

Hiroshima Cosmopolitan University (広島都市学園大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

According to its school philosophy of “Shin Gi Ittai (mind-body unity)”, the institution has concisely stated its mission and goals, and educational objectives for each faculty in the school rules. It was founded in 2009, and added a department in 2013 and a faculty in 2014. Each time it made such an addition, it reconfirmed its mission, goals and educational objectives to respond to changes. It created an occasion for the principal to explain its mission and objectives to gain the understanding and support of school staff, students and their parents.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution has developed its admission policy for each department, which was specified in the student recruitment guide. In terms of student recruitment, the Department of Childhood Education of the Faculty of Childhood Education has not fulfilled its student quotas, so it seems necessary to put more effort into securing students. The institution also developed a curriculum policy for each department, according to which systematic educational curricula were designed. It adopted a tutor system in which teachers in all three departments participated as one of its learning support measures. Criteria for accreditation, promotion, graduation/completion certification, etc., were defined in the school rules and other rules. As an organization to support career education, the Career Support Center was established, and provided students with job hunting support. The institution grasped the achievement of educational objectives by conducting various surveys, including class evaluation questionnaires, and accepted student opinions and requests through opinion boxes and tutors. It has appointed a sufficient number of full-time teachers to meet the Standards for Establishment of Universities, and promoted faculty development (FD) activities organizationally. Its school buildings have complied with quake-resistance standards, which shows that the safety of facilities and equipment has been ensured.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

The institution has been operated properly in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and made continuous efforts to achieve its mission and objectives. The board of directors and the board of councilors have also been operated properly in accordance with the articles of endowment. Important matters on the operations of the institution were discussed in the faculty meeting and decided after discussion by the board of directors, and their authority and responsibility were ratified. The administrative director doubled as the principal, while the deputy administrative director doubled as the deputy principal, resulting in smooth communication between the governing body and the school organization. The school has been expanded recently due to addition of a new department and faculty, while the personnel organization has functioned well under an effective executive structure. Both the whole school corporation and the university alone recorded a surplus in the imputed income and expenditure balance, which shows that a proper balance between income and expenditure has been ensured. Audits were conducted strictly under an auditing system

through cooperation between a certified accountant and an auditor-secretary.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

The institution has appropriately conducted independent and periodic self-inspections and evaluations in accordance with the “Hiroshima Cosmopolitan University Self-inspection and Evaluation Regulations”. Surveys of the current situation and collection of basic data were implemented by the Self-inspection and Evaluation Office, etc., with the aim of ensuring evidence-based self-inspection and evaluation. In order to make a PDCA cycle work effectively, the institution has established necessary organizations, including the Self-inspection and Evaluation Office, the Self-inspection Steering Committee, the Inspection and Evaluation Implementation Committee, and the FD Promotion Committee, which have helped improve and enhance the operations of the institution.

To sum up, the institution has made appropriate efforts for education and research according to its school philosophy of “Shin Gi Ittai”, and its mission and objectives specified in the school rules. It has created a new faculty and department in the short period of time since its foundation in 2009 to actively respond to changes in social situation. It has continued efforts aiming to become more attractive as a university open to local communities.

For details of “Standard A. Collaboration with and Contribution to Local Communities”, 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.