leadership and other countermeasures, these problems can be effectively solved, and the integration of college and university groups can be promoted to develop continuously and deeply. In the future work, colleges and universities should continue to pay attention to the new situation and new problems of the integrated construction of class and youth league, constantly explore and innovate, improve the working mechanism, improve the quality of the work, and provide a solid organizational guarantee for the cultivation of comprehensively developed socialist builders and successors.

Acknowledgements

Fund Project: 2023 Shaanxi University of Chinese Medicine Undergraduate Research "Qingmiao Program" Project - Research on Current Issues and Countermeasures of Class-League Integration in Universities during the New Era

References

- [1] Communist Youth League Central Committee & Ministry of Education. (2016, November 15). Reform Implementation Plan for Communist Youth League in Higher Education Institutions (Zhongqinglianfa No. 18).
- [2] Jing, R. Y. (2024). Research on the reform and innovation of youth league affairs management in higher vocational colleges in the new era. *Paper Making Equipment and Materials*, 53(10), 172-174.
- [3] Ren, S. W. (2019). Operation of "integration of class and youth league" in colleges and universities under the background of mass organization reform. *Contemporary Youth Research*, (3), 103-107.
- [4] Nie, J. (2019). Deconstruction and reconstruction: Basic ideas and path design for the construction of class-youth league integration in colleges and universities. *Journal of Higher Education*, (19), 147-149. <https://doi.org/10.19980/j.cn23-1593/g4.2019.19.049>
- [5] Gao, F. K., & Wu, J. J. (2019). Research on the operation mechanism of class-youth league integration in colleges and universities from the perspective of organizational theory. *School Party Building and Ideological Education*, (1), 92-94.
- [6] Wang, C. F., Tang, L., & Liu, X. Y. (2020). Exploration and practice on enhancing the vitality of grassroots Communist Youth League organizations in colleges and universities under class-youth league integration. *Contemporary Education Practice and Teaching Research*, (14), 97-99. <https://doi.org/10.16534/j.cnki.cn13-9000/g.2020.1581>

- [7] Xiang, Y., Wang, G., & Zhang, X. (2019). Research on the operation of class-youth league integration in colleges and universities under the “grand ideological and political education” pattern. *Journal of Guangxi Youth Leaders College*, 29(2), 59-63.
- [8] Zheng, H. F. (2024). Exploration on the effective operation mode of “class-youth league integration” in colleges and universities from the perspective of “three full educations”. *Journal of Jiamusi Vocational University*, 40(8), 180-182.
- [9] Yan, X. Q. (2019). Exploration on the implementation plan of “class-youth league integration” in colleges and universities in the new era. *China Higher Education*, (8), 57-59.