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Faculty Members' Opinions on Teaching and Instruction at Private Universities in Turkey: A Case Study

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Abstract

In today's world, there is an increasing demand for higher education because of the need for qualified workforce. To meet this demand for higher education, private institutions have been founded along with public ones beginning from 1980s in Turkey. Along with public universities, there has been a great growth in the number of private higher education institutions in Turkey. One of the criticisms towards private higher education institutions is that they focus on economic development rather than educational quality. In the same way, the expansion of these private higher education institutions has brought the issue of qualification in terms of instructional goals, teaching and learning. Thus, it has gained importance to research on the instructional procedures in these institutions. At that point, faculty members' opinions about educational quality at private universities have importance as they are the designers and implementers of instuctional process. In this study, it was aimed to find out the faculty members' opinions concerning instructional quality at private universities in Turkey. A private university was determined as a case. The researchers made interviews with instructors by forming interview questions which were formed depending on the related literature review. Faculy members with much experience at private universities were chosen as participants to have a broad understanding about the issue. The data obtained from structured interviews have been analysed with content analysis technique. The findings of this study may help to determine the instructional problems at private universities in Turkey. In addition to this, it may also help to improve the instructional quality in higher education institutions.

Key Words: Higher Education, Faculty Members, Teaching, Instruction

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Vladimir Mladjenovic
Director

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