

Philosophy of Education

This is a significant topic to talk about, the philosophy of education. I'd like to extend this topic in three parts: concept of education, goal of education and philosophy of education.

In my opinion, education is composed of teaching and learning, and no one can deny the fact that teaching and learning are not isolated but interactive with each other. That is, education is the interactive procedure of teaching and learning. Many people will say that teaching is the mission of teachers while learning is the task of students. However, I will say both teaching and learning are missions of both teachers and students indeed. Teachers need learning in order to be good teachers and students should understand teaching in order to study well. Comparing the two procedures, I believe that teaching is more important than learning, as the old Chinese saying goes "a great teacher produces brilliant students."

I think the goal of education is to teach students how to fish rather than give them fish which will produce a sustainable development of the individual.

We can not talk about philosophy of education without mentioning Confucius, a great educator of ancient China. Confucius is regarded as the "Great and Revered Teacher", "a teacher for all generations". He laid down the foundation of Chinese education and exerted a profound influence upon hundreds of millions of people, and his philosophy of education is still greatly influencing our modern education in many respects.

Confucius acknowledged learning by stating "Science is nothing without thinking; Thinking without learning is dangerous." As a teacher in the university, I think we should not only teach technology and sciences to our students but also teach them how to think and how to learn, and make both of them interactive, which in my opinion, is more important.

We can be qualified teachers if we can fulfill the teaching task, but if we can search into the soul of the education and teach our students to be versatile and standout persons, we can be good teachers.