

Seinan Jo Gakuin University (西南女学院大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The mission of the University is the fostering of women who will put into practice the founding principles of gratitude and service, and this mission is specifically and clearly stipulated in the University Regulations, and concisely documented. The University sets its individuality and distinctive quality as the nurturing of promising human resources based on women's education, pursuant to Christianity. It also has in place a system for reviewing its mission and goals in response to the state of society. With regard to its mission, goals and educational objectives, based on the guidelines of the University's incorporated entity the understanding and support of the executives, faculty and staff are appropriately obtained, and the mission, goals and objectives are also displayed on the University website and made widely known. The future plans for the University have been formulated according to its mission, goals, educational objectives and the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy. These plans cite the targets of being a university and junior college rooted in and walking hand-in-hand with the local community, and creating a university and junior college where educational standards are high and there is a support system for students. Regarding the mission, goals and educational objectives and the composition of the educational and research organization, the requisite faculties and departments have been established, and an educational and research organization developed.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

A curriculum policy is clearly stipulated based on the founding principles and educational objectives. Training and tuition evaluation questionnaires are conducted with the objective of encouraging innovation, development and improvements in teaching methods. Innovation is displayed in the formats of the entrance examinations, in line with the University's admission policy. The syllabus indicates the behavioral goals students should attain, evaluations of attainment level, concrete rules of thumb for attainment and learning assignment (preparation and revision) etc., and has been innovatively designed to ensure students approach their studies in an active and autonomous manner.

From the perspective of preventing the students from leaving the University or taking extended leave advisor faculty members enthusiastically involve themselves with the students, the faculty and staff share information and provide meticulous guidance, and countermeasures have been drawn up to discover problems at an early stage. As a method for the inspection and evaluation of the degree to which educational objectives are being obtained the faculty produce "reflection cards" in response to the tuition evaluation questionnaires, the state of progress is tied in with the diploma policy, and objectively analyzed according to numerical values and written statements

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The University's articles of endowment state the observance of laws and the implementation of women's education based on Christianity. Ongoing efforts are being made towards the realization of the University's goals, and maintenance and development of the University's incorporated entity as a whole. In order to ensure flexible and strategic decision-making by the Board of Directors, an Executive Committee has been established. In order to assist in the discussions of the Board of Directors, and serve as an organization for examining matters related to administration, the University Council has been established. At this Council, the heads of both the management and the education and learning divisions attend and contribute to improvements in communication and mutual checking. The President exercises leadership in decision-making and the execution of administration. The Faculty Council is functioning as stated in the University Regulations by discussing matters of importance to the University and as a forum where the President can express opinions when making decisions. The university's accounting procedures are conducted appropriately and in line with both the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions and the University's own internal accounting regulations. With regard to the University's fiscal state, budgets appropriate to the

University's income are planned and executed, operation income and expenditure balance are in the black, a fiscal balance is maintained and the reserve ratio is high and stable. A medium-to-long-term plan has been formulated citing the targets of a 100% enrollment rate, personnel measures and a plan to curb personnel costs, and efforts are being made to further stabilize the financial base.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

Evidence-based self-inspections and evaluations are carried out annually, and with a high degree of transparency. The Education & Learning Institutional Research (IR) Promotion Office has been established in order to assist in decision-making concerning education and student support and reform planning, as well as the cross-departmental provision of information. The Office is striving to collaborate with all the relevant departments, collate information and analyze it. The results of self-inspections and evaluations are compiled in the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Reform Report, and based on the evaluations of the plans for the academic year in question and the action taken as a result of those plans, a format detailing the specific reform measures and prospects for the coming academic year acts as a mechanism that leads to the permeation of an awareness about the PDCA cycle and reform and improvements.

In summary, the University is dealing with education and research in line with its founding principles, mission and goals. It sets its individuality and distinctive quality as the nurturing of promising human resources based on women's education, pursuant to Christianity. Students are admitted in an appropriate manner and in line with the admission policy, while the University is also diligently working on establishing a stable financial and management base. It is also pursuing the development and improvement of faculties and departments to meet the changing times and social environment.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. Permeation of the founding principles" and "Standard B. Social contribution" should be referred to.