

## TOKUYAMA UNIVERSITY (徳山大学)

### Evaluation summary

#### “Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The TOKUYAMA UNIVERSITY specifically and clearly defines its mission, objectives, and educational objectives and expresses them in a concise manner as the “basic philosophy of the University” in regulations. The University has stated “cooperation and coexistence with local society” as its characteristic since its foundation, getting understanding and support of board members, faculty, and staff. It also formulated the “middle-term plan 2020” in 2015, presented its vision “establishing ‘a coruscant University in local society’ on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the University” and enhanced the “University COC project” which aims at being a “center of land and intelligence.” At the same time, it is also working on education which reflects the above educational objectives into three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy).

#### “Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The University is recruiting students based on the admission policy. Although acceptance limits of some divisions are unfilled, it is planning down-to-earth community-based improvement measures. It formulated its educational curriculum systematically in line with the curriculum policies of the departments and divisions based on its mission, objectives, and educational objectives, and offers lectures by local experienced workers. There is a “double adviser system” and “Student Instructor (SI) system” in cooperation with teachers as lecture-supporting measures. The standards of performance evaluation are strict under clear accreditation of credits and requirements for graduation. There are also supporting systems inside and outside of the educational curriculum which aims at social and occupational independence of students. “Online lecture evaluation” and comments from teachers are utilized to improve lectures. Student service and welfare guidance are fulfilling and student satisfaction surveys are conducted to understand opinions and requests. Teachers are positioned properly and “mutual class observation days”, seminars, and more are planned to develop occupational skills. The University also takes care of its educational environment and safety. Small-group class size is appropriate.

#### “Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

The University is conducting administrative operation based on related laws and regulations such as the code of donative activities and the school code. It also takes care of environmental conservation and risk management and publishes its financial information and more. The Board of Directors is involved in the administrative operation as a supreme decision-making body and the Board of Trustees functions as a consultative body, where a system to make strategic decisions is organized. It established an “Operating Conference”, consisting of the administrative director, the President, and persons in charge of each

department to facilitate communication and cooperation of the corporate business and teaching section. Under the direct control of the conference, a “Planning Strategy Room” and “director/section chief meetings” consisting of an assistant of the President and academic deans maintain and operate all duties of teaching section. Communication between the corporate business and the University is smooth and the leadership of the tops and a system to draw suggestions of teachers and staff are maintained. Duties are implemented and maintained under appropriate organizations, and skills of the staff are improved accordingly. The “middle-term plan 2020”, which was taken over from the “middle-term management plan” targeting balance of payment, aims at establishing appropriate financial operation and financial grounds. The accounting procedures are properly conducted and accounting audits are strictly conducted.

#### “Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

The University defined its code in 2002 and established a Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee consisting of members appointed by the President. In 2010, its certification was evaluated and a report of Self-Inspection and Evaluation was published on the website. Since then, respective committees and sections have conducted Self-Inspection and Evaluation annually and the whole University published the results of Self-Inspection and Evaluation in 2014. What remains to be seen is establishment of a teaching Institutional Research (IR) function to share the results throughout the whole University. However, Self-Inspection and Evaluation is performed based on the evidence that each department in charge collected and analyzed to understand the current situation, and the whole University makes efforts to recognize the current situation. The result of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation is examined and discussed repeatedly through the plan-do-check-action (PDCA) cycle of each committee and section, and the PDCA cycle of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation committee, and furthermore in the Faculty Council to approach systematic improvement and reformation.

In general, the University is practicing appropriate education which pursues the mission and objectives while adhering to related laws and based on the spirit of foundation. The University especially reviews its own role in this age of a decrease in 'age 18' population and ongoing depopulation, and makes continuous efforts to faithfully establish “cooperation and coexistence with local society” and “circulation of local human resources”, while enhancing a “feeling of trust for learning in a local University” to “create a region.” We hope the University can accomplish these goals.

Please see the general comments of the standard for “Standard A. Cooperation with Society” defined as a unique framework of the college based on its mission and goals.