Interdisciplinary Higher Education: Criticism, Challenges and Obstacles

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Abstract

• During the past two decades, extensive attentions have been paid to interdisciplinary activities by educational institutions and according to the corresponding needs, it has also been extended to ‘interdisciplinary higher education’. In other words, interdisciplinary studies and activities are now a focus of attention for institutions promoting learning and teaching, as well as organizational and social entities concerned with higher education. However, they are practically facing multifaceted criticism, obstacles, and challenges. This descriptive – analytical paper which emphasizes on interdisciplinary higher education, maintains that the most important obstacles and challenges faced by interdisciplinary activities in the past two decades can be divided into three major types; “cultural”, “organizational” and “professional”. In conclusion, particular criticisms and challenges to interdisciplinary programs in social sciences and the humanities have been explained.

• Keywords: Higher Education, Interdisciplinarity, interdisciplinary Studies, Educational Sciences Challenges, Criticism.