

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

**Kyoto Koka Women's University**



<b>Basic Information of the Institution</b>	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kyoto, Japan
<b>Accreditation Status</b>	
Year of the Review: 2022	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2030)	

## **Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Kyoto Koka Women's University**

### **Overview**

Kyoto Koka Women's University was founded on the spirit of women's education based on the Buddhist spirit. As a university stipulated in the School Education Law, its purpose is to research and teach academics, to contribute to the advancement of culture, and to cultivate a full character in the Buddhist spirit, thereby fostering the development of capable women. To achieve its founding spirit and purpose, the University has strived to enhance its educational and research activities, developing "Koka Vision 2030" as a medium- to long-term plan based on the management goal of nurturing "Koka Glocal (both global and local) Persons" with compassionate and distinctive characters.

With respect to internal quality assurance, the University has established a system where the Self-Evaluation Committee as a university-wide internal quality assurance promotion body reviews the self-study results of the individual sections, and the University Administrative Council responsible for the University's administrative policy deliberates and evaluates the results of the Self-Evaluation Committee's review. In reality, however, it is the University Administrative Council that reviews the self-study results, and the division of responsibilities in internal quality assurance is unclear between the two organizations. With the University making improvement and enhancement efforts by compiling the self-study assessment results into data for effective use, the University should review and revise the internal quality assurance system and adopt improvements for more effective operation.

As to the University's education, all faculties and graduate schools have organized their curricula properly in accordance with the diploma and curriculum policies. All faculties use curriculum maps and class numbering for students to take courses systematically and sequentially. In terms of class formats, the University has introduced active learning with small-group instruction and question-driven lessons based on the "Koka Method" to foster deeper independent learning. Furthermore, the University seeks to appropriately assesses student learning outcomes using such methods as the DP Rubric, to measure learning outcomes, and compiles the assessment results in the EM and IR Section directly under the president.

The University's notable efforts include the "Learning Station that

supports students' independent learning. In the Learning Station, students as peer supporters help other students with faculty and administrative staff who share student information through the information exchange "Kizuna Network," and provide prompt and detailed assistance to students in collaboration with the Learning Station. These efforts are connected to Enrollment Management (hereafter, "EM") included in the student support policy, and are considered meaningful because they effectively prevent dropouts by providing the necessary student support at an early stage.

There are several issues the University needs to address, however. Insufficient student enrollment pointed out in the previous certified evaluation and accreditation results continues to be a pressing issue in some departments. The University has worked to strengthen its recruitment and public relations activities, with the Department of Career Development creating the Action Plan to Attract Students and revising its curriculum; the Department of Psychology reducing its freshman enrollment cap; and the Department of Nursing increasing its cap to better manage its student quota. But these efforts have not necessarily led to improvements and further actions are required, and the internal quality assurance system should be reviewed to deal with the issues described above. With respect to the school corporation's overall finances, the financial foundation is not sufficiently sound to carry out the University's educational and research activities in a stable manner. The school corporation should steadily implement measures to achieve its goals and strengthen its financial base.

Going forward, JUAA expects the University to enhance its education and progress further by upgrading and ensuring more effective functioning of its internal quality assurance system.

## **Notable Strengths**

### *Student Support*

- The Learning Station uses peer supporters to provide out-of-class support coupled with certain compulsory subjects. Support activities organized by students help the students both providing and receiving support to grow. In recent years, the University has initiated collaborative activities between the Learning Station and other organizations, such as the Women's Career Development Research Center as well as the established "Manabooo" for students to come together across faculties, departments, and grade levels to independently study

themes of mutual interest in small groups, and created the Kizuna Network for academic and administrative staff to share the progress of student learning. It is commendable that the University has developed these activities in accordance with the EM policy to reduce the dropout rate by offering the necessary student support at an early stage.

## **Suggestions for Improvement**

### *Internal Quality Assurance*

- The University has put in place the Self-Evaluation Committee as an organization responsible for promoting internal quality assurance. In reality, however, it is the University Administrative Council, which deliberates and executes basic administrative affairs, reviews the results of the self-studies conducted by the individual departments and sections, and issues instructions on improvements. Although the Self-Evaluation Committee may occasionally give instructions for improvement in certain areas, the responsibilities of the two organizations are unclear. The University should improve its internal quality assurance system by reviewing and clarifying the responsibilities of these organizations.

### *University Management and Finance*

- The balance of business activity income and expenditures of the school corporation has been negative since AY2020. The ratio of financial assets to the required reserve fund is also low and trending downward. With the rate of carried over expenditures to income for the next year increasing, it cannot be said that the sound financial base necessary for conducting stable academic and research activities has been secured. The school corporation should steadily implement measures to achieve its goals with efforts made to build a stronger financial foundation.

## **Recommendation**

### *Student Enrollment*

- The average ratio of enrolled freshmen to the freshman enrollment cap over the past five years is low at 0.71 in the Department of Medical and Social, Faculty of Health Science. The ratios of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap are low at 0.69 in the Department of Medical and Social, Faculty of Health Science, and at 0.84 in the Department of Child Education, Faculty of Child Education. These numbers should be improved with the faculties' student quotas thoroughly managed.