

SEIJOH UNIVERSITY (星城大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The institution’s mission and goal, “to develop human resources who contribute to the development of industry, culture and the community by teaching and studying specialized fields profoundly, and cultivating capabilities required in occupations and actual life based on the school philosophy,” are specified in the school rules. The basic principles of the school philosophy are briefly expressed as four missions or goals and seven educational goals, and these are reflected fully in the characteristic of the university which “develops human resources who contribute to society by understanding and supporting individual students’ self-development.”

The mission, goal and educational objectives are reviewed as needed. Each faculty and graduate school department continuously review three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy) and the curriculum itself. Issues to be tackled, and their countermeasures based on the mission, goal and educational objectives. are shown in the mid-and long-term plan. The education and research organization, including faculties, graduate school departments, committees, and centers, is appropriately constituted.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

According to the admission policy, different selection methods are devised by each department to secure various types of entrants. The Faculty of Business Administration examines measures including reorganization to replenish the student quotas.

In the classes, teaching methods are devised by allocating multiple teachers in charge and introducing problem-solving type learning and role plays, as well as providing field work, presentation opportunities for graduate research, long-term study abroad programs, overseas internship, etc. Graduation theses are mandatory for all students, and there are severe standards of judgment, such as examination by two teachers (main research advisor and co-research advisor). For subjects taught by part-time teachers, support contact by full-time teachers is provided to solve problems concerning learning. In this way, educational skills are improved.

Students’ opinions are heard through class evaluation questionnaires, etc., and school-wide activities of FD (Faculty Development) are carried out to improve student services, and to enhance educational content and methods and learning guidance.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

The roles of the board of directors are clearly specified to develop the articles of endowment and other rules, and decision-making methods concerning school management. The incorporated educational institution is properly managed. Matters to be discussed are coordinated by the board of standing directors, and the strategy meeting, etc., both of which assist the board of directors. In this way, a system to assist the functions of the board of directors has been well developed, and sufficient functions have been established to achieve the institution’s mission, goal and mid-term plan. The President demonstrates his/her appropriate leadership in the strategy meeting, etc., to

discuss important matters.

In the three-year mid-term plan from the 2015 academic year, enhancement of organizational capacity, stabilization of financial capabilities, and enhancement of human capabilities, etc., are cited as important common objectives of the incorporated entity, and specific measures are being put into practice. Concerning consumption income and expenditure, a state of excess expenditure remains for the university. While it is desirable that the discrepancy between income and expenditure should be improved by strengthening student recruitment, etc., the incorporated entity maintains a state of surplus income as a whole. Concerning scientific research grant programs, support systems are well-developed, resulting in a high selection rate.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

Self-inspection and evaluation are conducted every year mainly by the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, and the findings are put together in the Education and Research Yearbook (Self-Inspection and Evaluation). This is disclosed on the website, and the results of the self-inspection and evaluation are shared inside and outside the institution. An External Evaluation Committee attended by external committee members who are not university teachers and staff was established to carry out external evaluation by reports and hearings. The President refers the results of external evaluation to the Strategy Meeting, asks for opinions and requests improvement, publicizes them through various meetings, and reflects them in business plans, etc.

The results of the self-inspection and evaluation including items to be considered from students' class evaluation questionnaires, questionnaires on learning in university and general life, graduate questionnaires, a class visit month, and the School-Wide FD Education Improvement Review Committee are disclosed in faculty meetings, undergraduate faculty meetings, and various committees, etc., to be used for improvement. There is an established PDCA cycle.

To sum up, based on the institution's mission and goal, “to develop human resources who contribute to the development of industry, culture and the community by teaching and studying specialized fields profoundly, and cultivating capabilities required in occupations and actual life based on the school philosophy,” the institution makes efforts to devise various educational methods and improve teaching skills. Although efforts to introduce external funding and their results are excellent, to fill the enrollment capacity, it should preferably improve the income and expenditure balance by making further efforts including organizational reforms and new ways to recruit students.

For details about “Standard A. Research Activities,” “Standard B. International Exchange and Collaboration,” and “Standard C. Collaboration with Social Communities,” 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.