

Hiroshima International University (広島国際大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

According to the idea of “being a university that builds world peace centering on healthcare, medical care and welfare”, the institution was founded with two faculties and five departments in 1998, and is now a medicine-oriented comprehensive university after reorganization and addition of faculties and departments.

The institution has clearly defined its current mission and objectives: “To foster professionals who can put themselves in the position of others and provide people-friendly medical care, and to promote research activities that contribute to the health and happiness of all people, and finally contribute to society”. It has gained the understanding and support of officers and school staff for such a mission and objectives, and publicized them internally and externally. It has reflected the mission, goals and educational objectives in its mid- and long-term plans, and three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy), and created education and research organizations necessary to achieve them. The features of a medicine-oriented comprehensive university, and educational objectives of each faculty and department, which were shown on the website, have complied with the School Education Act.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution has implemented various forms of entrance examinations according to the admission policies for each department and course. To deal with the low replenishment rate of student quotas in some departments, it has taken measures, such as reorganization of faculties and departments, and reduction of entrant quotas, and substantially secured an adequate number of students. It has designed educational curricula that meet its educational objectives, and has worked on “specialist collaboration education” across faculty and departmental boundaries. It has created a structure to ensure cooperation among faculties, departments, teachers and other school staff, and promoted learning support by teaching assistants (TAs) and senior students.

To promote improvement in classroom teaching methods, the institution conducted “student satisfaction surveys” and “open classes” for teachers’ mutual evaluation, and has performed procedures for accreditation, promotion and graduation/completion certification based on explicit criteria. It has provided enriched career education and placement assistance, and delivered coherent support services from admission to graduation. By creating organizations for student services, welfare and guidance, the institution established a system to provide support for students not only on the economic front but also in extracurricular activities, and the system is working properly. It has appointed an adequate number of teachers based on the Standards for Establishment of Universities, and made efforts to improve teachers’ qualities and abilities, including teacher evaluation and faculty development (FD). It has properly maintained and managed a learning environment necessary to achieve its educational objectives, including school premises, buildings, facilities and equipment.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

In accordance with the rules for administrative operations, such as the articles of endowment, the governing body of the institution established the board of directors and the board of councilors, which discussed and decided important matters, including business plans, budgets, accounting settlements, and formulation/revision/abolition of important rules. By formulating a “mid-term goal and plan” periodically and reflecting a review of this plan in the business plan, it has made continuous efforts to achieve its mission and objectives.

The decision-making organization of the school organization was properly established under the leadership of the principal and the deputy principal, and has functioned well. Respective committees were operated effectively, and an appropriate mechanism to make decisions from the bottom up was created. Audits on operations of the school corporation as a whole by an auditor-general, accounting audits by an auditing firm, and accounting and performance audits by an internal audit office under the direct control of the administrative director, were conducted on an ongoing basis. Thus, an appropriate threefold auditing system has been built.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

The institution has independently and autonomously implemented self-inspection and evaluation to achieve its mission and objectives under a school-wide implementation system led by the “Hiroshima International University Self-Evaluation Committee”. It compiled a self-inspection and evaluation report summarizing the results, which was publicized internally and externally. By developing goals for each division, faculty and department according to the “administrative director’s policy” and the “principal’s policy” announced annually by the administrative director and the principal, respectively, based on the mid- and long-term goals, and conducting a self-inspection and evaluation by any third party in the institution, it has established a PDCA cycle.

The institution has conducted “student awareness and trend surveys”, publicized the results, and performed verification and analysis on the progress of improvement. It established the Institutional Research (IR) Center to collect and analyze various kinds of internal and external information, and utilize the results for education, research and university management.

To sum up, the institution has properly established and operated its faculty and department structure, education and research organizations, educational environment, and student support system according to its mission and objectives. It has made diverse efforts, including learning instruction in collaboration with parents and financial incentive programs for local contribution projects planned voluntarily by students, which have demonstrated its educational concept for student independence. It has properly established a management and administration system, and established a stable financial base.

For details of “Standard A. Collaboration with Society”, which are set forth as the institution’s unique initiative based on its mission and objectives, please refer to the general remarks on the standard.