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LEAD2 MOOC

Voices of the MOOC participants

PROJECT

Enhancing Academic Leadership and Governance of Chinese and European Universities in the Context of Innovation and Internationalization (LEAD2)

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The LEAD2 MOOC– Voices of the MOOC participants

The LEAD2 MOOC is part of the LEAD2 project, which aims to enhance knowledge, skills, and competences regarding European and Chinese University Governance and Academic Leadership. The LEAD2 project combines blended training and learning through workshops, peer learning, and a MOOC. The last edition of the MOOC ran from September 2019 to January 2020.

The MOOC is available to everyone, regardless of the participant's country, institution or academic position, and is offered in both English and Chinese. The second edition of the LEAD2 MOOC brought together over 500 participants from across the globe. The course focused on key issues related to university governance and academic leadership, presenting participants with information, knowledge, and strategies to cope with various challenges and pressures that universities today face. The course aims to help participants develop their personal and professional goals. Let's hear what the participants have to say about their expectations and experiences with the LEAD2 MOOC.

Expectations of the MOOC participants

Before starting the MOOC, participants were asked to complete a short "Welcome Survey", in order to get to know them a little better. One of the questions focused on participants' views regarding their expectations of the course, and how it could help them meet their personal and professional goals. Here is what they said on the topic.

"This course can expand my international perspective, enhance my academic leadership skills, and enrich my academic knowledge. It will greatly help me in my future personal and professional development."

"Anyone may want to lead an organization company or institution, but without world class training and proper education taking up leadership position is an absolute faux pas. Hence, in order to get the best knowledge taking leadership lesson is crucial. For this reason, the importance of this course in helping actualize my dream to be actualized in the leadership career is immense."

"I hope to learn more about the tools which help me to develop actively at my work and apart from what I am interested in implementing particular online classes. Likewise, in the future I would like to have my own institute."

"I think this MOOC course can help me understand the higher education structure and governance, university governance and academic leadership practices in China and Europe. It will also help my graduate professional courses. Institutional academic leaders' practices and decisions, and learn new academic leadership skills, use them flexibly in future studies and work based on their own conditions, and improve their professionalism."

"The curriculum of this MOOC course is very reasonable and logical, so that students can learn more about university governance structure step by step, master European and / or Chinese

university governance structure, and understand different leadership methods in university governance. It helped me a lot.”

“At present, I am studying the subject of academic leadership in colleges and universities, but I have a shallow understanding of the connotation of academic leadership and do not have a comprehensive understanding. In the future, I will conduct research on the subject of academic leadership. I hope that my understanding of this subject will be further improved through the course, which will help me better complete the research topic and promote my mastery of academic leadership. If I want to have an in-depth study of academic leadership, I must first increase my awareness and understanding of this. Through the course, I believe that it can help me achieve my expected goals.”

Voices of participants regarding the LEAD2 MOOC

At the end of the MOOC, the participants were also given the opportunity to share their ideas, experiences, and opinions in the “your voices” section of the MOOC. Here they commented on aspects of the MOOC, what they learned, and how they plan to apply their new knowledge and skills in their respective fields.

“It was my pleasure to be enrolled in this program. I can comply with the program and modules at my convenience. Since I have a slow internet connection, at the time and place where it is strong, I take the opportunity to follow and complete an activity or read to finish the course. Time management applies to this program. It is hassle-free because it was just a click away at my most convenient time. Thanks, and I will be enrolled again soon.”

“Honestly speaking, this course has uplifted my knowledge and capabilities on university governance & academic leadership. It has given me a grounding on the subject matter. If I become a vice-chancellor or a provost, the skills gained from this course will help me manage my institution successfully. Thank you very much for giving me this wonderful opportunity.”

“The course is very informative, useful, and helpful. It has broadened my horizons regarding university governance and academic leadership. Being a full-time university employee, I could hardly manage my time and it is cumbersome for me to take regular lectures/classes, and hence the MOOC is flexible and very suitable for me. I am very keen to further work in this area.”

“I will share this MOOC to my co-administrators in the University and to my friends who are directors for international affairs in other universities.”

With the success of the last edition of the LEAD2 MOOC, we are launching a new edition of the MOOC, which re-opens in the spring of 2020, with adjustments and improvements.