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: 2019	
Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1.2020 – March 31.2025)	

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

The Department of Technology Management, Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, Yamaguchi University (hereinafter referred to as the "Department"), has as its purpose "to nurture individuals capable of integrating the universal principles and latest knowledge of technology and business management, carrying out research on management that enables the sustainable creation of innovation, and thereby considering and determining their own challenges and the optimal utilization of resources on a regional and global level based on comprehensive and interdisciplinary knowledge, learning, and ethical values." In accordance with this purpose, the Department is committed to the development of "technology managers" with high ethical standards who can address issues from a global perspective while establishing themselves in regional areas. A distinctive feature is that the Department, in order to develop such "technology managers," promotes human resource development mainly in the manufacturing field, based on the demand for human resource development in western Japan (the Chugoku and North Kyushu region), East Asia, and Southeast Asia.

It is highly commendable that the Department, especially in the Ube Classroom, actively promotes the globalization of education through holding all subjects in English, for example, and also sends some of its faculty members to the MBA course of the National University of Laos and the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT) through the outsourcing framework of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japanese government with the aim of enhancing their ability to teach in English and management skills of educational organizations abroad.

The Yamaguchi University Patent Search System (YUPASS) is an originally-developed patent search system of the university, and enables students to easily search for patent information and process statistics at home. In addition, students are able to use a parcel delivery service for borrowing and returning library books. All costs for such services are covered by the university, and they make it convenient for students living in distant areas as well as working students whose time and traveling distance are limited. This is a commendable feature.

However, there are areas with room for improvement. Namely, the Department should stipulate the procedures involved in the duty of confidentiality with regard to internships in its regulations, and should improve the description of textbooks and references in the syllabuses for some subjects held in English.

Finally, the enrollment number relative to the enrollment quota and the number of enrolled students relative to the student enrollment cap are both very high. This should be improved. By "improvement" we do not mean stopgap measures such as simply enhancing the accuracy of yield prediction for entrance examinations and finely adjusting the numbers so that they correspond to the quota. In view of the fact that the Department's current enrollment quota is 15 students, we fully understand that an excess of just a few students will cause the ratio to become excessively high. Therefore, we request the Department to consider the fundamental situation of the current enrollment quota, including the possibility of quota expansion within a range where the quality of education can be maintained, and implement measures based on the results thereof. The fact that new enrollees have increased can be considered as a proof that the Department's purpose has gradually gained recognition and that its educational and research activities have delivered consistent results. Therefore, in view of further development, we hope the Department discusses the matters above from a broad perspective rather than confining itself to the technical aspect of controlling numbers.