

Wakkanai Hokusei Gakuen University (稚内北星学園大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The University's mission, goals, and educational objectives are concretely and clearly stipulated in simple language in accordance with the University's founding principles. Based on the University's mission and goals, the University has not only identified nurturing foundational strengths enabling working members of society who are savvy about Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and practical learning within the community as its individuality and distinctive qualities, but also clearly stipulated educational content that it aims to provide as a university rooted in the local community under its Management Reform Plan, which was formulated with the objective of achieving fiscal reconstruction.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

The University has clearly prescribed its admission policies in accordance with its educational principles and objectives and carries out diversified entrant selection practices; however, the University continues to experience difficulty in securing entrants, and there is a need for appropriate improvement measures to be implemented as early as possible. With regard to the educational curriculum, liberal arts courses and specialized courses based on the University's curriculum policy have been systematically organized.

In addition to emphasizing active learning, which promotes students' independent study, the University provides practical external activities from the perspective of "Machio Classes."

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

Administration is carried out appropriately based on the articles of endowment and other relevant regulations so that the University's mission and goals can be achieved. Furthermore, important matters for the University as a whole are considered through prior discussion by the "Division Directors' Council" comprising the Dean, Director of Entrance Examinations, Director of Student Affairs, and other members.

In response to declining finances due to the decrease in the number of entrants, the University formulated the "First Management Improvement Plan" in the 2008 academic year and the "Second Management Reform Plan" in the 2013 academic year, making efforts towards achieving the goals of these plans, and expectations are held for these efforts to bear fruit, including support from the local community.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

The University Regulations clearly state that self-inspections and evaluations are to be carried out, and a Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee chaired by the University President has been established. Self-inspections and evaluations are based on the Management Reform Plan, with process management carried out based on implementation management tables in line with the Management Improvement Plan. Self-inspections and evaluations are also carried out for selected University Center of Community (COC) project. The Management Reform Plan is partially revised in accordance with self-inspections and evaluations.

In summary, the University has not only clearly stipulated its mission and goals in accordance with its founding principles, but also clearly established three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy in line with concrete educational objectives and is expanding its educational and research activities. With regard to learning and teaching initiatives, the University has not only organized a systematic educational curriculum but also is implementing education emphasizing active learning. With regard to management, administration and finance, a Management Reform Plan has been formulated for the purpose of fiscal reconstruction, and efforts are being made to realize the goals of this plan. Self-inspections and evaluations are also carried out based on this plan.

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