

KAMEDA COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (亀田医療大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

Expressing its basic principle of “HEART,” the University clearly states the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy to achieve targets, concisely illustrates its mission, goals and educational objectives in student handbooks and on the University website, and strives to disseminate them among on-campus and external stakeholders. As a nurses training university situated in Kamogawa City, Chiba Prefecture, it has concluded unification agreements with Medical Corporation Tesshokai and Social Welfare Corporation Taiyokai. The University is undertaking mutual collaboration and exchange of human and intellectual resources, and is contributing to the progress of health, medical care and welfare in the local community. The University states plans and strategies for incorporating its mission and basic principles in its medium-term plan, and mission, goals and educational objectives are incorporated in the three policies. As an educational and research organization it has the Department of Nursing at the Faculty of Nursing, a library, Community Collaboration and Lifetime Learning Center, as well as a Comprehensive Research Institute, and conducts support for clinical and nursing research. It is planned that in the academic year 2019 Master's Programs in Nursing Science at the Graduate School of Nursing Science will begin.

Standard 2. Students

In line with an admission policy that is formulated based on educational objectives and made widely known, entrants are admitted, admittance is reviewed, measures are taken, and enrollment quotas are being satisfied. From the academic year 2019 the number of subjects in the regular entrance examination will be reviewed, and by measures such as increasing the number of venues where the examination can be taken it is trying to secure even higher numbers of applicants. Furthermore, the Academic Administration and Curriculum Committee, Student Support Committee, and the state exam project in the President Strategy Office have all been established, and a system for the support for learning and class instruction, student lifestyle support and career guidance is in place. The campus and buildings satisfy the Standards for Establishment of Universities and are appropriately managed, and the facilities for practical training and library are being effectively used. The level of convenience of equipment and facilities, such as gender-free multipurpose toilets and barrier free design is high, and the learning environment has been developed and improved with the appropriate management of the number of students taking classes etc. Responses to student opinion and requests are made through the installation of a “VOICE Box” where students can share their views. The functionality of the tutor system is effective in all forms of support.

Standard 3. Educational curriculum

Diploma and curriculum policies have been formulated based on educational objectives, and

disseminated on the University's website. The standards for awarding credits, promotion to the next school year, and certifying graduation based on the diploma policy are made widely known through the student handbooks etc. and are stringently applied. Consistency between the curriculum policy and the diploma policy is secured, and the educational curriculum is systematically organized in accordance with the curriculum policy. Nine essential factors based on the three policies are illustrated for inspecting and evaluating the learning achievement, and forms evaluating the degree to which practical nursing abilities have been acquitted by students are created. In order to improve the educational content/methods and learning guidance the Class Evaluations by Students Questionnaire is conducted, and in line with the Faculty Class Evaluation Guidelines the faculty analyze the class evaluations by students and use these to improve their teaching in the next academic year. The inspection and evaluation results together with an outline of the results of the class evaluation questionnaires are incorporated into the Department of Nursing Evaluations, and are available in the library, providing feedback to students.

Standard 4. Faculty and Staff

As an auxiliary system for the President, the posts of Vice President, and Special Assistant to the President, as well as the President Strategy Office have been created and the President's Special Project has been launched. There is a system in which items related to the University's operation, education and research are debated by committees and then reported to the President, and education and learning management are constructed in a manner wherein the President's leadership in the University's decision-making is exercised and consideration is paid to the appropriate decentralization of authorities and roles and clear definition of responsibilities. The employment and promotion of faculty in line with their educational objectives and curriculum etc. is appropriately carried out in line with the Kameda University of Health Sciences' Faculty Selection Regulations and the Kameda University of Health Sciences' Faculty Selection Criteria. Implementation of faculty evaluation is in line with the Kameda University of Health Sciences' Regulations Concerning Faculty Achievement Evaluations. The Academic Ability Improvement Measures Committee and the On-site Training Report Council make recommendations on improving the educational content/methods, while according to the Operation Council's plans Faculty Development (FD) and Staff Development (SD) activities are carried out to improve the quality and ability of faculty and staff. The full-time faculty are provided with education and research expenses, in addition to which special research expenses are paid from the President's discretionary expenses, and an information environment and research support system are in place.

Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance

Under the strict observance of laws and regulations, operations paying consideration for environmental conservation, human rights and security are underway, as are the maintenance of management discipline and integrity, and continuous efforts to achieve the mission and goals. In order to improve the functions of the Board of Directors a Management Council has been set up in

the University's incorporated entity, and cross-checks are run on the sharing of information and administrative procedure between the University's incorporated entity and the University itself. The selection of executives and the Board of Directors and Board of Councilors are appropriately run under the leadership of the Chair of the Board of Directors and in pursuant to the articles of endowment. The system to enable strategic decision-making for achieving the mission and goals is developed, improved and functioning. Operation Council has been established in the University, and is collaborating with the Management Council, Board of Directors, and Board of Councilors. As a result of the five-year medium-term plan launched in the academic year 2016 the key financial ratios in the academic year 2017 improved, and in response to this the medium -term plan was revised during the academic year 2018 to run from 2018-2022 in order to reflect various measures including further expenditure savings, and attempts are being made to secure a stable financial base and fiscal balance. The University's accounting procedures are appropriate and a three-type audit integrated system is in place.

Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance

In order to achieve the University's mission and goals the President's Strategy Office has been established, and is composed of the Evaluation Division and Institutional Research (IR) Division. It conducts independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations. The Evaluation Division aims to reform and improve education through a review system concerning the educational program and awarding of degrees based on class evaluation and originating with the three policies. The IR Division conducts swift decision-making in order that the PDCA cycle works effectively, through the integrated management of information. Self-inspections and evaluations are evidence-based, conducted based on the inspection and evaluation of learning achievement, and the opinions of external evaluators are listened to. An effective medium-term plan was formulated to address opinions in the Financial Circumstances and Results of Research into the State of Development of Facilities Following the Authorization of Amendments to Articles of Endowment Regarding Establishment of Universities (FY2015), and the University has developed a permanent organizational and responsibility system, and a mechanism for internal quality assurance is functioning. In addition, the University makes the results of self-inspections and evaluations public through its website, and is fulfilling its responsibilities to society.

In summary, the University is, through its mission, goals and educational objectives based on its basic principles, contributing to improving the maintenance of the health of the local community as a nursing university based in the South Boso area of Kamogawa City, Chiba Prefecture. Moreover, in order to respond to the increasingly aging population of Japan and the dwindling birthrate, as well as the onset of globalization, the University aims to cultivate nurses who are prepared to be part of international society and are equipped with "comprehensive and high practical skills." The University is also striving to create a system for assuring a reformatory cycle in order to develop education and research that can respond to what society entrusts it with.

Note that with regard to the University's unique standards, the general comments on "Standard A. Community collaboration and international interaction" should be referred to.

It should be noted that the University has cited the following remarks.

1. The tutor system
2. Supports systems for continuing to the graduate school
3. The introduction of electronic devices