Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Professional Graduate Business School

Department of Technology Management, Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, Yamaguchi University



Basic Information of the Institution

Ownership: National Location: Yamaguchi, Japan

Accreditation Status

Year of the Review: 2014

Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2020)

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Department of Technology Management, the Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, Yamaguchi University

The Department of Technology Management (hereafter, the Department) in the Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management sets its mission and purpose as follows: "we aim to nurture business persons who would address their own challenges and explore optimal resource utilization both from regional and global perspectives, based on holistic and interdisciplinary knowledge, literacy and ethics for enabling continual innovations." In addition, it sets its educational objective as follows: "we foster human resources, referring to as "MOTist," who have a high ethical standard and can address the issues from a global perspective yet settling down in the region."

In order to achieve its mission, purpose, and educational objectives, the Program operates from three locations. The first, for international students from Asia, is located in Ube City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, the Chugoku region, and there are two satellite campuses in the cities of Fukuoka and Hiroshima for working adult students. As university-wide support and cooperation system has been implemented, and the faculty act in full cooperation. Under the cooperation of the administrative office of the university, the system carries out flexible and efficient administration based on self-study.

It is also commendable that the Department has implemented collaborative or joint activities with outside institutions such as recruitment efforts by local businesses and the introduction of external research funding. In addition, interdepartmental cooperation has been promoted within the university. For example, the knowledge of cutting-edge technology acquired through collaborative research activities with the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, is reflected in the classes of the Department. Furthermore, full-time faculty members meet every week to share common problems, and constantly implement the measures to solve these problems. These activities support the efficient administration of the Department as mentioned above.

In addition, it is commendable that the Department makes use of the Yamaguchi University Patent Search System (YUPASS). YUPASS, originally developed by the university, enables the search of patent information as well as statistical analysis of existing patents, and has contributed to fostering managers in technology and offering patent education as a university-wide requirement.

It is commendable that as a distinctive feature of the Department, all full-time faculty members are required to improve their teaching skills in English, and several faculty are sent to universities in Laos and Malaysia to improve their English and educational administration skills. Further, it is commendable that as a distinctive feature to meet its goal to offer global education focused in East Asia and Southeast Asia, financial support for studies in Malaysia and Indonesia is available for students, and classes targeted for international students are taught in English at the Ube campus.

One notable effort has been the Saturday Intensive Class System offered at the satellite campuses in response to the needs of busy working adult students. By carefully selecting subjects according to "the Core Curriculum for MOT-Education," developed by the Department, the Department has attracted many adult applicants and students report a high level of satisfaction with the contents of education.

Despite these successes, some issues remain. To execute the plan for training technology business managers at the local Ube campus as well as the western Japan regions where satellite campuses are located, the plan needs to be further solidified according to the framework of globalization. For that purpose, it is expected that the Department will reconsider its policy on degree award.

It is expected that further clarification of the assessment criteria of the students'

academic achievement, preparation of the procedure for inquiries regarding assessment, and standardization of the class syllabi will lead to the improvements and will help the Department progress toward becoming more global.

Finally, it is expected that by continuously working on self-study and

Finally, it is expected that by continuously working on self-study and developing distinctive features and advantages particular to the course of study, the Technological Management Department will continue to train and produce technology managing personnel in Japan.