

YASHIMA GAKUEN UNIVERSITY (八洲学園大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

Embodying its founding principles, the University's mission, goals and educational objectives have been clearly prescribed in the University Regulations using simple written language. The meaning and content of these have been clearly presented to society as the University's individuality and distinctive qualities. Furthermore, this content is in compliance with the School Education Act, Standards for Establishment of Universities, and other laws and regulations. With regard to the University's response to change, departments are being restructured in stages to enable the University to address diverse social changes and demands, and an integrated curriculum has been organized.

The University's mission, goals and educational objectives are understood and supported by executives, faculty and staff, and have not only been made widely known both on-campus and outside of the University but also incorporated into medium-to-long-term plans and reflected concretely in the three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy for University faculties and departments.

Standard 2. Learning and Teaching

The educational curriculum is divided into basic subjects, specialized subjects, and qualification subjects, and the curriculum policy has been clearly prescribed and made public via the University website. As a correspondence education teaching method utilizing the Internet, an independent e-learning system [e-Ly] (e-Learning System of Yasima) has been constructed, enabling students to take tuitions in an environment that feels almost face-to-face.

With regard to University facilities and equipment, the University has created an appropriate learning environment as a correspondence university.

With regard to student admissions, the University has established an admission policy, which is made known through the University's application guidelines and website. Although the University's enrollment continues to be short of total capacity, since the University is a correspondence university, initiatives such as establishing four admission periods per academic year and allowing application submission via the Internet are being implemented.

Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance

Beginning with the articles of endowment, which prescribes basic policies related to management, the University has established various regulations related to organizational ethics, and the University's incorporated entity carries out operations in compliance with the School Education Act, Private Schools Act, and other laws and ordinances pertaining to university operation and the Private Schools Act. To enable deliberation on important items related to education and research, the University has established a Faculty Council comprising all full-time faculty. The role of and items to be considered by the Faculty Council are stipulated in the "Yashima Gakuen University Faculty Council Regulations", which clearly states the decision-making authorities and responsibilities of the University President as well as the roles the Faculty Council.

The University has established an environment in which faculty and staff are able to send suggestions or seek advice from the Chair of the Board of Directors (University President) via e-mail, utilizing the Internet, creating mechanisms for gathering suggestions and ideas.

With regard to the University's financial situation, the overall income and expenditure balance carried forward to the next academic year for the University's incorporated entity shows net cash flow, while the operation income and expenditure balance has recently stabilized and is showing net cash flow.

Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation

The University has prescribed "Guidelines for Self-Inspection and Evaluation", and a self-inspection and evaluation system utilizing the characteristics of a small-scale university and led

by the General Administration Committee has been established.

Surveys are conducted and data gathered and analyzed every year in order to understand the University's current situation. Self-Inspection and Evaluation Reports are prepared based on this information and distributed to all faculty and staff, sharing them throughout the University, and are also posted on the University's website, making them available to the general public.

With regard to issues that are identified through self-inspections and evaluations, the General Administration Committee and Academic Administration Committee take a central role in formulating plans for addressing any issues that are identified, providing mechanisms for making any necessary improvements. A PDCA cycle for utilizing the results of self-inspections and evaluations has been established.

In summary, utilizing the individuality and distinctive quality of a correspondence university, the University is providing education that should contribute to the realization of a lifelong learning society and provide all people with the opportunity to undertake higher education. However, University enrollment continues to fall short of total capacity, and in future it is desirable that the entire university makes efforts to secure total capacity.

Note that with regard to the University's unique initiatives regarding its mission and goals, the general comments on "Standard A. Realization of a lifelong learning society through "e-learning that is rich with humanity" should be referred to.