

Yamaguchi Gakugei University (山口学芸大学)

Evaluation summary

Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.

The University's founding principle is stipulated as being "sincerity" and its educational principles as "art-based education." A faculty, department, and graduate school have been established to pursue these educational objectives, comprised of the said founding and educational principles, and each of these has formulated their own three policies of diploma policy, curriculum policy and admission policy that clearly incorporate their mission, goals and educational objectives.

The University appropriately responds to social conditions and relevant laws and regulations, and enthusiastically tackles the development and improvement of a curriculum requisite for the acquisition of various licenses.

With regard to making the mission, goals and educational objectives known a Campus Guide-Student Handbook is distributed to all students, faculty and staff, and various other media such as the University's website used.

In terms of medium-to-long-term planning, the Ube Gakuen Management Reform Plan has been formulated and is under execution.

Standard 2. Students

An admission policy has been formulated and in line with this policy various entrance examinations are conducted, and entrants continuously secured.

Guidelines regarding support for learning and class instruction are stipulated, a mechanism for collaboration initiatives between faculty and staff has been created, and a tutor system is in place, all of which enables responses to individual needs of the students.. As countermeasures against students' dropping out, taking leave of absence, or repeating a year of their courses, a system is in place through the early ascertainment of such problems and sharing of information.

The career guidance system consists of a Career Support Center in which three support offices have been established, and in addition to meticulous responses, the University eagerly pursues support for student services and school life.

In order to attain its educational objectives, the University's campus, buildings and facilities and equipment for practical training have been adequately developed and improved, and attention paid to making them both more earthquake-resistant and barrier-free.

In order to ascertain opinions and requests about students support various questionnaires are conducted.

- The fact that an Employment Support Office, Teaching Profession Support Office and Childcare Profession Support Office have been set up under the Career Guidance Center, and meticulous support is offered merits evaluation.

Standard 3. Educational curriculum

A diploma policy based on the University's educational objectives is stipulated, and in line with this policy, standards for awarding credits, evaluation of academic achievement, certifying graduation and promotion to the next school year etc. are provided for and rigorously managed. Furthermore, a curriculum policy suited to the day and age is stipulated and according to this an educational curriculum has been arranged and is implemented.

Based on the three policies the state of students' learning, acquisition of qualifications and employment are meticulously ascertained, and this information is shared between faculty and staff and used in guidance of students.

With the aim of improving learning guidance, Questionnaires regarding Classes and class visits between faculty are held, and with reference to these results each faculty member strives to improve their teaching.

Standard 4. Faculty and Staff

The Faculty Council Regulations etc. make it clear that the President has authority and responsibility for the University's decision-making, but with regard to the important matters pertaining to education and learning that require the opinions of the Faculty Council to be sought there are no stipulations by the President, nor have such stipulations been disseminated. Urgent actions is needed to redress the situation.

The education and learning management system is developed and improved by collaboration between faculty and staff, centering on the Student Affairs Division. The number of full-time teaching staff and professors requisite for the Standards for Establishment of Universities has been secured and appropriately assigned. Training workshops for all faculty and staff are convened by the FD/SD Committee, and are producing results.

As well as developing a research environment, various regulations are stipulated concerning the allocation of resources for research activities, and these are appropriately administered. Public research funds are also utilized in line with the various regulations.

Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance

With regard to the medium-to-long-term plan, a management improvement plan has been formulated and is being steadily executed.

Operations are being conducted with consideration to environmental conservation, but it is to be hoped that in the future a crisis management manual will be drawn up and evacuation drills conducted. The University takes into consideration a wide range of human rights.

With regard to making educational information disclosures, as there are some partial inadequacies there is need for a more appropriate approach in the future.

The Board of Directors and Board of Councilors are suitably operated, auditors are appropriately appointed and performing their duties.

The entire University's incorporated entity and the University itself are in a healthy financial state, and the fiscal balance at an appropriate level. Various regulations for accounting procedures are in

place and appropriately executed, and accounting audits strictly implemented.

Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance

The Yamaguchi Gakugei University Self-Inspection and Evaluation Regulations have been established in order to conduct self-inspection and evaluation and for the sake of internal quality assurance, and self-inspections and evaluations are conducted according to these regulations.

The Planning and IR Committee has been set up in the President's Planning Office in order to integrate throughout the University all the data collection, storage, sorting and analysis work hitherto conducted by each separate organization. Operation has just started, and there are good prospects for its future activities.

As well as conducting internal quality assurance through self-inspection and evaluation, the PDCA cycle is by and large functioning. However, it is to be hoped that in the future initiatives will be made to improve the functionality of internal quality assurance by developing the inadequate parts in the implementation of laws and regulations.

In summary, the University has established a faculty, department and graduate school in line with its founding principles, mission, goals and educational objectives, and is appropriately conducting education and support for students' lifestyles regarding the acquisition of various licenses.

The organization of the educational curriculum is appropriately conducted based on the three policies, students are steadily secured, and the financial bases is stable.

Management and administration are by and large managed appropriately and in line with the regulations, and through the implementation of self-inspection and evaluation enthusiastic initiatives are underway for self-inspection for the sake of internal quality assurance.

Note that with regard to the University's unique standards, the general comments on "Standard A. Social collaboration" should be referred to.

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

1. The Nagi no Ki Collaboration Project in cooperation with local elementary schools
2. Establishment of opportunities to experience educational activities through collaborations with Yamaguchi Prefectural and City Boards of Education and local elementary schools
3. Eager participation in the Yamaguchi Prefectural Boards of Education Secretariat-led school experience system for students who wish to become teachers