

Toyama University of International Studies (富山国際大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

Following its incorporated entity's founding principles of high intelligence, wide learning, healthy and rich individuality, the University centers its basic ethos on a spirit of coexistence and symbiosis, and clearly stipulated its mission and goals in the University Regulations. These are also made known both on-campus and outside of the University in printed materials such as student handbooks, university guides and application guidelines, as well as on the University website, during open campuses and explanatory meetings for prospective students.

The inspection and revision of the University's mission and goals is conducted on a university-wide basis including the Operation Council and Faculty Council, and has the understanding of the executives, faculty and staff. Faculty reform and initiatives are conducted flexibly according to changes in social circumstances.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

An admission policy is stipulated for each faculty and department, and it is shown and publicized in student application guidelines and on the University's website. A basic policy in line with the admission policy is set for selecting entrants, and the University is striving to secure students by designing a variety of methods for selecting entrants. The educational curriculum and teaching methods are operated according to the liberal arts education and faculties' curriculum policy, and an organizational system is in place. With regard to support for learning and class instruction a support system has been prepared through collaboration between faculty and staff, and meticulous measures taken to prevent drop-outs. The awarding of credits and certifying of graduation and so on is in line with the diploma policy, and appropriately shown in student handbooks and on the University's website. Furthermore, organized initiatives aimed at career guidance and the enrichment of student support are implemented, while a graduation questionnaire evaluating the attainment of educational objectives is conducted and feedback about it provided to the students. The placement of the faculty is in line with the Standards for Establishment of Universities, and internal regulations for faculty evaluation have been stipulated and are implemented. In addition, regular Faculty Development (FD) study groups are held to assure the quality of staff.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The University's administrative system is in line with the articles of endowment, and operations are appropriately conducted while maintaining management discipline and integrity. Simultaneously, improvements are being made towards stable management, education and research, and the University displays continuous diligence in attempting to realize its missions and goals. The President's Office and Planning Headquarters have been established in order to assist the appropriate execution of leadership by the President; they oversee administration related to the reform of the University's operations, and strive to secure close collaboration with the relevant organizations. All the various regulations are compliance with relevant laws and appropriately enforced. The results of efforts in management reform in order to improve the financial base of the University and bring it out of the red, into which it had fallen for well over ten years, have pulled the expenditure and income balance back into the black since the 2013 academic year, and the financial base has subsequently been stable up until the current academic year.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

Independent and autonomous self-inspection and evaluation activities are conducted pursuant to the University's mission and goal and in line with the University Regulations and the Toyama University of International Studies Self-Inspection and Evaluation Implementation Guidelines. The implementation system centers on the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, while the methodology is coordinated by the President's Office and is consistently implemented. With regard to self-inspection and evaluation, data from each faculty and the Division of Academic

Administration, as well the entrance exam center is collated and self-inspections and evaluations are evidence-based and objectively conducted. In conjunction, an Institutional Research (IR) Promotion Team has been established within the University, which works on the collation and analysis of information. The results of self-inspections and evaluations have been made shareable through the University' file sharing service, and the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Report and the main data are made widely available on the University website. A PDCA cycle mechanism is functioning in line with the Action plan 2014-2017.

In summary, education corresponding to the mission and goals based on the University's founding principles and the educational objectives cited by each department is being conducted and the University is appropriately operated. Furthermore, an organization has been constructed to swiftly respond to societal change, and the University has been selected as one of the universities taking part in the Program for Promoting Regional Revitalization by Universities as Centers of Community (COC+ Program), and while taking initiatives in community contribution is adequately exercising its individuality. With regard to management, administration, and finance, ceaseless efforts such as the formulation of the new management reform plan are made, and the University is working towards the establishment of a stable financial base.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. International interaction and collaboration" and "Standard B. Local community collaboration" should be referred to.