

Designing and validating the ideal model of Internship Curriculum for the undergraduate course of technical-engineering fields University of Tabriz

Hossein Hesami¹ | Dr. Yusef Adib² | Dr. Ali Imanzadeh³ | Dr. Firoz Mahmoudi⁴

13

Vol. 4
Spring 2023



Research Paper

Received:
10 February 2023
Accepted
5 April 2023
P.P: 59-78

Print ISSN: 2717-4484
Online ISSN: 2717-4492



DOI: 10.22098/AEL.2023.12332.1230

Abstract

Internship provides an opportunity for students of different study levels in the university to gain experience and knowledge related to the desired course. Students will be able to transfer their learning from the academic environment to a real or work situation. Internship can be considered as a positive strategy in higher education in order to provide comprehensive educational programs as well as internship training courses as a suitable solution for the lack of human resources. The purpose of this research was to identify the current situation and design the ideal model of the internship curriculum for technical-engineering fields based on the ten components of Akker's curriculum. Examining the current situation of internship content from the point of view of professors and students shows that the university does not pay much attention to practical courses, the data obtained from learning activities showed that the lack of providing practical training to interns and students, lack of discussion and interaction, lack of satisfaction with the way of providing education to Students and the lack of interaction between trainees and employers indicate the current state of internships. Regarding the role of the trainer, he showed that the presence of the trainer in the industrial unit is low.

Keywords: Internship, Akker's curriculum, The ideal curriculum template

¹ PhD Student, Department of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran.

² Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran.

³ Associate Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran.

⁴ Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran.

Introduction

In the new era and in the struggle of competition between societies, countries are trying to pay attention to the role of education and especially higher education in national development and promotion of knowledge and technology. Therefore, the role of higher education in development is inevitable. In fact, it can be said that one of the most valuable resources that society has is the university. In most developed countries and developing countries, universities and academicians have realized solving problems and meeting the needs of national development goals. The main difference that has caused a significant difference between the situation of advanced and developed countries and developing countries is their attitude towards scientific development and their valuing of this vital factor and the main basis of development. The more and better quality education is provided, the faster national development will take place [1]. The economic, social and cultural development of any society depends on the emergence of fields for the growth and flourishing of human talents of that society. To achieve this and among other factors, the role and importance of education to transfer knowledge and experience from each generation to the next generation is undeniable [2]. Education is the most known and effective way to have efficient human resources [3]. University curricula should include courses and requirements that enhance graduates' skills and prepare them for a challenging job market. Experiential learning is very positive in this field and internship is increasingly considered an important curricular option [4]. One of the most important problems that many undergraduates will face; The lack of practical experience or, in other words, the low load of their work resume, will have an adverse effect on the student's future career. The internship provides a golden opportunity to be present in successful industrial, commercial and service environments, where the student can acquire valuable experiences without worrying about the responsibilities and consequences of the job. Internship is a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and development of skills in a professional environment [5].

Methodology

Due to the fact that the purpose of developing the model is the application of internship training in university technical-engineering fields. In the current research, the research method is applied in terms of purpose and qualitative based on the nature of the data. In order to design the ideal model of the internship curriculum, in the first part of the design of the ideal model of the curriculum, the synthesis research method was used. In the second part of the design of the desired pattern of internship curriculum for technical-engineering fields, thematic analysis technique was used to analyze and summarize the findings about the desired pattern of internship curriculum from technical-engineering

professors and curriculum planning experts. In this research, both cases are considered. Therefore, experts in technical-engineering and curriculum planning fields were interviewed. The research method and data analysis method was thematic analysis which includes the following steps: 1- Getting to know the data 2- Creating primary codes and coding 3- Searching and identifying themes 4- Drawing the network of themes 5- Analyzing the network of themes 6- Compilation of the report. The statistical population and the participants are professors of technical-engineering fields and curriculum planning specialists, and it was done with a purposeful and criteria-based sampling method, which criteria for sample selection (having a PHD degree, knowledge about subject knowledge) authoring an article, a book in The relevant subject area (and practical experience or familiarity with internship issues) sample size is a function of data saturation and the method of data collection was done as a semi-structured interview.

Results

The purpose of the present research is to design the ideal model of internship curriculum for university technical-engineering fields based on the ten elements of Akker. Synthesis of sources The correspondence and interviews conducted in the field of the ideal model of the technical-engineering internship curriculum based on the ten elements of Akker and the coding results are presented below.

The desired pattern of internship courses was determined after studying by synthesis research method and interviews with curriculum planning experts and technical-engineering professors. In connection with the logic of conducting the course in the optimal way, since the main concern and problem of the graduates of this field is employment; Therefore, it is necessary to hold these courses in a way that empowers students to solve challenges and provide training that is practical, based on practical knowledge and based on meaning, and learning is aligned and coordinated with individual and social needs. lead to self-direction, learner-centeredness, self-fulfillment and professional training, which ultimately leads to an increase in learning efficiency and prepares a person to learn for work and career in the future. Internship courses are a very important opportunity to develop skills and expertise in trainees, and it is necessary to conduct these courses in the form of practical and manual work, which will have more useful results.

Discussion and conclusion

The objectives of holding an internship course based on the results of researches using the synthesis research method are the acquisition of competence, continuity and stability of performance, mastery skills, exploration, vocational training, self-discovery and social reconstruction, which should ultimately lead to the education of an efficient citizen. Also, based on the professors' and experts' point of view, internships should be conducted with the aim of acquiring practical skills and combining skills with theory and lead to career and skill development. It is agreed that the internship course has been created with the intention of acquiring practical skills in general, and therefore it is necessary to seriously consider this issue for the planners of these units and courses; So that their main priority and only goal is to develop the practical skills of the trainees and it is designed and presented in such a way that the students can see and touch the material that they have learned theoretically in these centers. The desired content of the internship course based on the results of the researches in the synthesis method includes the organization of the content based on the order of job

performance, interdisciplinary content, integration of several subjects and laying the groundwork for future learning, which should be prepared and compiled based on the organization of a project. The professors have mentioned the interdisciplinary and up-to-date content and they believe in an integrated curriculum and emphasize on the integration of multiple learning that such an approach should end in a spiral curriculum and be used in the design of internship courses.

Reference

- [1]. Sabeti M, Homayoun SM, Ahmadi F. (2013).The role of higher education in national development. *Iranian Social Development Studies*, 6(4), 59-69.
- [2].Mokhtari Memar, H(2003). Internship and its role in library and information education, *Library research and academic information*, 2003; 40(37), 83-101
- [3]. Riahi, F; Yazdi M, Sakineh; Khajahuddin, N; Salehi Veisi, M. (2012)Investigating the effect of psychiatry internship on the attitude of medical students towards the specialty of psychiatry, *Jundi Shapur Quarterly*4(3): 235-244.
- [4]. Saniter N, Siedler T(2016).Door opener or waste of time? The effects of student internships on labor market outcomes.
- [5]. Mohammadzadeh, S; Mousavi, M; Shabani, K.(2013). quality analysis of the results of internship courses; The study of agriculture and natural resources of Ramin Ahvaz. *Iranian Engineering Education Quarterly*. 16 (61): 151-141.
- [6]. Rasouli, N; (2018).Sharifi Rad, G; Parvizi, F. *The opinion of final year nursing students of Islamic Azad University, Qom branch about the problems of clinical education*. 2018; 13 (1): 31-38.