

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

Senzoku Gakuen College of Music



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| Basic Information of the Institution | |
| Ownership: Private | Location: Kanagawa, Japan |
| Accreditation Status | |
| Year of the Review: 2015 | |
| Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2016 – March.31.2023) | |

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Senzoku Gakuen College of Music

Overview

The Senzoku Gakuen College of Music (hereafter, the College) originated as Hiratsuka Women's Sewing School, founded in 1924. In 1967, it was established as a college with a single faculty, the Faculty of Music. Since then, it has created the Graduate School with a master's program, and currently operates as a college with one undergraduate program and one graduate program. With its campus located in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture, it has developed its educational and research activities while following its founding spirits such as educating young students to be "refined, talented men and women of action who are dignified and aware of their life's calling and alert to their true purposes in life and who have hearts full of humility and love for their fellow man."

The College was reviewed by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) for accreditation in 2009. It was reviewed again and accredited in 2012. Since the accreditation, it has made various efforts to improve and reform. In particular, it has constructed a system to make improvements in which the Self-Study Committee, headed by the College's president, plays the central role. The College set an ambitious goal of improving the matters specified in the accreditation, including improvement of the ratio of enrolled freshman to the freshmen admission cap, the management and development of library collections and materials, and the development of various regulations and internal rules that serve as the basis for college administration and management.

The College has some unique characteristics. For example, it has a system of so-called "academic producers" that support and teach students throughout their study at the College, from the pre-college stage to post-graduation. It also has an academic advising system to support students. In addition, it has taken an active part in making social contributions, such as the formation of the Committee for the Support of Areas Affected by the Earthquake Disaster.

However, the College needs to address several issues, including the policies on degree award, the content of curriculum design policies, the liberal arts education in the Faculty of Music, the form and content of syllabi, and efforts to prevent improper research conduct. JUAA hopes that the College will make improvements by enriching its policies and developing its educational and research environment.

Notable Strength

Student Support

- It is commendable that the College has developed an environment in which students can easily consult with faculty members. In particular, each student has an academic advisor with whom he or she consults on all aspects of college life, before entering the college and after graduation. Moreover, the academic advisors share the contents of these consultations with the academic producers who are in charge of each course program through the use of the SENZOKU portal. In this way, various kinds of support and guidance for students, including those for class instruction, are offered in a systematic and unified manner.

Suggestions for Improvements

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The policies on degree award of both the Faculty of Music and the Graduate School do not indicate the learning outcomes of knowledge and skills that are required at the time of program completion. This should be improved. In terms of their curriculum design policies, they do not indicate basic ideas for educational content and methods. This should be improved.
- The Faculty of Music states its purpose as “raising independent, talented people, refined, talented men and women of action, who have hearts full of humility.” The liberal arts education that the College offers currently is insufficient to achieve this purpose. The College should improve this situation by examining the content and curriculum organization of its liberal arts education.
- The Graduate School does not have a regulation concerning the approval of credits already taken. This situation should be improved. The College should properly define credits for subject matters based on the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools, and develop a regulation for credit approval.
- In the Faculty of Music and the Graduate School, the syllabi do not refer to specific content of each class meeting in the lesson plan section. This should be improved in order to make the syllabi helpful for students’ learning.

Education and Research Environment

- Concerning research ethics, the College has not developed regulations and systems and has not offered research ethics seminars to prevent improper conduct and behavior except in matters related to public research funds. This should be improved.