

Changing student learning motivation in the situation of higher education expansion

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Higher education expansion in Ukraine: development and effects



Number of High Educational Institutions

Before Independence (beginning of 1990th) – 150
higher education institutions in Ukraine

Now in Ukraine – 198 universities, 62 academies,
83 institutes, 245 colleges, 97 technical schools,
11 professional schools, 1 conservatory

In 325 institutions they teach bachelors and
masters (215 are owned by state, 14 – by local
community, 96 are private)



Number of people with higher education (per 1000, age 10+)

1979 – 65; 2001 – 129; 2011 – 192

Number of students

2007/2008 — 2 813 800 (1,7 times more than in
1990/91)

2012/2013 – 2 170 000

2013/2014 – 2 052 700



Who pay for higher education?

- state budget
- local budget
- private money

Parents pay for the education of about 59% students who study at the bachelor and master programs.

State spend about 2.3% of GDP for the system of higher education



Why people want to get higher education?

Higher education gives the advantage

- to find job (unemployment level 15% less)
- to keep health
- to better organize leisure time
- to be more satisfied with job and life in general

BUT ...



- Higher education has lost the function of “social lift” and begin to play the role of “social safe”
- Discrepancy between acquired education and skills and the actual level of skill that is required by the work performed is growing



Student's motivation in the condition of higher education expansion



Kyiv University monitoring survey of student's and university's life

- Population: students of Kyiv University, 17 of faculties and institutes
- Random sample, 1198 respondents
- Self-completion of the questionnaires
- September-October 2013



What is your purpose of getting higher education?
Higher education is useful for...
scale from 1 (not useful) to 7 (very useful)

	Motivation for labor market, career (m2)	alpha =0.70	
1	to get an interesting job		
2	to have a reliable income		
3	to get a high social status		
	Motivation for self-development (m1)	alpha=0.76	
4	to develop own ideas and thoughts		
5	to learn more about the chosen specialty		
6	to get a good academic (classical) education		
7	to be an educated person in general		
9	to help other people		
10	to contribute to the development of society		



Changing of two motivators

	1998	2009	2011	2013
Self-development (m1)	5.55	5.37	5.31	5.17
Career (m2)	5.69	5.99	5.89	5.72



Comparison of junior (2-3 year of study) and senior (4-6 year of study) students

	1998		2013	
	m1	m2	m1	m2
junior	5.65	5.78	5.23	5.87
senior	5.31	5.46	5.07	5.54



Comparison of students who pay tuition with students who are financed from budget

	m1	m2
from budget	5.11	5.64
pay tuition	5.28	5.90



Expectations about labor market

In 1998 (big depression on postsoviet space) 15% of students expect not to have problem with finding job

In 2013 about 23% demonstrate such optimism



What students want to know in addition to the profession

1. Foreign languages
2. Basic economy and practical work with computer
3. Basic psychology



Orientation towards emigration

About 19% have plans to go abroad after the finishing education

Juniors – 22%, Seniors – 16%

About 58% say that if they had the opportunity to live abroad then they would



Some conclusions

- Expansion of higher education gives new quantity (institutions, students) but not quality. Now high education is not a “social lift” but “social safe”
- Expansion has negative influence on motivation because of lack of competition (between students, between professors)
- We can't talk about the impact of expansion of higher education on students' motivation, but we can talk about motivation in the conditions of such expansion. Students become more pragmatic, more focused on the labor market. The universities should take this into account in their teaching plans (what teach and how to teach). More practical knowledge perhaps even to the detriment of the academic component of education



Thank you for attention!