Research on China’s university and college sport:  
An analysis of the expression, reconstruction, development of university and college sport in three periods

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This study chose sport in China’s higher education institutions in three periods as object, adopted historical studies that analysis literature of university and college sport, interview by communication with experts for gaining original data to analysis theirs sport in different periods. The study purpose was that focused on China’s university and college sport in three different periods, by reviewing literature and implementing interviews, summarized the emergence (the 1890s – 1937), the reconstruction (the 1950s – the 1970s), and the development (the 1980s – present) of sport in higher education institutions.

The conclusions of this study summarized in the following points. From the 1890s to 1937, sport in higher education institutions acted as the initiator and participant of sport in China. The sporting level of it represented the highest level of sport in China. In the 1950s to the 1970s, higher education institutions’ sport was restructured and sports colleges that training sport teachers and athletes were established. The restructure of university and college sport was a consequence of political movements. The separation of sport from education system resulted in the separation of sport from education. The policies were the major elements dominating the development of university and college sport since the 1980s. With the guiding policies, high–level sport teams became the main vehicle of university and college sport.