

OSAKA AOYAMA UNIVERSITY (大阪青山大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The mission, goals and educational objectives based on the University's founding principles are clearly indicated in the University Regulations etc., and these are appropriate in the light of the law. The individuality and distinctive qualities of the University lie in its scientific research on health, the healthy growth of children and the fostering of specialist professionals etc., and these are reflected in its mission, goals and educational objectives. In response to social conditions such as health problems and the lack of childcare workers when necessary the University Regulations are reviewed, new departments introduced and the development of educational and research organizations etc. is conducted. The executives, faculty and staff have united to establish the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy, the 2nd medium-term plan, and a tag line "Education Linked to a Bright Future," and these are widely publicized both on-campus and outside of the University through its website, "Concept Book," notice boards and student handbooks.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

The securing of an appropriate number of students admitted based on yearly enrollment quotas is achieved in line with admission policy and appropriate systems and methods. A more innovative approach is required in the securing of learning and class instruction that pays consideration to the upper limit of registration credits, but the systematic organization of educational curriculum that maximizes its distinctive quality in line with the curriculum policy is being conducted. In particular, the University's cross-university initiatives in the field of support for learning and class instruction on behalf of students who have problems in making academic progress deserves high evaluation. The University needs to achieve a better balance in the ages of the full-time faculty, but the requisite faculty based on the educational principles and educational curriculum of the University is in place and staff are appropriately assigned. The Osaka Aoyama History & Literature Museum is the culmination of the activities that the University has dedicated itself to on the protection of cultural assets and their use in education. It functions as a place for the practice of education, academic activities and lifelong learning for adults.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

Aiming for the realization of the University's mission and goals, the Board of Directors pays consideration to human rights and the disclosure of information, while conducting discussions and decision-making in line with the relevant laws and regulations. Improvements are required in the stipulation of vital matters pertaining to education and learning, but the President's leadership, the mechanism for decision-making and positioning of organizations are all appropriate. The check functions regarding assignment of auditors and the state of execution of work are correctly functioning, and the governance provided by cross-checks by the administrative bodies of the University's incorporated entity and the University are securing functionality.

The financial situation of the University over the past five years has seen expenditure outstripping income, and while a better balance in income and expenditure would be desirable the University's replenishment rate of student quotas is high and a management reform plan aimed at the securing of a stable financial base and fiscal balance is under implementation. The Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions and accounting procedures in line with the accounting regulations, exchanges of opinions between auditors and certified public accountants, reports, administrative and accounting audits are all strictly implemented.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

In line with the University's mission and goals the Regulations of the Osaka Aoyama University Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee have been stipulated, and based on the annually compiled Business Report a business plan is created. Through this process self-inspection and evaluation are being appropriately conducted. The Osaka Aoyama University IR Committee was established in the

2015 academic year, and is striving to improve measures based on evidence such as data collated and analyzed regarding students who withdraw from the University, and considerations of the educational approach regarding the admissions exam system and post-entrance students. With regards to the results of Self-Inspection and Evaluation a Report on Self-inspection and Evaluation is made public, through the announcement of the annual Business Report the accountability to stakeholders is fulfilled, and these are functioning as mechanisms linking to the improvement of University management including education research.

In summary, as the University seeks to reach its mission, goals and education principles, under the leadership of the President and based on the appropriate development of the educational and research organization, as well as the realization of the “small but resilient university” five-year vision outlined in the 2nd medium-to-long term plan, the executives, faculty and staff share their missions and goals while working on the cultivation of specialized professionals with health science at the core of their initiatives.

Note that with regard to the University’s unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on “Standard A. The fostering of specialized professionals in line with the University’s founding principles” should be referred to.