

Kyoto Arts and Crafts University (京都美術工芸大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The mission, goals and educational objectives of the University are, through education and research related to arts and crafts, to foster specialist professionals who can serve in handing down Japanese traditions and the creation of culture, and contribute to the development of the nation and society, all of which is concisely put into writing. Furthermore, the nurturing of the three strengths of “basic strengths as members of society,” “academic strength,” and “practical professional strengths” is clearly shown as the individuality and distinctive quality of the University through student handbooks and the University’s website.

The mission, goals and educational objectives are incorporated in the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy, and shared by the executives, faculty and staff.

Standard 2. Students

An admission policy for student admission has been set in line with the educational objectives, and the selection of entrants is conducted in various distinctive manners. The Department of Arts and Crafts is not obtaining sufficient enrollment quotas but the University as a whole is more or less securing total capacity. Support for learning and class instruction is conducted pursuant to the University’s guidance policy, interviews with all students are implemented through collaboration between faculty and staff, and efforts are being made to provide the necessary assistance. With regard to career development and qualification acquisition various support programs are planned and operated centering on the Career Support Center from the first year onwards and in an integrated manner. Issues relating to student services are dealt with by the Student Affairs Division of the Education and Learning Committee, and student assistance is implemented through the University’s independent financial support and other measures. The campus and buildings are spread over two campuses but most of the usual lessons take place at the Higashiyama Campus where, according to the type of lessons and the number of students attending classes, conference and lecture rooms are in place to enable the management of lessons in appropriate class sizes. Student opinion and requests concerning support for learning and class instruction and the improvement of teaching are ascertained through student interviews and class questionnaires covering the entire University. These are utilized in making improvements towards the educational content of the next academic year.

- In line with the educational objective of cultivating specialist professionals, meticulous career guidance is provided in a systematic manner, and the fact that among the results cited is the way it is possible to obtain a second class architect’s license etc. while still at the University is worthy of evaluation.
- At the Higashiyama Campus that was created by renovating a prestigious primary school facility blends in well with the surrounding environment, the University maintains a gallery in which a

permanent collection of high-quality works of art can be viewed, and has spaces for active learning. These features offer an excellence leaning environment for both the fields of arts and crafts and architecture, which merit evaluation.

Standard 3. Educational curriculum

In line with its educational objectives a diploma policy is stipulated for the whole University, and based on this the standards for awarding credits, promotion to the next school year, and certifying graduation are clarified. According to the curriculum policy the educational curriculum is systematically organized and incorporates practical professional content in its liberal arts education, specialized education and other courses. Lectures, seminars and practical training are implemented in formats suiting each type of lesson. The mechanisms for inspection and evaluation of learning achievement based on the three policies are being developed by means of ascertaining students' volition to study through utilizing grade point average (GPA), syllabus reviews, and the provision to faculty of feedback from class questionnaires. In addition, hearings with companies are held through the introductions of former students, and these are useful in improving educational content and methods.

Standard 4. Faculty and Staff

In order to establish education and learning management centering on the President, various University regulations are more or less in place. However, with regard to the important matters concerning education and research that should be stipulated by the President and listened to by the Faculty Council the internal regulations have yet to be prepared. As a system to support the President the Vice President who takes charge of the University's administration and the Vice President who takes charge of matters related to education and research are assigned, a system through which the President's leadership can be exercise has been established, and education and learning management is functioning. With regard to the employment and promotion of faculty, a policy and regulations for employment and promotion have been developed. The FD (Faculty Development) Promotion Committee etc. are functioning to improve and develop educational content and methods, and faculty evaluation is carefully carried out. With the aim of improving the quality and ability of faculty and staff, Staff Development (SD) Faculty Development (FD) Joint Workshops are held and external training participated in. Support for research is implemented according to the University's Research Fund Regulations for Individuals, while Operation and Management Regulations etc. for Publicly Funded Research have been drawn up for external funds, and the University strive towards proper administration.

Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance

The regulations etc. requisite for management have been prepared, centering on the articles of endowment. The University is operated according to the University Operation Policy that is formulated each academic year by the University Operation Council, and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is operated in line with the articles of endowment, and the

attendance record of the directors is good. The Executive Committee has been established, and appropriately conducts decision-making about day-to-day management issues. The selection of directors is carried out according to the articles of endowment, and by circulating for perusal the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings among the auditors and managers of the University's incorporated entity efforts are made to share the decisions of the Board of Directors across the whole of the University's incorporated entity. Communication and collaboration between the University's incorporated entity and the University itself is conducted smoothly through the Executive Committee etc.

With regard to the financial status of the University, although the operation income and expenditure balance continues to be in the red, the situation has increasingly improved in recent years. With regard to the University's incorporated entity as a whole, although the retention ratio has been below the national average over recent years, the operation income and expenditure balance has been in the black for the past five years, and as it has no borrowings its financial status is healthy. Accounting Regulations for accounting procedures in line with the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions have been stipulated, and the results of audits are also appropriate.

Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance

A permanent organization for internal quality assurance and a mechanism to assure those responsibilities are more or less in place centered on the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, and mutual collaboration is being achieved between the University's incorporated entity, Faculty Council, University Operation Council, committees, and administration center etc. Self-inspections and evaluations for internal quality assurance are conducted independently and autonomously on an annual basis since the establishment of the University in line with the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee Regulations and Self-Inspection and Evaluation Implementation Guidelines. In addition to making the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Report public, efforts are made to share it within the University.

In summary, the University's education, in line with its mission, goals and educational objectives as well as the three policies, is achieving results towards the fostering of specialist professionals with the development of creativity and ingenuity in its educational content and methods. The University's career guidance preparations are careful and thorough. Management and administration are appropriately conducted, communication and collaboration between the University's incorporated entity and the University are maintained, and it operates in an integrated manner. With regard to its finances, the University is striving to achieve a healthy fiscal balance. An organization and responsibility system for internal quality assurance revolving around self-inspections and evaluations has been more or less developed.

Note that with regard to the University's unique standards, the general comments on "Standard A. Social contribution/ community contribution" should be referred to.

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

1. Acquisition of architect qualifications while still attending the University
2. Exhibition at Kiyomizu-dera Temple