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Paper

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An Investigation of the Quality of Engineering Education as Seen from Examples

As one of the famous leading universities of science and technology in China, Huazhong University of Science and Technology has since 1995 ranked among the top 5~9 of its kind. The quality of its engineering education can be said to be representative of the quality of engineering education of China. An in-depth inspection and investigation of the engineering education quality of this university is an important channel through which to understand and learn about the status of the engineering education of China.

This investigation report has been completed on the basis of an inspection and analysis of the quality of engineering education of this university by having the graduates of the period 1986~1995 in engineering science of the undergraduate program as the objects through questionnaires and interviews. The contents of inspection include the development of the graduates, the comments on the quality of this university's graduates by the organizations they are with, and the comments and suggestions by the graduates for the education offered by the university.

The contents of investigation include:

1. The graduates' evaluation of their own advantages and inadequacies in the competition confronting them in terms of professional development
2. The employers evaluation of the vocational quality of the graduates
3. The graduates' opinions of and suggestions for university education and the way teaching and learning is conducted
4. An investigation of a comparison between the measures to reform college education and the effects of reform
5. An analysis of the reasons for the status quo of the quality of engineering education
6. Suggestions for enhancing the quality of engineering education

After 1995, the focal point and main emphasis of reform in China's higher education system were the readjustment and reform in the macro-administration system of the nation's higher education. In order to raise the quality of China's engineering education, the Ministry of Education of China initiated the reforms in engineering education including program development, curriculum system and teaching material at the turn of the century. As these reforms were started not long ago, it is still too early to analyze the effects of the new round of reforms in engineering education. Therefore, this report is still of great significance in learning about and guiding the current reforms in engineering education in China's universities.