

Heian Jogakuin (St.Agnes) University (平安女学院大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

Based on the spirit of Christianity, the University implements practical teaching focused on small-group instruction, experiential learning, and hands-on education. In addition to thoroughly disseminating its founding principles, the University presented the “Heian Jogakuin (St. Agnes’) Mission Statement,” formulated by the Chair of the Board of Directors, in the 2003 academic year. In the 2008 academic year, the University identified “Discipline, Knowledge, and Love” as the three outstanding qualities to be acquired by students, and is endeavoring to thoroughly spread the principle of women’s education of “nurturing distinguished women”. Furthermore, in line with the University’s principles, a Faculty of International Tourism and Faculty of Child Studies have been established, and the University’s mission and goals are being revised in response to changes in social conditions and needs for human resources development, education, and research.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

As measures for accepting entrants in accordance with the University’s policy on student admission, a diversity of selection methods for entrants is practiced. The University is enhancing its internship program with such initiatives as “Business Internships” in the Faculty of International Tourism and “Experiential Learning I and II” courses in the Faculty of Child Studies, and meticulous career support is being provided. Aggregate results for tuition evaluation questionnaires are posted in the University’s internal website, making them available for students to check. A system has been created for ascertaining the opinions of students through questionnaires on student life. Class sizes for lectures are appropriately managed, and small-group instruction is carried out.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The University formulates the Medium-term Management Plan and is making continuous efforts to realize its mission and goals while checking social conditions and the University’s internal situation. Because the Chair of the Board of Directors also performs the role of the President, there is close communication between the administrative organs of the University’s incorporated entity, such as the Board of Directors, and the administrative organs of the University, such as the Faculty Council, and each of the University divisions, enabling smooth decision-making. A system for consulting the opinions of faculty and staff has been created whereby suggestions and proposals from faculty and staff are submitted in writing and reflected in efforts to improve organizational operations. Internal regulations related to laws and ordinances regarding the establishment and operation of universities are being prepared. Accounting procedures are carried out based on various regulations, and appropriate accounting procedures are being implemented in compliance with the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

The University has formulated Self-Inspection and Evaluation Regulations and established a Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, and carries out independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations. The University Management Office President’s Planning Team and Institutional Research (IR) Promotion Office gather basic internal data and oversee implementation of objective and transparent self-inspections and evaluations. A Self-Inspection and Evaluation Report is made public via the University’s website. Self-inspection and evaluation results are reviewed by the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, which instructs the relevant divisions/departments to make reforms and improvements and then investigates the status of improvements at the next committee meeting. A PDCA cycle is consciously implemented, with feedback from tuition evaluation questionnaires is provided to teaching staff, and when necessary, is reflected in efforts to improve tuitions through interviews with faculty conducted by the Dean.

In summary, the University is endeavoring to thoroughly spread its founding principles, which are based on the spirit of Christianity, as well as the principle of women’s education to which the

University aspires. The University practices diverse entrant selection, is enhancing its internship program, and providing support for the enhancement of student living. The Medium-Term Management Plan has been formulated, communication between the University's incorporated entity and the University is smooth, and appropriate accounting procedures are being carried out. Independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations are being implemented, and PDCA cycles mechanisms are functioning.

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