

SUZUKA UNIVERSITY (鈴鹿大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The SUZUKA UNIVERSITY is a private university which campus is in Suzuka in the middle north of Mie Prefecture. Its original form goes back to Kyohei Business College founded in 1913. In 1994, Suzuka International University was opened, which name was changed to current Suzuka University in 2015.

The spirit of foundation is “to be an honest and trustworthy person” and four specific goals including “to be a reliable person” are presented. Article 1 of the school code defines its mission and objectives and the educational objectives of its departments and divisions are specified in the “Code of Educational and Research Goals in Departments and Divisions of Suzuka University.” Its educational research structure was originally organized as 1-department-1-division structure in the Division of International Society of the Department of International Human Science. In 2015, the University performed educational reformation and the “formation of education” was changed from 1-division-4-course structure to 1-division-2-area-6-domain structure and educational objectives of 6 domains in 2 areas were formulated.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

Its admission policy was clearly defined based on the educational objective and known to everyone through the University guidance, website, etc. In its middle-term business plan, specific policy to accept students was formulated with “acceptance power” set as a keyword, and therefore, stable fulfillment of entrance and acceptance limits can be expected. The University proceeds practical science-oriented educational reformation, which stresses expertness and transversality, by systematically restructuring its educational curriculum of the department into 2-area-6-domain structure centering on business management and multicultural coexistence, which connect “region” and “international.”

The University offers whole-university learning support with teachers’ cooperation by incorporating structures of multiple-class-teacher system in first-grade seminars, small-group system in practical-training classes, etc. and sharing information in all faculty centering on the Student Support Section. It also tries to understand students’ opinions or requests by conducting “survey on student’s life and thought” and setting “Opinion Voice” boxes on campus. In carrier education, it offers unified 4-year program including “first-grader’s seminar I” in the 1st grade and teacher’s consultation/ individual counseling on job hunting and higher education in the 4th grade, resulting in high employment rate.

Numbers of full-time teachers and professors meet the standards and exclusive teachers lecture main classes in a professional area. Educational environment including school buildings and a library is well maintained.

“Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

The University formulated “Ethical Outlines for Faculty of the Incorporated School Kyoei Gakuen” in 2011 and requires faculty and staff to contribute with ethics to accomplish their objectives and execute their mission.

The Boards of Directors and the Boards of Trustees are established and held in line with the code of donative activities and the structure of decision-making of the corporate business is properly maintained. The President attends the Board of Executive Directors held weekly and the section-head meeting including the Chairman and the President is also held periodically, resulting in smooth communication between the cooperate business and the University. Apart from Faculty Council which serves as a consultative body, “Planning and Operating Section Conference” consisting of key persons was organized to build a system where the President can take adequate leadership.

The University formulated a middle-term action plan and is conducting financial management based on it. The University completed the following reformation sequentially: the office of corporate business and junior college were relocated to the compound of the University; the corporate business was separated; executive offices of the corporate business and the University were unified; and its educational curriculum was reformed to 2-area-6-domain structure. As a result, the University and the corporate business restored profitability as a whole and entrance limit was fulfilled. The accounting procedures are working with triple-audit system of internal audit, auditor’s audit and external audit maintained.

“Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

The University formulated the “Code of Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee of Suzuka University and Its Junior College” based on the school code, which has conducted Self-Inspection and Evaluation every three years, and since 2009, published the information in its website. In 2010, it was evaluated for certification of the Japan Institution for Higher Education Evaluation.

The University organized “Institutional Research (IR) Committee” in 2015 and restructured it to “IR Promoting Section” under the “Code of Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee of Suzuka University and Its Junior College” in 2016 to build a system to collect and analyze data dispersing among sections. Structure of plan-do-check-action (PDCA) cycle was established as its unique check-action-plan-do (CAPD) cycle centering on the “Planning and Operating Section Conference,” resulting in achievements in educational reformation such as change of university name and restructuring of departments. On the other hand, there remained an issue about PDCA cycle of Self-Inspection and Evaluation and it is recommended to further improve its function as a higher education facility.

In general, the University is constantly conducting active reformation, including separation of the business corporate, change of the University name, and teaching reformation, under the strong leadership of the Chairman and the President. It also strives to improve its financial situation of the University and the corporate business as a whole

and secure entrance limit and achieves some results. In 2016, a new middle-term business plan was launched. It is expected that the University will try further to accomplish the plan goal.

Please see a general comment of each standard for “Standard A. Regional Alliances” and/or “Standard B. Multicultural Understanding” defined as a unique framework of the college based on its mission and goal.