

Values in Higher Education: A Case Study of Higher Education Students

Authors : Bahadır Erişti

Abstract : Values are the behavioral procedures of society based communication and interaction process that includes social and cultural backgrounds. The policy of learning and teaching in higher education is oriented towards constructing knowledge and skills, based on theorist framework of cognitive and psychomotor aspects. This approach makes people not to develop generosity, empathy, affection, solidarity, justice, equality and so on. But the sensorial gains of education system provide the integrity of society interaction. This situation carries out the necessity of values education's in higher education. The current study aims to consider values education from the viewpoint of students in higher education. Within the framework of the current study, an open ended survey based scenario of higher education students was conducted with the students' social, cognitive, affective and moral developments. In line with this purpose, the following situations of the higher education system were addressed based on the higher education students' viewpoint: The views of higher education students' regarding values that are tried to be gained at the higher education system; The higher education students' suggestions regarding values education at the higher education system; The views of the higher education students' regarding values that are imposed at the higher education system. In this study, descriptive qualitative research method was used. The study group of the research is composed of 20 higher education postgraduate students at Curriculum and Instruction Department of Educational Sciences at Anadolu University. An open-ended survey was applied for the purpose of collecting qualitative data. As a result of the study, value preferences, value judgments and value systems of the higher education students were constructed on prioritizes based on social, cultural and economic backgrounds and statues. Multi-dimensional process of value education in higher education need to be constructed on higher education-community-cultural background cooperation. Thus, the act of judgement upon values between higher education students based on the survey seems to be inherent in the system of education itself. The present study highlights the students' value priorities and importance of values in higher education. If the purpose of the higher education system gains on values, it is possible to enable society to promote humanity.

Keywords : higher education, value, values education, values in higher education

Conference Title : ICHE 2017 : International Conference on Higher Education

Conference Location : Montreal, Canada

Conference Dates : May 11-12, 2017