Ye Chen: Reflective Practices in Teaching

This assignment is focused on reflective practice and teacher collaboration. These concepts have been identified by many as conditions necessary within a school if it is to restructure so as to provide effective education for all.

In the assignment critical understanding of the methods of research applied is presented in the chapter on research methodology. Few comments: research paradigms as such are described from general perspective. However I did not find a discussion on which paradigm was particularly applied in this assignment.

The research methods are systematically presented with rigorous analyses of data gathered. Method of observation needs better specification of what was actually observed and why. On p. 30 only UNESCO, 2005 is mentioned. Overall the selected methods of data collection are justified.

The research report reached conclusions which are based on evidence. The author demonstrated significance of the conclusions for future practice. Few comments: p. 4 where in chapter 1.2 there is a critical remark on teaching strategies used in China. One can presume from this short paragraph that reflective practice and sharing teaching experience are not applied in China. Secondly the recommendations for future practice are addressed only to the Czech Republic. And there is almost no link to Chinese educational system or assignments conducted in the field of reflective practices in China. Thus are there any recommendations (from this assignment) which would be applicable and feasible also for China and why? Secondly how can Czech institutions for teacher education better prepare future teachers for reflective practice and collaborative teaching?

The assignment is correctly presented in standard English and professionally edited. As a tutor of Mr Ye Chen I would like to acknowledge his academic competences which he demonstrated. Amongst others it was independence, initiative and self-confidence particularly in orienting himself in different culture while working on the research.

Over all it is very good assignment.

Jan Šiška
Praha 13.8.2007
Mark proposed: 1 - 2