SHOWA UNIVERSITY (昭和大学)

Evaluation summary

"Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc."

The institution clearly defined it school philosophy, basic principles, mission, goals, and educational objectives, which were publicized internally and externally. The school philosophy is to "nurture excellent clinicians who devote themselves sincerely to health care". Such a philosophy has been handed down to the present day when the institution became a comprehensive medical university, since it was founded under the motto "Shisei Ikkan", which means to put oneself in the position of the other with unaffected sincerity. With that philosophy, the institution has promoted education and research.

The institution characterized "education on team medical care" that enables students to learn how medical professionals perform their duties showing respect to each other as its original feature, and promoted such education based on the educational objective: "Cultivation of human resources who contribute to advancement of medicine and health care, as well as health enhancement and human welfare with cordiality". Education on team medical care has been specifically stated in three policies (i.e., diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy), and was publicized internally and externally via the website.

The institution established its educational and research structure that helps to fulfill its mission, goals and educational objectives.

"Standard 2. Learning and Teaching"

With regard to student acceptance, educational curriculum and teaching methods, the institution has been managed and operated properly. Actively promoting education on team medical care from early on, it made efforts to reform educational content and teaching methods by establishing the Education Promotion Office. It provided learning and class support under a well-developed system. Also, it appropriately provided evaluations and feedback about the achievement of educational objectives. It established a career support office in order to actively provide career support.

For improvement of student services, the institution has strived to give a detailed response to students by creating a structure to actively accept their opinions. It has offered several types of scholarship programs as financial support for students. In terms of appointment of teachers, prompt improvement measures need to be taken because some departments have not secured the required number of full-time professors. Its liberal arts education has featured the obligation to enter its dormitory in the first grade to provide systematic liberal arts education.

"Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance"

The board of directors discussed and decided important matters as the highest decision-making body, the board of councilors functioned as its advisory body, and the auditor secretary conducted audits on activities of the governing body and financial status. Based on mid- and long-term plans and financial plans prepared in the "Board of Directors Meeting", the institution made continuous efforts to achieve its mission and objectives. It has been properly established and operated, giving

full attention to human rights and safety.

The institution established a structure allowing the administrative director and principal to exercise adequate leadership with the aim of enhancing education and research. Also, it ensured an effective system for execution of operations by designing an organizational structure and deploying staff with consideration to decentralization of authority, and clarification of responsibilities.

The institution ensured proper financial management based on its business plans, and has established a stable financial base.

Appropriate accounts procedures were ensured, and strict accounts audits have been performed. "Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation"

The institution has conducted school-wide self-inspections and evaluations every year for the purpose of raising the educational level, and achieving its education and research goal and mission. The report on such inspections and evaluations was required to include an analysis of the current situation, verification improvement and progress in issues compared to the previous year, inspection and evaluation of the current situation, and measures for improvement and reform. It systematically used the above report for review of its activities, as well as improvement and enhancement of the institution's overall operation, including education and research.

In terms of collection and analysis of information, the institution established the Institutional Research (IR) Promotion Office and the IR Promotion Committee with the aim of improving education and research. It actively disclosed its self-inspection and evaluation report to the public.

Based on the results of inspections and evaluations, a school-wide PDCA cycle has been established and operated.

To sum up, the institution has promoted education and research properly according to its school philosophy, mission and objectives, and has been operated properly in view of management, administration and finance. It has created some agile organizations for execution of operations, including the Activation Promotion Committee, in order to promote strategic decision-making for the achievement of its mission and objectives. It seems that the institution needs more efforts to maintain an adequate number of teachers.

For details of "Standard A. Distinctive Education System" which are set forth as the institution's unique initiative based on its mission and objectives, please refer to the general remarks on the standard.