

ABSTRACT

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Dissertation Title: A DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP
MODEL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

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Research on academic leadership calls for a thorough study as it is one of the major factors or rather the only factor that can address the challenges of 21st century and will have a bearing on quality of higher education. Higher education in India saw an unprecedented growth in the last few decades. As prediction goes, India is going to be one of the youngest nations and the major contributors of graduates to the world, in the coming years. And hence, its academic leaders will have the onus of higher education and its quality.

Leadership studies in and on Asia are scant and there is a need to develop models that can specifically be applied to the developing nations in the Asian continent. In this study, to develop a model for academic leadership for higher education in India, the researcher employed a sequential mixed methods strategy. The quantitative and qualitative data was obtained sequentially, and supported the final findings. The qualitative data gathered from the research literature, was analyzed by recursive interim content analysis technique that helped explore academic leadership

in the global context. This information was used to identify whether it is imperative for higher education in India, and practiced or not through quantitative survey methods. One more round of data collection was done to understand the depth of the academic leadership from those who have an influence on the policy and lead their universities in India. The three rounds of data gave a length and breadth to the understanding of academic leadership in India, which was arranged sequentially, with the help of Priority Need Index technique to determine the criticality and urgency of each issue discovered during data collection.

A model addressing the identified critical components that will help academic leaders to handle their complex and challenging 21st century academic organizations, formed the basis of the model. The model for academic leadership in India, is one of its first kind, to address the issue in depth with a mixed method approach. It is expected to be a stronghold for the academic leaders and a guideline for those young minds who aspire to become successful academic leaders.

Field of Study: Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership

Graduate School of Education

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