

University Accreditation Results
(Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for university)

Kanazawa College of Art



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Public	Location: Ishikawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2014	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2022)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Kanazawa College of Art

Overview

Kanazawa College of Art (hereafter, the College) was founded in 1955 as the successor to the Kanazawa Technical School of Art, which was established in 1946. The College is a public institution containing one faculty and one graduate school. Upon becoming a public institution, the Mission Statement and the Mission Policies were defined to clarify the direction of the College.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2007, the college has made actively a variety of notable social contributions and engaged in social collaboration. These efforts became possible through implementation of the four Mission Policies (on education, research, social contribution, and management), based on the Mission Statement, which are held in high regard among the faculty and staff. However, issues remain that ought to be improved, for example, the setting of a maximum number of credits students can register for per year. It is expected that the College will further develop by fully valuing the traditions that the College has cultivated and by devising ways to maintain the Mission Policies.

Notable Strengths

Mission and Purpose

- In order to clarify the mission and purpose of the College upon its shift to an independent public corporation, the Mission Statement was formulated by the executive board in May 2010. In addition, the four points of Mission Policies on education, research, social contribution, and management were adopted to define the direction of the College. It is commendable that with thorough recognition of the Guiding Principles by faculty and staff, the decision-making process has been modified with clear roles, authority, and responsibility. As a result, organizational reform, local collaboration, and industry-academy collaboration are taking place.

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- It is commendable that in the Faculty of Art, several measures have been made that facilitate mutual understanding between faculty members, objective assessment of students, and excellent student guidance. These measures include the Record of Instructional Research, which records the assessment process; the sharing of informational content regarding teaching and student talent among multiple faculty members.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- Social contribution has been defined as a mission of the College along with education and research, and various joint research and local collaboration projects have been carried out based in the Local Collaboration Center and the Industry-Academy Collaboration Center. Based in part on educational outcomes, the activities are seen as an integral part of student; the College promotes high quality research activities under the supervision of faculty members. It is commendable that many successful researches, projects, as well as product development, have taken place. For example, the “Hospitality Art Project” which aims to “explore the potential of art in the medical environment,” has been ongoing in cooperation with Kanazawa City Hospital.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the Faculty of Art and the Graduate School of Art, the contents of the syllabi vary among faculty members in their specificities, especially in terms of yearly class schedule, and the criteria of assessment. This should be improved.
- The maximum number of credits students can register for per year has been set high at 50 in the Faculty of Art. It should be improved in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system.
- In the Graduate School Art, criteria for examining degree-seeking dissertations have not been clearly stated for the students. This situation should be improved, by clearly stating them in the official documents.
- In the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Art, some students complete all the requirements except the dissertation, and leave the university before completing their dissertation requirement within the time limit set by the university. Later, when these students submit their dissertations at a later date, even though they do not have the enrollment status, they are granted doctoral degrees in the same manner as those students continuously enrolled. This is an inappropriate use of the system that should be corrected. In accordance with the purpose of having doctoral programs, the university should create measure to enhance the degree completion within the required time frame.