

# International University of Japan (国際大学)

## Evaluation summary

### **Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.**

The University's mission, goals and educational objectives are clear, and their meaning and contents have been specifically and lucidly expressed in text. The Founding Principles of the Graduate School of the International University of Japan state its individuality and distinctive quality, and teaching practices are appropriately conducted. The International University of Japan Regulations stipulate its goals as do the Regulations Regarding the Objectives of the Graduate School of the International University of Japan; these are compliant with laws, while at the same time they are also continuously reviewed to make them swiftly adaptable to societal changes. In the 2017 academic year a new President took charge of the University, and in pursuit of the new vision of "Creating a center for Japan to relay information to the world through Niigata" (where the University is located), has sought to gain the understanding of the executives, faculty and staff regarding all sorts of organizational initiatives as immediate and varied social responses, as well as attempting to publicize them both on-campus and outside of the University. In order to improve the effectiveness of these efforts, a mid-term management reform plan has been formulated, the New Vision Committee established, and vital matters pertaining to the operation of the University are becoming shared.

### **Standard 2. Learning and Teaching**

The University's policy regarding the admission of students has been clarified and efforts to publicize it are thorough, innovation is witnessed and appropriate numbers of students are admitted. The educational curriculum and teaching methods display some innovation with the adoption of a three-semester school year system and the standardization of credits required to complete each term. With regards to support for learning and class instruction, the state of learning is reflected in systematic reforms, and effective learning support measures have been created. There are clear standards regarding awarding credits and certifying completion, and these are stringently operated. With regard to career guidance, those seeking employment are provided with support in a consistent and meticulous manner from admittance through to graduation. Feedback concerning the degree to which educational objectives are being attained and the evaluation thereof, namely the state of learning achievement, are shared among the Faculty Council, and this feedback is also provided to the students themselves. With respect to student services, there is a support system for international students who cannot speak Japanese that includes a guidebook covering all aspects of student life, and guidebooks on dealing with illness and emergency are also distributed to them. In the areas of assignment of faculty and staff development, the securing and posting of faculty with sophisticated English language abilities is achieved in response to tuition languages, and careful consideration is also paid to the balance of the age of faculty. With regard to the equipping of the educational environment, the ample campus has been furnished with functional and appropriate facilities.

### **Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance**

The articles of endowment stipulate the sincere observance of the Basic Act on Education and School Education Act with regard to management discipline and integrity, while the employment regulations stipulate adherence to their provisions as a disciplinary regulation through which discipline and integrity is maintained. The Executive Committee is functioning as a permanent executive body. As a body to support the realization of decisions made by the President and debate and coordinate on a cross-university basis, the University Committee was established, a system for the rapid execution of administrative work has been adopted, and the President's leadership is exercised in an appropriate manner. Communication and governance involves the participation of the trustees of the administration division and the education and learning division, and inter-departmental coordination within the University is being achieved. The duties of auditors are stipulated in the articles of endowment. With regard to the functionality of administrative execution, the fundamentals of the administrative organization and dividing-up of administration are clearly documented, and the University's incorporated entity and the University's administration are efficiently conducted. In

terms of the financial base and fiscal balance, financial operations are carried out according to the Five-Year (2013 to 2017) Management Reform Plan, targets are being reached on schedule with the plan, and the income and expenditures balance is improving. Accounting audits are strictly implemented by an external audit firm.

#### **Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation**

The appropriateness of self-inspection and evaluation implementation is stipulated in the University Regulations, and pursuant to these the International University of Japan Self-Inspection and Evaluation Regulations are stipulated. The University Committee and below it the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee with the President acting as Chairperson have been established, and independent and autonomous self-inspection and evaluation is conducted according to the JIHEE standards. With regard to integrity, self-inspections and evaluations are in accordance with the JIHEE evaluation standards for institutional evaluation and accreditation (Universities), and self-evaluations are conducted based on the data collated. Moreover, the educational information contained in the managed data is published on the University's website, and transparency maintained. With regard to effectiveness, the International University of Japan Self-Inspection and Evaluation Regulations stipulate that the results of self-inspections and evaluations are to be effectively used in reforming, improving and developing education and research, and through the University Committee the President directly makes use of the results and reflects them in reforming, improving and developing education and research.

In summary, as a graduate school with two graduate schools the University represents a pioneering entity among Japan's graduate universities. It was established in the year 1982 with the support of the financial sector and cooperation of the local community. The university aims to be unique by following a concrete policy that encompasses responding to social needs by conducting sophisticated research, and in principle using the English language for education from the perspective of fostering human resources who have a high likelihood of being accepted internationally. Under these high-minded ideals the University operates and makes a practical contribution to society. Thirty-five years after its establishment it has international students from over 50 nations, responds to changes in domestic and overseas circumstances, and aims to build itself into a global-based professional school. It is to be hoped that the University continues to develop in all directions.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. The internationalization of universities" and "Standard B. Social contributions maximizing the global environment" should be referred to.