AOMORI UNIVERSITY (青森大学)

Evaluation summary

This university has 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	Satisfied
Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance	Satisfied

Good practices

- A faculty member serves as chair and a staff member serves as deputy-chair of the Academic Administration Committee and Student Affairs Committee that serve as the pillars of learning and class instruction support, thereby ensuring collaboration between faculty and staff, and a high level of executive ability in learning and class instruction support is maintained under close communication. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- The Mutsu Campus, established at the strong request of Mutsu City, received and operates the refurbished Shimokita Bunka Kaikan as the university building. As the facility is used not only for the university's education and research but also by the local community, it is a good example of a university closely tied to the area. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- As Community Creation courses the university has established Aomori Studies, Nebuta Studies and Community Contribution Seminars. With objective that students continue to participate in community activities even after graduation, they are practically studying all sorts of community collaboration themes through problem-based learning. These initiatives are worthy of evaluation.
- O Under the ethos of collaboration between faculty and staff, an FD/SD (Faculty Development/Staff Development) Committee has been established, cross-university FD/SD activities are being promoted. The faculty and the staff participate in working groups based on the three-campus system and eager training at divisional levels is conducted, through which a PDCA cycle has been established. These initiatives are worthy of evaluation.
- The SDGs Research Center has been established, and the university is practically conducting the fostering of people under the SDGs philosophy regarding environmental conservation. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.

Recommendations for improvement

O Both the balance of school operation activity's income and expenditure ratio and invested assets to annual current expenditure ratio remain low, the current account balance is continuously in the red, and it cannot be said that a stable financial base has been established. Accordingly, towards balanced income and expenditure there is a need for considerable improvements such as effective planning and steady progress management.