Ashiya University (芦屋大学)

Evaluation summary

"Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc."

Under the spirit of foundation "to live for each individual's mission," the school code concisely states the purpose of cultivation of human resources in the University, graduate school, departments, and divisions. The school code also specifically and clearly defines the mission and objectives of the University, graduate school, and each division, which are known to everyone on and off campus through its website and handouts such as university guidance and a handbook for students. The University is working on undergraduate reorganization and restructuring of divisions and courses flexibly in response to change of time and society or needs of teachers and students.

The mission, objectives, and three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy) are well-known on and off campus through multiple media such as its university guidance, website, a handbook for students, and an application guidebook.

The structure of education and research organizations consists of 2 departments, 3 divisions, and 1 research course and is well suited to the mission, objectives, and educational objective.

"Standard 2. Learning and Teaching"

The application guidebook of the University states its admission policy of each division which is converted into tangible forms by various forms of entrance examinations. Its entrance limit has not been fulfilled yet but the University tries various strategies.

The University makes an effort to organize educational curriculum systematically by setting up curriculum policies of the University and each field of divisions. It also does all kinds of things to guide students educationally by laying out the framework using multiple direct supervisors for first-grade students etc.

The University maintains appropriateness and strictness of promotion or credit earning by setting up a code of holdover at the end of the second grade.

A "questionnaire of lectures for students" and a "questionnaire of lectures for teachers" are used to understand contents, methods and satisfaction of lectures and to improve educational contents and methods and teaching based on the results of both questionnaires. The University also arranges student supporting system for student service and welfare guidance in collaboration with "Health Control Center," "Education Advisory Office," "Student Support Advisory Office" and more.

The compound and building of the school meet the standard of foundation and campus environment is well maintained.

"Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance"

The corporate business defines its purpose through donative activities and adjusts control and ethics of organization by various codes to maintain discipline and truthfulness

of business. The Board of Directors are held according to the code of donative activities to discuss and determine important business matters. Environment conservation and care for human rights and safety are implemented based on each code.

In a decision-making process of the University, the University created a structure that the President can take the leadership, such as faculty council, University General Planning and Policy Meeting, University Operation Meeting and board of trustees, to define who has authority and responsibility.

The corporate business staff and performs activities based on an appropriate code. It also performs account processing appropriately based on an appropriate code.

Payment from students or others in the whole university has improved to some extent since 2011. However, it is most important to secure number of students in income and to reduce labor charge in spending in order to take on education research permanently. In the past 6 years, imputed balances were red figures except one year when it recorded capital gains. Balance of the current account is also red despite aggressive planning in the next three years. An approach for further improvement is expected.

"Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation"

The Self-Inspection and Evaluation of the University is specified in the school code. The University also formulated "Self-Inspection and Evaluation Code" in 2005 and conducts additional activities voluntarily. In addition, the whole faculty members share the results of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation.

The University has conducted Self-Inspection and Evaluation every other year since 2013 and the result is published on its website.

In general, the University is implementing Institutional Research (IR) activities, functional architecture, and evidence-based Self-Inspection and Evaluation. In an individual level, questionnaires of lectures for students and for teachers are conducted and the teachers are receiving feedback of results to support improvement of lectures.

As a whole, the education and research of the University is built into a structure based on its spirit of foundation "to live for each individual's mission," as well as devised in various ways and operated properly. Enforcement of policies to stabilize financial ground in the mid- and long-term is expected.

Please see general comments of each standard for "Standard A. Contribution to and Cooperation with Society" and/or "Standard B. Response to Diversification of Students," and "Standard C. International Exchange" defined as a unique framework of the University based on its mission and goal.