University Accreditation Results

(Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for University)

Digital Hollywood University

Basic Information of the Institution
Ownership: Co. Ltd.   Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status
Year of the Review: 2024
Accreditation Status: accredited   （Accreditation Period: April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2032）

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results
for Digital Hollywood University

Overview

Digital Hollywood University proclaims part of its founding spirit as follows: "Digital Hollywood University emphasizes the development of human resources who are capable of further advancing the human ability to express knowledge and communication with others to ensure human prosperity in the future as its founding spirit." The University defines the school's mission and purpose as "to develop human resources who will be able to widely contribute to the development of society and the realization of associated research and development through higher education based on three concepts of authenticity, morality, and aesthetics." The University strives to enhance its educational and research activities by formulating DHU 2025 AGENDA and DHU 2030 ProtoDesign as medium- to long-term plans to achieve its founding spirit, mission, and purpose.

The University was established by a corporation operating multiple educational businesses, including a specialized creative school for working adults, with a view to achieving the above founding spirit and mission. The corporation effectively integrates university education and corporate management by inviting students to participate in its various seminars and events. With its faculty comprised of many practitioners, the University has developed a distinctive educational structure based on collaboration between faculty and staff, such as staff members being assigned to all lectures to assist faculty members. The University established the Japanese Language Teaching Materials Development Center to create original teaching materials by taking advantage of its establishment by a business corporation. This is a highly commendable example of the corporation's organization being effectively restructured to realize the University's mission and purpose.

The University is also making highly commendable efforts to actively promote educational activities that meet the needs of society, such as focusing on the specialized domain of digital communication to encourage collaboration with other relevant companies, while involving students in practical content creation for various projects. To facilitate these activities, the University and its corporation jointly offer Corporate Seminars as on-campus internships. As part of the University's efforts to provide support in response to student needs, the CG Production Room was set up equipped with the latest computers, and students are given access to the "All Night Free Time" overnight campus

to work on their own to improve their skills outside lecture hours. The University also provides students with numerous opportunities to practice and publicize what they have learned, and has developed a system for offering necessary financial support and awarding students who achieve outstanding results. These are notable initiatives.

Regarding internal quality assurance, the University's Self-Study Committee compiles the self-studies of the on-campus Self-Study Working Group under the president's governance, and shares the issues to be addressed with the school corporation's Management Meeting, which issues instructions for improvement proposals. Under this structure, the Self-Study Committee and the Management Meeting, on which members serve concurrently, work closely together to ensure efficient management of the organizations. For smooth and sustainable organizational management, the University needs to improve the promotion of the internal quality assurance system through various efforts, including specifying the authority and roles of the different organizations on campus in the regulations and other rules.

As for education, the school and graduate school have established diploma, curriculum, and admission policies, and designed their curricula in a systematic and sequential way, with improvements efforts undertaken on a regular basis. To promote student learning, the University effectively provides education focused on project-based learning and active learning. The ratios of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap and student enrollment to the student enrollment cap are extremely high, however, and must be corrected. Faculty Training provides opportunities for faculty to improve their skills and abilities for lesson preparation, teaching methods, and other areas, but there are few participants. Efforts should be made to involve more faculty members in the training sessions.

In the years ahead, the University is expected to advance its distinctive initiatives and to address various issues, with the Self-Study Committee and the school corporation's Management Meeting mutually cooperating in reviewing the functions of the internal quality assurance system to operate the university-wide PDCA (Plan-Do-Check-Act) cycle.

Notable Strengths

Education and Research Organizations

● The University established the Japanese Language Teaching Materials Development Center after dissolving the Center for Japanese Language Education with the aim of

developing Japanese language teaching materials based on its intellectual property. The center's establishment was prompted by the school corporation and faculty members releasing a Japanese language textbook themed on manga as a University project. The University takes advantage of its position as a division of the corporation to restructure its organization through swift decision-making. This is a commendable example of the corporation's organization being effectively restructured to realize the University's mission and purpose, as the work to develop Japanese language teaching materials using digital content based on the school's expertise and characteristics is expected to contribute to the creation of effective teaching materials responsive to the interests of international students.

Student Support

- The DHU 2025 VISION BOOK is a medium- to long-term plan setting out the objectives of "developing narrative-oriented academic projects and educational settings" as a project to "create an environment and culture that inspire students and arouse their self-consciousness." To achieve these objectives, the University is improving its environment to meet student needs, such as creating the CG Production Room and offering access to the "All Night Free Time" overnight campus. Numerous opportunities are provided for students to practice and present what they have learned, for example, the Project Course, Digital Frontier Grand Prix, jointly organized by the school, graduate school, and the school corporation's professional training school, and the graduate school's "DHGS the DAY" presentation event. A system is also in place to offer necessary financial support and award students who achieve outstanding results. The University has developed programs and systems to constantly stimulate students' learning motivation from enrollment to graduation, and actively provides assistance to respond to aspiring students. These commendable efforts to pay close attention to students' interests are meaningful in realizing the University's mission and purpose.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The University receives requests from various companies, and faculty members and students address different challenges based on the types of requests. In recent years, students have been handling more of these requests. In addition to off-campus clients, the school corporation or the Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration Center

make their own requests to students about developing video processing methods on campus, along with their manuals, and students play a central role in presenting helpful ways to address these challenges. The University is using the student learning outcomes for social cooperation and contribution activities, and this commendable initiative represents the University's future vision that links education and research to social contribution.

Suggestions for Improvement

Internal Quality Assurance

- The Self-Study Committee responsible for promoting internal quality assurance and the Management Meeting in charge of decision-making regarding management work closely together with members serving concurrently on the two bodies. Some faculty members serve as administrative staff and undertake tasks for efficiently managing the organizations. To make the organizational management sustainable, the University is expected to clarify the authority and roles of the different organizations in light of the actual conditions, and record their activities in a more appropriate way to fulfill third-party accountability. In this way, the University should visualize the quality assurance mechanism to ensure sustainability.

Faculty and Faculty Organization

- Faculty Training for school and graduate school faculty members provides opportunities to improve their skills and abilities for lesson preparation, teaching methods, and other areas, but there are few participants. Efforts should be made to involve more faculty members in the training sessions.

Recommendation

Student Enrollment

- The average ratio of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap over the past five years is high at 1.29 in the Department of Digital Content, School of Digital Communications. The ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap is also high at 1.33. These ratios must be lowered with the school's student quota

thoroughly managed.