

Hokkaido University of Science (北海道科学大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The institution’s mission and objectives are “to cultivate human resources with high applied skills and a healthy mind and body, who can be active in their specialty area” and “to provide substantial support for revitalization of Hokkaido and Japan”. This mission and objectives were clearly stated in the school rules based on the “Basic Approach of Hokkaido University of Science”, and its basic principle of “harmony of humanity and technology”. They were reflected in the institution’s long-term goal of “What We should be 10 Years Later” and its mid-term goal of “Targets to be Achieved over 5 Years”, as well as three policies (i.e., diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy), and were supported by officers and school staff.

The institution changed its name to Hokkaido University of Science in April 2014, when it dealt properly with change by reviewing a part of the basic approach.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution defined the admission policies for each faculty, department and graduate school, which were publicized through various media, including the entrance examination guide, and strived to disseminate those policies along with its characteristic education and research activities.

The institution has clarified its educational curriculum design policy and developed diploma and curriculum policies for each faculty and department, which were publicized through the website and the student information site. It devised and developed ways of teaching, by organizationally examining measures to improve class content and teaching methods, and by implementing open classes and class observation for teachers. To grasp the learning progress and opinions of individual students, the institution offered individual counseling organizationally at each semester as an occasion for students to seek advice on general school life, and developed a course registration plan and goals to be achieved until graduation and target setting.

At present, renovation of the school building is under way based on the campus redevelopment plan and seismic diagnosis, as part of measures to create a comfortable educational environment.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

The articles of endowment and rules of both the school corporation and the university were established in accordance with the School Education Act, the Private School Act, and the Standards for Establishment of Universities, and school staff have complied with those laws and rules. In consideration of environmental conservation, the institution has made active efforts on environmental issues by developing the “Hokkaido University of Science Fundamental Regulations on the Environmental Management System” and relevant rules. In order to ensure smooth operation of the board of directors and the board of councilors, it established the standing board committee, which is supposed to discuss and decide any matters other than key issues that need to be decided by the board of directors, and to report to the board of directors. In order for the principal to exercise leadership, it established the new “Planning and Operations Conference”, and allowed the

principal to chair the “General Faculty Meeting”, the “Graduate School Committee” and the “General Liaison and Coordination Council”, which has led to smooth administration and operation of the entire institution.

Consumption income and expenditure balance carried-forward of the whole school corporation went negative due to launch of a project based on the campus redevelopment plan in 2013. However, the second and third endowment funds have been capitalized, and a sound financial base has been established.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

To achieve its mission and objectives, the institution has made efforts to conduct independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations, and issued a “Self-inspection and Evaluation Bulletin” in accordance with “Hokkaido University of Science Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee Regulations”, which was publicized internally and externally via the website. The “Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee” indicated the findings and issues in a “Self-inspection and Evaluation Report”, which were shared internally. Also, it established the “External Evaluation Committee” which is supposed to evaluate various activities of the institution, and to give advice periodically. The institution built a mechanism under which the “Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee” makes an annual report for the relevant year based on the “Self-evaluation Bulletin” and the “Self-inspection and Evaluation Report”. Thus, it has established a self-inspection and evaluation system as a “Double PDCA Cycle”.

To sum up, the institution has carried out education and research activities according to its school philosophy, mission and objectives, and ensured its proper operations by taking an inventive approach to learning and teaching. For the institution’s smooth management and administration, the board of directors, the standing board committee, the “Management Council”, the “Planning and Operations Conference”, and the “General Faculty Meeting” have played their respective roles.

For details of “Standard A. Collaboration with Society”, 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.