

Bunka Fashion Graduate University (文化ファッション大学院大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

As a professional graduate university for fashion design and business, the institution has engaged in education and research that bridge theory and practice, and has concretely defined its school philosophy, mission and objectives. It has summarized them more concisely as a catchphrase: “Fashion intellectual property for the global market”. It has publicized its mission, goals, and educational objectives internally and externally through various kinds of printed matter, the website, and the principal’s speech at the entrance ceremony and other events, and has gained the understanding and support of school staff.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution has devised ways of selecting entrants for each course, but has failed to secure a sufficient number of students to fulfill its student quotas. It established a course registration model and designed a systematic stepwise educational curriculum which focuses on bridging theoretical and practical education. The curriculum has balanced the allocation of subjects in all fields of design, technology and management, and the content of seminars, practice and project subjects was designed to allow students to learn step-by-step. To provide practical education, the institution made distinctive efforts as a professional graduate university, including creation of subjects that promote education and research activities internally and externally. It properly appointed a sufficient number of teachers to implement the educational curriculum in compliance with the Standards for the Establishment of Professional Graduate Universities. Taking advantage of the characteristics of small-group education, full-time teachers have given advice and guidance through individual counseling. For student support, various committees, including the Student Life Committee, full-time teachers of each laboratory, and academic affairs clerical office, cooperated in providing support organizationally. Adjunct facilities of other institutions such as a university within the same school corporation have been used for education, research and extracurricular activities, and a wide variety of affiliated organizations, education and research facilities and equipment have been made available. Some measures concerning the use of facilities and devices were taken, including adoption of an advance reservation system with the aim of increasing educational effect and student satisfaction.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

According to the articles of endowment and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the institution has maintained sound management and operations. It has properly publicized its educational and financial information via the website and by other means. Under the leadership of the principal, the business plans of the whole school corporation and the professional graduate university alone were formulated after discussion in the faculty meeting and the “Gakuen Management Meeting”. Both the professional graduate university alone and the whole school corporation have faced an excess of expenditure in the imputed income and expenditure balance,

but it seems possible to improve the balance by carrying out the mid-term cash flow and financial plan. Accounting procedures for school management and profit-making business were performed appropriately.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

The institution has compiled a “Self-inspection Report” every other year. The report consists of the business plan for the relevant year, and its report and results, issues for the relevant year presented by each conference body, the results of efforts to solve such issues as well as inspections and evaluations of them, challenges for the future, and minutes (summary). The institution has conducted independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations to make a PDCA cycle work well. Being a small-scale professional graduate university, it decided to conduct self-inspections and evaluations every other year in consideration of the burden on school staff.

To sum up, the institution has engaged in education and research according to a clearly defined mission, goals and educational objectives as a pioneering professional graduate university in the field of fashion business. It has brought substantial results, such as producing graduates who can forge the future of fashion, and has made efforts to actively promote internationalization. It has played an important role as a leading educational organization in this field, and it is expected to develop further.

For details of “Standard A. Collaboration with Society” and “Standard B. International Exchange”, 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.