

SAPPORO INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (札幌国際大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The University's articles of endowment stipulate that its mission and goals are to foster human resources with abundant humanity and to contribute to society. The University emphasizes character-building through a spirit of freedom, independence and self-contemplation, and fostering adults who will contribute to creativity in community life and developing international society. It has clarified its individuality and distinctive quality, and the contents of which strictly comply with the School Education Act and other relevant laws. In order to respond to social changes and needs the university is conducting reforms to its educational system including the establishment of new departments and the renaming of existing departments. The University endeavors to gain understanding of its mission, goals and educational objectives by publicizing them on its website, and in campus guides and on-campus displays. In addition, it stipulates medium-term targets and plans to address educational quality assurance and is tackling the issue of educational reform, as well as seeking to reflect these efforts in its three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy. The University is arranged as an educational and research organization in line with its education objectives, and is being operated in an appropriate manner.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

The policy on student admission for each faculty and department is clearly shown and publicized with the goal of fostering human resources who have close ties with the local community and will open up new avenues for it, and who are also aware of their responsibilities and have ambitions to contribute to society. The appropriate admittance of students pursuant to the enrollment quotas is currently under deliberation, mainly by the Management Strategy Council etc. In line with the design policy the educational curriculum is systematically arranged into liberal arts education, specialized education and career education, and innovation in teaching methods can be witnessed in the SIU (Sapporo International University) liberal arts program, which illustrates the University's unique feature of "walking hand-in-hand with Hokkaido." Clear standards have been set regarding the awarding of credits, promotion to the next school year, certifying graduation and completion, and these are stringently applied. Career education is a common course provided to all the students in every faculty and department, and appropriate guidance is given regarding social and professional independence on an extracurricular basis. The University grounds and the surface area of the buildings satisfy the Standards for Establishment of Universities, and the library and gymnasium etc. are appropriately located and equipped.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The objectives of the University's incorporated entity are stipulated in the articles of endowment, the organizational system and various regulations requisite for their realization have been prepared and are appropriately operated. In order to reinforce the management strategy the Incorporated Educational Institution Sapporo International University Management Strategy Council is held, and continues to diligently work towards the University's mission and goals. The Board of Directors is appropriately operated pursuant to the articles of endowment, a University Council consisting of the Chair of the Board of Directors and executive directors has been established and a system is in place that aims to attain the missions and goals of the University. The President's authority and responsibilities are clearly stated in the University Regulations, and decision-making and the execution of business is conducted in a suitable manner. With regard to the administrative organization, there are regulations pertaining to the University's incorporated entity secretariat in the Division of Duties Regulations for the Incorporated Educational Institution Sapporo International University Secretariat, and regulations pertaining to the University secretariat in the Division of Duties Regulations for the Sapporo International University Secretariat, both of which clarify their authority and responsibilities, and are functioning correctly. The fiscal balance of the University alone

over the single academic year tends towards expenditures outstripping income, but the University's incorporated entity's overall assets are being kept stable over the long term.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

A Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee was established in the 1993 academic year in order to help the University reach its goals and social mission, and ever since that point self-inspection and self-evaluation initiatives have been regularly implemented. The standards are checked in advance by the Committee, and the consistency between the states of the enterprises of each department and University's mission and goals questioned. Reply sheets regarding initiatives and progress in the teaching workplace and the efforts that go in to them, innovation, results and issues, are submitted on an individual basis by faculty members. Surveys on students' education and learning, extracurricular activities and welfare are accumulated and stored as fixed-point data over the years. Evaluations of the content of self-inspection and self-evaluation results are deliberated over by the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, submitted to the President as reports and written opinions. The President effectively uses these reports and written opinions as basic material for the execution of business in each faculty, department and administration-related department, thereby creating mechanisms for the reforming and improving of the university's operations and their appropriate functions.

In summary, the University is conducting education, based on strong collaborative links with the local community, which emphasizes character-building through a spirit of freedom, independence and self-contemplation, and the fostering of adults who can contribute to creativity in community life and the development of international society.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. Provision of educational opportunities" and "Standard B. industry-academia-government alliances" should be referred to.