

Okinawa International University (沖縄国際大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

In line with the University motto and philosophy, the mission and the goals of the undergraduate colleges and Graduate Schools are clearly stated in Article 1 of the University Regulations (Colleges) and Article 2 of the Graduate School Regulations (Graduate Schools) etc. Educational targets and community collaboration and research targets are stipulated as specified missions and goals, and these are displayed in the university guidebook and on the website. The University's individuality and distinctive qualities are shown in the mission and goals, educational targets, and community collaboration and research targets, and its status as a private university in Okinawa is positioned as its most significant individuality. The Third Medium-to-Long-Term Management Plan incorporates the University motto, educational philosophy, and three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy.

Standard 2. Students

Admission policies have been formulated for the University as a whole, its college departments and graduate school departments, and the university guide and entrance exam guidelines, as well as the website, show the sort of students the University seeks. Full enrollment quotas and total capacity are being secured in all colleges. Through a system centering on the College or Graduate School Council's faculty organization and a system centering on the School Affairs Division and other administrative divisions, a support system for learning and class instruction based on collaboration between faculty and staff has been properly created. The Common Educational Council, Career Support Council, Career Support Council, Education and Learning Division, School Affairs Division, and Career Support Center provide an ample career guidance system under which career education courses have been started, and attempts made to endow students with an awareness of employment. The Student Personnel Services Committee has been established with the goal of providing student services and student personnel services, and is implementing various kinds of support for a stable school life. The University's unique grant-type scholarships are particularly extensive. The surface area of the campus and building meets the Standards for Establishment of Universities. A system has been prepared for ascertaining student opinions on support for learning and class instruction, school life, and the learning environment, and is used to reform current circumstances.

- The extensive grant-type scholarships unique to the University can be combined with loan-based scholarships, and the ways that this contributes to easing the financial burden placed upon students is worthy of high evaluation.

Standard 3. Educational curriculum

A diploma policy is stipulated based on educational objectives, and the diploma policies of each of the University, colleges and departments are contained in the university guide, student handbooks, and course completion guide etc., while the diploma policies of the graduate school departments and Courses are contained in the graduate school guide, and all diploma policies are available for perusal on the University's website. Curriculum policies consistent with the diploma policies for the Colleges are stipulated based on the educational objectives. In line with this, there is a systematically organized educational curriculum composed of common courses to nurture wide-ranging and basic knowledge, technical skills and liberal arts; specialized courses in which students systematically learn specialized knowledge; and qualification-based courses in which students acquire abilities as professionals. In the Graduate Schools too, systematic educational curricula are organized in each department and course in order to achieve their educational objectives. Based on the three policies, the University strives to ascertain state of learning, state of qualifications earned and employment status, while a system has also been established for checking how far students have completed their courses, the number of credits earned and the details of their academic results. The number of students obtaining qualifications is also checked by the Faculty Council in question, and information shared.

Standard 4. Faculty and Staff

The President serves as the chairperson for the cross-university Faculty Council, University Council and Graduate School Committee, and governs the faculty organizations. The University has a Vice President and General Planning Office in place, and has prepared a system through which the President can exercise his leadership with ease, and the University's decision-making and education and learning management are implemented. The University has secured and assigned the requisite numbers of full-time faculty and professors to satisfy the Standards for Establishment of Universities. The research supervisors stipulated in the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools are also assigned to each department of the graduate schools. Faculty is employed and promoted in line with the Regulations on Employment and Promotion of Faculty and the Regulations on the Employment of Faculty etc. Principally Involving Responsibility for Common Courses. Opportunities are provided for training aimed at encouraging improvements to quality and ability of staff, and training aimed at the entire University faculty and staff as a form of Staff Development (SD), and initial training and comprehensive summer training for staff are systematically implemented. The Integrated Research Organization has been established as an internal research organization in which the Vice President serves as Director, developing a cross-university research activity promotion system. According to the research areas four institutes have been established beneath the Integrated Research Organization, and these institutes conduct individual research activities in line with an annually formulated business plan.

Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance

The operations of the University are conducted according to the articles of endowment, Administrative Organization Regulations, and Division of Business and Administrative Duties Regulations etc. The President co-serves as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, and

administration of the University is conducted without separating the university management and education and learning operations. In line with the articles of endowment, the Board of Directors is situated as the highest decision-making body of the University's incorporated entity. A system is in place whereby the important matters of the University's incorporated entity can be decided upon with the aim of reaching mission and goals. As the Chairperson of the Board of Directors co-serves as the President, and the Vice President, Deans, Director of the Administrative Affairs Division compose the membership of the Board of Directors, communication and collaboration between the University's incorporated entity and the University is organically implemented. The articles of endowment stipulate that the Chairperson of the Board of Directors shall represent the University's incorporated entity and preside over that work, in addition to which the Chairperson acts as the chairperson of the Board of Directors and the Departmental Directors' Council, and an environment for the Chairperson's leadership to be exercised is in place.

Financial operations are appropriately executed according to the annual budget formulated on the basis of the medium-to-long-term management plan. The university has ample current assets, is systematically building up specified assets, and a stable financial base has been established. Accounting procedures and financial settlements are appropriately processed according to the Accounting Standards for Incorporated Educational Institutions, Accounting Regulations, Accounting Detailed Regulations, and Budgetary Control Regulations.

Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance

The Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee Regulations state that the University will “attempt to improve the standard of its education, and vitalize educational and research activities,” and “with regard to educational and research activities overall will appropriately and smoothly implement uninterrupted self-inspections and evaluations to bear social responsibilities.” As the organizations to perform these duties, the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee and Graduate School Committee, College etc. Committee, Administrative Affairs Committee are in place, and a system for the self-inspection and evaluation of the entire University has been prepared. The Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee conducts self-inspections and evaluations, and in the academic year 2016 the themes of reforming and improving education regarding the three policies, and state of and issues surrounding social contribution and community collaboration were raised. The results of self-inspections and evaluations are shared throughout the University in order to link them in to its reform and improvement of education.

In summary, as a private university located in Okinawa, the University is appropriately conducting education and research in line with mission and goals it has set for itself, and pursuing initiatives towards community collaboration.

Note that with regard to the University's unique standards, the general comments on “Standard A. Educational function of the library and community contribution activities” should be referred to.

It should be noted that the University has cited the following remarks.

1. Regarding the system for studying at other domestic universities based on credit transfer agreements
2. Regarding responses to students from outlying islands or remote areas