

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

Mukogawa Women's University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Hyogo, 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 Mukogawa Women's University

Overview

Mukogawa Women's University (hereafter, the University) succeeded Mukogawa Girls' High School, which was founded in 1939. After several reorganizations, Mukogawa Women's University was founded in 1949. The University has four campuses: Central Campus, Kami-Koshien Campus, Hama-Koshien Campus in Nishinomiya City, Hyogo Prefecture, and Hokusetsu Campus in Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture. The University has continuously increased the number of schools and currently has five schools and five graduate schools: the School of Letters, the School of Health and Sports Sciences, the School of Human Environmental Sciences, the School of Music, the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the Graduate School of Letters, the Graduate School of Clinical Education, the Graduate School of Health and Sports Sciences, the Graduate School of Human Environmental Sciences, and the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. In addition, the School of Nursing and the Graduate School of Nursing opened in April 2015.

The University has carried out its education and research activities under its founding spirit to "cultivate talented women with high intelligence, noble sentiments, and lofty virtues to help develop a peaceful state and society that are of value to the ideal at the founding of our state."

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2008, the University has developed mechanisms to make improvements, such as Faculty Development (FD) of graduate schools and support of research across the University through the Self-Study Committee. Notable features of the University have been its attention to global education, including opportunities for study offered at a brunch school in the United States, Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute (MFWI), and well-developed measures to support career development in cooperation with various internal sections. However, some graduate schools have not formulated policies on degree award for each program, and improvements should be made.

Notable Strengths

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- It is commendable that the University has made efforts to offer a special English class by introducing a practical teaching method in global education and has made notable achievements, such as an increased number of participants in the study-abroad program. In particular, the Department of English in the School of Letters has further enriched the program at MFWI. In an effort to help students further develop their English proficiency after the study-abroad program, the department created a special English class in 2010 for returnees who meet its selection standard. The class, titled the Advanced Course in English (ACE), is run by native speakers of English using interactive teaching methods.

Student Support

- It is commendable that the University offers support for graduates, providing job information, career counseling, and other services to help motivate students during their job-hunting pursuits and also to achieve high employment rates. In particular, the University has made significant efforts to cultivate women capable of contributing to society. The efforts include supporting careers and job-hunting and initiating a student career-support group to provide students with opportunities to

learn from the experiences of students who have found jobs. In addition to establishing facilities such as the Tokyo Center and a new career center, the University has started career education in the first year and has offered career-related subjects in the General Education Program. Furthermore, the University has developed a variety of special subjects that offer a highly enriched career education and encourage students to begin career planning.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The Japanese Language and Literature major and the English Language and Literature major in the Graduate School of Letters, and the Food Sciences and Nutrition major and the Human Environmental Sciences major in the Graduate School of Human Environmental Sciences do not have separate policies on degree award for the master's and the doctoral programs. Each program should formulate its policy appropriately.
- The master's and doctoral programs in the Human Environmental Sciences in the Graduate School of Human Environmental Sciences do not have separate curriculum design policies. Each program should formulate its policy appropriately.
- The curricula in the doctoral programs in the Graduate School of Clinical Education and the Graduate School of Human Environmental Sciences are not considered to be a proper combination of research work and course work. Considering the purpose of the credit-based degree granting system, each4 doctoral program should offer appropriate educational content.

Enrollment

- The average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low at 0.83 in the Department of Performing Arts in the School of Music. This situation should be improved. The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is high at 1.20 in the School of Health and Sport Sciences and low at 0.89 in the Department of Performing Arts in the School of Music and at 0.28 in the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Letters. These numbers should be improved.