

Hiroshima Institute of Technology (広島工業大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

Consistently maintaining its school philosophy and educational concept since its foundation in 1963, the institution has continued efforts to embody them, for example, by establishing the “Hiroshima Institute of Technology Code of Conduct”. Its clearly-defined mission and objectives are to “cultivate technical experts with a strong sense of ethics who can give consideration to society and environment”. The institution has made active efforts to respond to changes in social situation by reorganizing faculties focusing on the themes of “information”, “environment” and “life”.

The institution allowed the principal to give a lecture on the “School Philosophy and Educational Concept” as part of the compulsory subject “Theory on Own-University Education”, and has encouraged school staff to attend that lecture with students, aiming to disseminate its school philosophy and educational concept. It clarified the image of human resources to be nurtured during the review process at the midpoint of the “Tsuru Gakuen Mid- and Long-term Operational Guidelines” formulated in 2006, and reflected it in three policies (i.e., diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy).

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution has properly accepted entrants through various selection methods by developing a clear and concrete policy. It designed its educational curricula systematically based on the policy clearly defined for each faculty and department. It actively promoted efforts to substantiate the credit system. In addition to creation of a counseling system, it implemented various learning support measures targeting students with learning problems, as well as those with outstanding academic results. The rules for diploma recognition and graduation/completion certification were developed and observed strictly.

The institution organizationally promoted career education through curricular and extracurricular programs. To provide job placement assistance, it implemented various measures, including “U-turn Job Guidance”, which have led to the high employment rate. It evaluated the achievement of educational objectives through graduate questionnaires and “graduates’ employment status surveys”, and utilized the results for improvement of placement assistance. To provide student services, it established a system to support programs planned voluntarily by students (extracurricular activities), and to help to keep them motivated. An adequate number of teachers were appointed, and the procedures for their recruitment and promotion were performed according to the rules.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

In terms of management of the school corporation Tsuru Gakuen as the governing body and operations of the Hiroshima Institute of Technology as the school organization, integrity has been maintained in accordance with the articles of endowment and relevant rules. Continuous

organizational efforts to achieve the mission and objectives have been made.

To make expeditious decisions, the institution established necessary organizations, including the faculty meeting and the graduate school committee. It devised ways of promoting communication and sharing information in the academic organization so that the principal can exercise adequate leadership. It has given attention to the composition of each conference body involved in decision-making, and ensured smooth communication between the governing body and the school organization, and between individual divisions of the school organization. In particular, the “Administrative Director’s Office Meeting”, which is supposed to be held every day, has greatly helped ensure smooth operations of the governing body and school organization.

A system of implementation was established based on an appropriate organizational structure and proper personnel allocation, and a “target management system” has functioned well under such system. An operational plan was formulated according to the “Tsuru Gakuen Mid- and Long-term Operational Guidelines”, and proper financial management has been maintained toward achievement of the plan. Accounting procedures were performed properly, and strict audits conducted under a threefold auditing system.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

The institution started to conduct self-inspections and evaluations in 1995, and has continued to improve its organizational structure since then. Thus, it has ensured the appropriateness of self-inspections and evaluations. Its distinctive efforts include holding an “advisory board” consisting of outside intellectuals every year, and grasping social needs and problems in order to pursue reform.

Although the institution had collected and analyzed data used for inspections and evaluations through introduction of an information system (ETL) and institutional research (IR) activities based on projects, it established a dedicated division under the “HIT Education Office” in 2015 in order to promote improvement.

The institution has established a PDCA cycle by formulating an annual operation plan based on the “Tsuru Gakuen Mid- and Long-term Operational Guidelines”, compiling an “annual operation report” after implementation of the plan, and reflecting the report in an “annual operation plan” for the next year. It has clearly placed the “Advisory Board” in the PDCA cycle.

To sum up, the institution has properly created and operated systems and organizations for learning and teaching toward the achievement of its mission and objectives according to its school philosophy and educational concept. It has ensured disciplined management and appropriate operations, and conducted self-inspections and evaluations for improvement.

For details of “Standard A. Career Design for Female Students” and “Standard B. Promotion of Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration”, 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.