

## Shuchiin University (種智院大学)

### Evaluation summary

**This university has not demonstrated satisfactory compliance with the standards of the Japan Institution for Higher Education Evaluation.**

Standards	Evaluation result
Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.	Satisfied
Standard 2. Students	Satisfied
Standard 3. Educational Curriculum	Satisfied
Standard 4. Faculty and Staff	Satisfied
Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance	Unsatisfied
Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance	Satisfied

### Good practices

- With the objective of creating understanding of the teachings of Kukai (Kobo Daishi), the meaning of existence of the Shuchiin and its educational principles as well as the significance of what is studied at the university, a required course Shuchiin-gaku that all students take is provided. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- In response to the details and severity of disabilities such as visual disabilities and higher brain dysfunction, meticulous consideration is paid to students with disabilities. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- The Social Skill Training program for supporting students who have difficulties with interpersonal relationships is regularly held, and is effective in the improvement of communication skills. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- The entire campus buildings are designed to facilitate accessibility allowing people in wheelchairs to move around easily. Its facilities comply with the *Kyoto-fu Fukushi no Machizukuri* ordinance (Kyoto Prefectural Ordinance on Accessibility Improvements) and pay consideration to convenience in accordance with the international standards recognized by Kyoto City. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- The Department of Buddhism conducts study tours to India as a special course, and offers a Shugengaku Practices Course in which the students experience the *shugen-do* training. The university thus makes efforts to offer the hands-on courses, taking advantage of the department's distinctive quality. These initiatives are worthy of evaluation.

- The university attempts to enable practical learning about the rituals and etiquette of Shingon Buddhism through small student number face-to-face lessons. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.

### **Recommendations for improvement**

- With regard to inspection and evaluation of learning outcomes, although initiatives linked to educational improvements are conducted their organizational position is unclear and the extent to which the state of improvements are made is not adequately ascertained. Improvements towards organizational initiatives are required.
- The Internal Regulations Concerning the Matters that the President Decides It Is Necessary for the Opinions of the Faculty Council to Be Heard, stipulated in Article 52, paragraph (1), item (iii) of the University Regulations are not consistent with Article 52, paragraph (2) of the University Regulations, neither are they in accordance with the gist of Article 93 of the School Education Act. Improvements are required.
- The FD implementation methods consist only of class questionnaires and the dispatch of certain faculty members to external training programs, and the fact that organized training and research to attempt improvements in teaching content and methods are not implemented is not in accordance with the gist of Article 25-3 of the Standards for Establishment of Universities. Improvements are required.
- In order to attain the numerical targets for the university's finances stated in the Five-year Shugei Shuchiin Management Improvement Plan for Academic Years 2020–2025 adopted by the Board of Directors in October 2020, improvements are required regarding the securing of stable funds and financial operations.
- There are items in which improvements are required regarding initiatives and organization for the inspection and evaluation of learning outcomes, the agenda items for the Faculty Council, FD implementation methods and financial operations. Therefore, internal quality assurance can hardly be described as satisfactory and further improvements are essential.