

Kagoshima Immaculate Heart University (鹿児島純心女子大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The spirit of foundation, educational philosophy, and educational objective of the Kagoshima Immaculate Heart University are consistent with each other based on Catholic mind and clearly defined. The mission and objectives are concisely and clearly expressed in the school code of the University and the graduate school. In 2011, the mission and objectives of the whole corporate business were reviewed in response to the change of social situation and time and the University organized a system to follow up. Incorporation of the mission, objectives and educational objective into middle- and long-term plan are addressed in the “Middle- and Long-term Plan of the University and Graduate School” and reflected in three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy) and more. Research bodies such as “International Culture Research Center” and “Christian Culture Research Center” are maintained as effective organizations or facilities to attain its mission, objectives and educational objective.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The University defines the admission policy of each division in line with its educational contents and policies and expresses and publishes it in guidelines for applicants, university guidance and website. Entrance examinations are conducted in a fair and reasonable manner according to the admission policy. Although some divisions have issues in unfilled entrance limits, the University is trying to analyze the cause by launching reformation project. Grade Point Average (GPA) is utilized in materials of learning guidance and educational improvement and participation standards for practical trainings. Detailed student support system by all faculty members is working. Except some divisions, there are upper limits of enrollable credits. The University offers considerate individual support by faculty members centering on the “Carrier Support Committee.” As a result, the pass rate of the national examination in 2015 was high and those of qualification and teacher employment test keep high performance. Numbers of full-time teachers in all divisions exceed the standard and quality of the teachers has been guaranteed since introduction of fixed term of employment in 2012. The educational facilities are surrounded by broad land and rich natural environment and facilities such as seismic facilities and a clinical center are well maintained.

“Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

The corporate business and the University adhere to relevant laws and regulations following the code of donative activities, etc., and streamline internal regulations to convert the objectives of the corporate business into tangible forms, and try to attain the mission and objectives of the University. Educational and financial information is published on its website according to the enforcement regulations of the School Education

Act. The University set up “Gakuen Management and Admission Conference” as a consultative body of the President and “Gakuen Purser Department Manager's Meeting” and “Gakuen Assistant General Manager’s Meeting” to streamline a system that can make strategic decision to attain its mission and objectives. A structure that the President can exert appropriate leadership were built and codes and regulations were reviewed and revised.

The University aims to review enrolment limits of departments with unfilled limit and to improve balance of payments by gaining external funds including grant money. The account procedures and regular and special audits are properly conducted based on various regulations.

“Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

The University established the “Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee” to perform periodic Self-Inspection and Evaluation according to article 60 of the school code. For practical purposes, the administrative group works to secure transparency of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation and uses cross-sectional adjust function among departments and divisions effectively to give evidence-based statements. The results of the Self-Inspection and Evaluation are published in its website and utilized in the “Planning and Faculty Development (FD) Committee” to review promotion of reformation and improvement. The faculty works on the results in the “University Management and Operation Committee” if whole university needs to be involved and in the “Gakuen Management Promoting Headquarter” if the corporate business needs to be involved.

In general, the University steadily puts Catholic-based cultural education into practice according to its mission and objectives. Teacher’s organization and educational environment related to learning and education are well organized and learning support system is adequate. Each department and division is actively working on innovation of teaching techniques and the achievement of the education is reflected in qualification status, employment test pass rate, etc. It is expected to work on accurate financial operational management in an organized way in the next middle- and long-term planning.

Please see a general comment of the standard for “Standard A. Regional Alliances and Contribution to Society” defined as a unique framework of the University based on its mission and goal.