

TOHO GAKUEN GRADUATE SCHOOL (桐朋学園大学院大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The TOHO GAKUEN GRADUATE SCHOOL specifies its mission and objectives with its spirit of foundation - “to achieve style of performance” and “to implement education of sensitivity”. The education features not only to improve individual performance skills, but also to playing together with other instruments or an orchestra, centering on “research of instrumental ensembles”. The mission, objectives, and educational objectives are clearly reflected in the middle- and long-term plan and three policies (diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy). The graduate school also fully reviews its curriculum.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The graduate school defines the admission policy and maintains the number of students properly. It also clearly defines the curriculum policy to organize its educational curriculum. Emphasizing “instrumental ensemble research”, it offers many opportunities to appear in a concert, which builds an important carrier for students who want to become musicians. Although there is no Teaching Assistant (TA) system in the graduate school, teachers and the teaching department work together to maintain learning support systems. Commencement is defined and strictly examined. Results of lecture evaluation are analyzed and examined in the “Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee” and “Research Course Committee”. A Faculty Development (FD) Committee has also been established. The area of the compound is adequate with well-maintained soundproof equipment and a well-maintained dormitory where individual students can practice freely.

“Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

The graduate school adheres to related laws and regulations, and internal regulations are in place. Information is published on its website. Since the corporate business has three schools (School for Boys, School for Girls, and School of Music), the “Corporate Business Governing Council” established under the Board of Directors plays a role in the coordination between these schools. The President attends the “Toyama Campus Conference” (a body to discuss important matters in the TOHO ORCHESTRA ACADEMY located on Toyama campus, which is an affiliated research institute of the graduate school) and “Research Course Committee”, and takes the leadership in decision-making and implementation of duties of the graduate school.

A financial simulation of Toyama campus was run and judged to be in a harsh situation, but the balance of payment is maintained. Since the financial grounds of the whole corporate business are stable, no anxiety exists in its operation. The accounting procedures are properly conducted in accordance with internal regulations in place.

“Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

The graduate school has a Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee. The Self-

Inspection and Evaluation Committee” and the “Research Course Committee” examine any improvements based on the results of Self-Inspection and Evaluation and a plan-do-check-action (PDCA) cycle is effectively working, although they are inexperienced in preparation of evaluation reports. They summarize the results as a “Report of Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee”, distribute it to all faculties, and publish it on its website.

In general, the graduate school is operated with a consistent spirit of foundation, mission, objectives, and educational objectives. Although it is a small-sized graduate school, it substantially contributes to the development and advancement of local art and culture through classical music.

Please see the general comments of the standard for “Standard A. Presentation of Research and Performance Activities” defined as a unique framework of the graduate school based on its mission and goals.