

## **Yokkaichi Nursing and Medical Care University (四日市看護医療大学)**

### Evaluation summary

#### **Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.**

The University opened in 2007 as a publicly established and privately-run nursing university in collaboration with Yokkaichi City, Mie Prefecture, which has a Department of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing. The University's basic principles are "Practice education and research based on humanity", "Conduct education and research into advanced knowledge and skills", and "Contribute proactively to the local community". Based on these principles and the founding principle of the University's incorporated entity, the Incorporated Educational Institution Akatsuki Gakuen, of "Staying true to humanity", the mission, goals, and educational objectives of the University and Graduate School are stated concretely and succinctly in the University and Graduate School Regulations and are publicized internally and externally through media such as the University website. In order to achieve its mission and goals, as well as respond to changes in society, in the academic year 2020 the University will change the name of the Faculty of Nursing to the Faculty of Nursing and Medical Care, and adding to the Department of Nursing a new department called the Department of Clinical Laboratory Medicine will be established. The University's greatest individuality and distinctive quality is its local community contribution, and in order to promote this it has established a Regional Research Organization for providing human resources and lifelong learning opportunities to the local community.

#### **Standard 2. Students**

With regard to student admissions, entrants selection is carried out based on a clearly stated admission policy, and the number of students are being secured appropriately in accordance with yearly enrollment quotas and total capacity. Four sections have been created under the Education Promotion and Student Support Center, and a support system for learning and class instruction through collaboration between faculty and staff has been established and is operating. In addition, an advisor system as well as a system providing students with counseling related to their learning, physical and mental health, and careers via the University's Counseling Room have also been created. A learning environment comprising the campus, buildings, facilities and equipment etc. necessary for the University's educational objectives to be achieved has been provided and is being utilized appropriately, and consideration is also given to the provision of barrier-free facilities. The University gains understanding of students' opinions and requests regarding tuition assistance, facilities and equipment etc. through questionnaires, opinion boxes, faculty advisors etc. and improvements are made as necessary.

### Good points

- The University can be highly evaluated from the standpoint of public-private cooperation with Yokkaichi City for its establishment of the Yokkaichi Nursing and Medical Care University

Ikusei-kai Scholarship Program and providing students with financial assistance.

- The University can be very highly evaluated for installing a fingerprint authentication system and security cameras at the entrance to the women's changing rooms and thoroughly implementing security measures.

### **Standard 3. Educational Curriculum**

The University has prescribed a diploma policy and a curriculum policy based on the diploma policy, with the faculty setting educational targets for each curriculum category and organizing an educational curriculum. The syllabus and curriculum chart state their relationship to the diploma policy, thereby clearly stating the positioning of courses within the educational curriculum. In the Graduate School, too, an appropriate educational curriculum has been organized in accordance with the curriculum policy. Decisions pertaining to awarding credits and certifying graduation/completion are made appropriately in accordance with evaluation standards. The faculty has students complete class evaluation questionnaires, and the measures taken by individual faculty members in response to opinions received are made known to students to as part of improvement efforts. The Graduate School also has students complete a Research Environment Evaluation Survey, and improvements are undertaken by the Graduate School Committee. In addition, average number of credits acquired, national nursing exam pass rates, and employment rates are inspected and evaluated as final learning outcomes.

### **Standard 4. Faculty and Staff**

The President chairs the Faculty Council as well as Education Promotion and Student Support Center Council, which oversees education and learning management for the University overall, creating a system in which the President demonstrates appropriate leadership in education and learning management. The Vice President assists the President, overseeing the Department Council, Graduate School Committee, Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee etc. For both the undergraduate programs and graduate school more faculty than the number required under the Standards for Establishment of Universities and Graduate Schools have been secured and allocated. Committees for FD (Faculty Development) and SD (Staff Development) have been created, with training carried out to improve the quality and abilities of faculty and staff and efforts made to make improvements. Work evaluation systems for faculty and staff have been introduced and are expected to produce results moving forward. With regard to research support, regulations pertaining to research ethics have been prescribed and are being strictly implemented, and individual research funding is provided, while procedures for using university facilities are being simplified.

### **Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance**

The University strictly complies with laws and regulations, paying consideration to environmental conservation, human rights, and security issues while carrying out appropriate university operations, and has also formulated a five-year mid-term management plan, thereby making continuous efforts to realize its mission and goals. In order to enhance the functioning of the Board of Directors, the

University has established an Executive Committee, and decision-making by the Board of Directors is carried out appropriately. Positioned as the University's highest decision-making body, the University Operation Committee is chaired by the Chair of the Board of Directors, with the President and Secretary General taking part as committee members, thereby ensuring smooth communication and cooperation between the University and its incorporated entity. Attendance at meetings by the directors, councilors, and auditors is good, with each member performing their duties appropriately. A five-year budget has been formulated and financial operations are carried out based on the mid-term management plan. The University's independent ratio of current account balance over the past five years has been good, and a stable financial base has been established. Accounting procedures and audits are carried out correctly in accordance with laws and regulations. The University established an Internal Audit Office in April 2019, and internal audits are carried out strictly in coordination with auditors' audits.

#### **Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance**

A constant organizational system centered on the Self-Inspection and Evaluation Committee has been established for conducting self-inspection and evaluation. Each of the University's committees and divisions prepare an Annual Activity Plan and Report and a Proposal based on this report every academic year, and the University also prepares a Self-Inspection and Evaluation Report once every three years based on the evaluation standards of JIHEE as part of its internal quality assurance efforts. Furthermore, these Annual Activity Plans and Reports and Self-Inspection and Evaluation Reports are made public via the University website and publicized internally and externally. In addition, the University carries out joint initiatives for making improvements with the Yokkaichi City and Yokkaichi Municipal Hospital through the Yokkaichi Nursing and Medical Care University Operation Council. Educational quality assurance initiatives undertaken by the University include formulation of an assessment policy and the measurement in numerical terms of the extent to which educational targets have been achieved at the time of a student's graduation; however, these initiatives have only just been introduced, and future improvements and results are anticipated.

Good point

- The University can be very highly evaluated for proactively making summaries of Annual Activity Plans and Reports, student life survey results, and self-evaluations at the time of graduation for each attainment objective available to the general public via its website.

In summary, the University is a publicly established and privately-run nursing university founded based on its basic principles and founding principles in collaboration with Yokkaichi City, and contributes to the maintenance and improvement of health among members of the local community. Specifically, the University provides nurse training in cooperation with Yokkaichi City and proactively provides human resources and lifelong learning opportunities to the local community through its Regional Research Organization. Furthermore, the University is proactive in publicly disclosing its internal quality assurance initiatives via its website, and is continuously undertaking

efforts to improve educational quality.

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

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

1. Output rate of public servants to local government offices