Review of: "Shaping Tomorrow's Workforce: Adapting University Curriculum to Address China's College Graduate Employment Challenges"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In my opinion, this work needs a substantial improvement so that it can be considered a research paper. These are some suggestions for the author:

1. An abstract should not be there only to emphasize the importance of the topic covered. On the contrary, it should identify the objectives of the research, describe its approach and anticipate the most notable results of the research.

2. A research paper should extensively and rigorously describe the topic/issue it is going to address. For example, in the current version of this article the reader does not have any information about the unemployment rate of graduates in China or about the time it takes, on average, to be hired after graduation. Data like these would be welcome by the reader who wants to know the magnitude of the problem on which the author is going to make a contribution. These data would acquire even more value if they were compared with data from other countries or with the same indicators in the group of non-graduates. Nor would any information on the temporal evolution of these indicators be superfluous.

3. The author should review the scientific literature that deals with similar topics in China or internationally. In its current version, the article does not propose any relevant bibliographical references: all the references contained in the article serve to the purpose of describing the success of a student who decided to emigrate to the United States.

4. The author should establish clear, identifiable and limited objectives for the research and for his paper. The delimitation implies, for example, specifically addressing the measures that can be adopted from the point of view of the authorities in employment policy, or from the university management bodies, or from the point of view of curriculum design. Instead, this paper very superficially introduces issues related to economic policy, university policy (for example, regarding guidance policies aimed at students) or the life decisions of students, with no apparent relationship between them.

5. A research paper must maintain coherence between its different parts. This is not the case in this paper. In its current state, the draft proposes a series of measures (strategies) to address the issue of difficult employment for graduates in China. These are: aligning employment with economic development; create job opportunities; improve employment policies for graduates; enhance employment information; implement comprehensive career education; strengthen vocational education and training; promote entrepreneurship and innovation; look for overseas opportunities and strengthen psychological resilience. None of these measures is directly related to the one proposed in the title of the article, which begins with "adapting university curriculum…"

6. I also recommend avoiding statements that could reveal a high degree of naivety on the part of the author. For example, the first recommendation (strategy) in this paper is: "Government bodies should promote positive interactions between employment and economic growth. Economic policies should integrate development, industrial restructuring, economic reform, and employment expansion". This is a mere definition of the generic objectives of public policies. In other words, does the author know of any cases in which public decision-makers pursue objectives opposite to those he describes? The author's contribution should be describing the specific measures that the Chinese government is currently adopting in these matters and assessing their effectiveness, criticizing them and proposing other different measures.

7. Finally, the conclusions of a research paper should include its fundamental contribution, if any. I strongly recommend avoiding commonplaces in the conclusions of a paper.

I hope my suggestions will help the author.