

TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL WELFARE (東京福祉大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

Based on the University's founding principles, the University's mission is prescribed in simple language as "Education transforms those who cannot (pupils) into those who can (students)", and is concretely conveyed to students and guardians in an easy-to-understand manner by adding further explanations. In addition, the educational objectives of faculties and divisions are prescribed in the University Regulations, and concrete images for students' futures—such as the qualifications that can be obtained through study under the University's educational curriculum and employment fields—are presented.

The University's "Compliance Declaration" was announced on September 19, 2015 and is made public via the University's website as a declaration of the University's intention to conform and comply with laws and ordinances. Formulated in 2014, the University's Medium-to-Long-Term Plan presents the University's determination and goals for achieving its founding principles and mission in the form of a long-term vision. The plan also presents concrete policies for the realization of the University's educational objectives in response to social changes and changes in environmental conditions.

The University's educational principles and educational methods are appropriately reflected in the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy. In addition, under the President's leadership, the necessary educational and research organization for achieving the University's mission has been established.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

In line with the University's admission policy, student admission methods include evaluation of thinking ability, decision-making ability, and expressive ability, and this information is made known to society.

In order to resolve the issue of University enrollment falling short of total capacity, the University has revised its advertising activities as well as organized and established new majors and courses, with the result that enrollment status has recovered to a level nearly equal to enrollment quotas and the University has been able to maintain an appropriate number of entrants. However, with the total capacity fill rate for correspondence education courses at less than 0.5%, efforts are being made to recruit students through measures such as enhancing the convenience of the learning environment.

The tuition style promoted by the University is centered on interactive dialogues and group discussions, and efforts are being made to introduce and diffuse this lesson style throughout the University. Furthermore, student tuition evaluation questionnaires and peer tuition observations are also implemented as part of efforts to improve the teaching methods of individual faculty. Academic advisors, the University-wide Academic Administration Committee and Academic Administration staff work in collaboration to provide support for learning and class instruction. Awarding credits as well as certifying graduation and completion are clearly stipulated in University Regulations and course completion manuals and are carried out strictly in accordance with these regulations. Furthermore, the University has established systems and mechanisms for regularly inspecting the status of students' achievement of educational objectives.

Support for attaining qualifications and/or licenses is provided systematically, and results are being achieved for national qualification examinations for Certified Social Worker and Psychiatric Social Workers as well as teacher employment examinations. The four University campuses all provide educational environments with facilities and equipment suitable for their respective locations, and these are generally managed appropriately.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

The University formulates the Medium-to-Long-Term Plan and strategic management of the University's incorporated entity that is functionally linked to the annual plans for each academic year is being undertaken.

Educational and financial information are made public through appropriate channels. In addition, the University has prescribed risk management regulations and compiled an evacuation instruction manual for each campus, with disaster preparedness drills carried out every year.

Decision-making procedures involving the University President, Vice President, and Deans are clearly prescribed in the Organizational Operation Regulations, and university operation is functioning effectively. When necessary, the President attends Faculty Council meetings and provides explanations and comments regarding important items related to school affairs operation, demonstrating appropriate leadership in university operation.

A “University’s Incorporated Entity/Education and Learning Section Liaison Meeting” has been established for the purposes of information-sharing and exchange of opinions between the University’s incorporated entity and the University, and is functioning effectively. “All-staff meetings” are attended by all faculty and staff (from four campuses) are held and opinions are shared about the direction in which management policy and the University should proceed and other issues.

The operation income and expenditure balance for the past five years for the University’s incorporated entity overall is generally tending to show excess revenue, and a stable fiscal balance is being maintained. With regard to external funds, the University has achieved certain results, having been selected to receive Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and introduced a system of collecting donations for building construction. Accounting procedures are in compliance with the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions, and accounting procedures based on the “Accounting Regulations”, “Regulations related to Asset Management”, and other related regulations are being implemented appropriately.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

The University has established a self-inspection and evaluation implementation system, which is operated appropriately, with the Education and Research Council and Board of Directors undertaking screening and approval regarding especially important items. Self-inspection and evaluation results are made public via the University website, thereby sharing them within the University and disclosing them to society. In addition, overviews of these results are explained based on evidence at “All-staff meetings” attended by all University faculty and staff, and the importance of self-inspections and evaluations is widely promoted.

The results of evaluations such as student tuition evaluation questionnaires and peer tuition observations are examined and assessed by the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee, after which improvement measures are formulated and reflected in targets and plans for the next academic year, and a PDCA cycle framework leading to the improvement and enhancement of education and research as well as university operation has been constructed.

In summary, “Integration of Academic and Practical” has been prescribed as a phrase symbolizing the University’s founding principles, and the University is nurturing human resources through education that is in compliance with laws and regulations. Furthermore, the University is endeavoring to improve and enhance the individuality and distinctive quality that have been implemented in order to realize the educational principles established at the time of the University’s opening, and the University’s mission and goals are steadily being achieved on each of the four campuses, including with regard to community contribution and international interaction.

Note that with regard to the University’s unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on “Standard A. Enhancement of community contribution,” “Standard B. Promotion of acceptance of international students and international interaction,” and “Standard C. Enhanced support for acquisition of Certified Social Worker and Psychiatric Social Worker qualifications” should be referred to.