

KOBE UNIVERSITY OF WELFARE (神戸医療福祉大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

As a university specializing in welfare the University concisely and clearly states its mission, goals and educational objectives in the University Regulations. The university is restructuring itself in order to meet social circumstances and needs, and is dealing with change. The founding principles are shown on the University website and guidebooks etc., the Chair of the Board of Directors and the President speak about them on numerous occasions such as entrance and commencement ceremonies, and they are well-publicized both on-campus and outside of the University. The University's mission, goals and educational objectives are reflected in the medium-to-long-term plan and the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy, and consistency with the structure of the educational and research organization is pursued.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

The University stipulates three policies in line with mission, goals and educational objectives and conducts the solicitation of students and educational activities, but as enrollment quotas remain unfilled further efforts in this area are to be hoped for. Improvements to the educational curriculum and teaching methods are conducted centering on the Faculty Development (FD) Committee. In order to provide support for students a system giving them access to learning and student lifestyle consultation has been created, and there is also a system for ascertaining their circumstances and taking into account their opinions. The awarding of credits, promotion to the next school year and the certifying of graduation is conducted stringently within the University Regulations. A system has been constructed centering on a committee to provide guidance and support for those seeking employment. Faculty have been posted in line with the University's educational objectives and educational curriculum pursuant to the Standards for Establishment of Universities. Furthermore, a system to improve the quality and ability of faculty and implement liberal arts education has been constructed. The University has two campuses: Himeji Campus (Kanzaki County, Hyogo Prefecture) and Osaka Tennoji Campus, both of which are fully equipped with IT-related facilities, libraries, medical offices and student consultation offices, all of which support students.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The University strictly adheres to the School Education Act and other relevant laws, the Board of Directors, and the Board of Councilors functions properly and an administrative system has been constructed. Consideration is paid to environmental conservation, human rights and safety in line with the regulations. Educational and financial information are made public on the University website. The roles and position of the President are stipulated in the University Regulations, and the President's authorities and responsibilities are clear. The President makes decisions after listening to the opinions of the Faculty Council with regard to the stipulated matters for deliberation, and a system is in place enabling the President to exercise appropriate leadership. In order to implement smooth communication between the University's incorporated entity, education and learning department and administration department, the Chair of the Board of Directors, President and Dean convene a forum for sharing their perceptions, and strive towards decision-making that will help the University to fulfill its missions and goals. The University's incorporated entity has formulated a management reform plan, and the reform of management is to some extent succeeding. It is to be hoped that this trend continues. Accounting is carried out appropriately and in conformity with the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions, and an audit system is in place for accounting audits, which are carried out appropriately.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

A Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee has been established in line with its regulations, and is conducting independent and autonomous self-inspection and evaluation in line with its mission and goals. In order to make functional self-inspections and evaluations a Self-Inspection and Evaluation

Subcommittee has been established, and according to the evaluation by the entire faculty and staff of the annual business report compiled by various committees and of the business plan, a system for cross-university evaluation has been constructed and a PDCA cycle established. With regard to the self-inspections and evaluations conducted, the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Report is published on the University's website, and made public both on-campus and outside of the University. It is to be hoped that in the future periodic self-inspections and evaluations are implemented and their results published in order to further improve the efficacy of self-inspections and evaluations

In summary, in order to attain its mission and goals the University has three departments in its Faculty of Social Work, an educational and research system is in place and this is contributing to the local community. The Chair of the Board of Directors and the President exercise strong leadership, and the educational, research and social contribution activities that substantiate the founding principle of training for life through the development of personality. However, it is to be hoped that there are improvements to both achieving total capacity in student quotas and bolstering the University's financial state. There are also expectations that the University will send out into society the manpower that it currently requires in these changing times.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. Community collaboration and social contribution activities" should be referred to.