

Bunka Fashion Graduate University, Graduate School of Fashion Business
(文化ファッション大学院大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

As a professional graduate university for fashion design and business, the institution has conducted education and research activities that bridge theory and practice, and has concretely defined its school philosophy, mission and objectives. It has summarized them more concisely as a catchphrase “Fashion intellectual property for the global market”. It has publicized its mission, goals and educational objectives, internally and externally, through various kinds of printed matter, the website and the principal’s speech at the entrance ceremony and other events, and has gained the understanding and support of school staff.

“Standard 2. Educational Curriculum”

The institution has clearly developed its educational curriculum design policy toward the achievement of its educational objectives. Establishing a course registration model, it has designed a systematic stepwise educational curriculum focusing on bridging theoretical and practical education. The curriculum has balanced the allocation of subjects in all fields of design, technology and management, and the content of seminar subjects, practice subjects and project subjects has been designed to allow students to learn step-by-step. To provide practical education according to its educational objectives, the institution has made distinctive efforts as a professional graduate university, including creation of subjects that promote education and research activities inside and outside the institution. It has properly set out the procedures for accreditation, evaluation methods and criteria, and requirements for completion of the professional degree program.

“Standard 3. Students”

The institution has clearly defined the admission policy for each division and course, which has been publicized. It has devised ways of selecting entrants for each course, but has failed to secure a sufficient number of students to fulfill its student quotas. Taking advantage of the characteristics of a small-scale professional graduate school that provides small-group education, full-time teachers have given advice and guidance through individual counseling using the “Office Hour”, etc. In terms of student support, various committees, including the Student Life Committee, full-time teachers of each laboratory, and academic affairs clerical office, have cooperated in providing support organizationally.

“Standard 4. Teachers”

According to the clearly-defined basic policy for organizational structure planning, the institution has properly appointed teachers necessary to implement the educational curriculum in compliance with the Standards for the Establishment of Professional Graduate Universities. It has defined the criteria for teacher recruitment and promotion as part of teacher selection and detailed implementation rules, and has recruited practitioners taking into account their teaching experience in special seminars, etc. It has properly allocated the time that full-time teachers spend teaching,

and has set a date when they can dedicate themselves to research activities. It has strived to improve the qualities of teachers and revitalize education and research activities, for example by holding a workshop, arranging an inspection tour to production areas for fiber and apparel products, and issuing a bulletin. A large majority of full-time teachers belong to “The Society for Fashion Business”, and present their research results at the national conference every year.

“Standard 5. Education and Research Environment”

Adjunct facilities of other institutions such as a university within the same school corporation have been used for education, research and extracurricular activities, and a wide variety of affiliated organizations, education and research facilities and equipment have been available. Some measures to increase educational effect and student satisfaction were taken, including adoption of an advance reservation system for the use of facilities and devices. Almost all seismic strengthening work for school buildings has been completed. Statutory and voluntary inspections of buildings, facilities and equipment were conducted to maintain a safe environment. Measures for energy-saving have also been taken.

“Standard 6. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

Because it is a small-scale professional graduate university, the institution set the frequency of self-inspections and evaluations, and compiling the “Self-inspection Report”, to every other year in consideration of the burden on school staff. The report consists of the business plan for the relevant year, and its report and results, issues for the relevant year presented by each conference body, and inspections and evaluations of the results of efforts to solve such issues, challenges for the future, and minutes (summary). The institution has conducted independent and autonomous self-inspections and evaluations to make a PDCA cycle work well.

To sum up, the institution has promoted education and research activities according to a clearly defined mission, goals and educational objectives as a pioneering professional graduate university in the field of fashion business. It has produced substantial results, such as graduates who can forge the future of fashion, and has made efforts to actively promote internationalization. It has played an important role as a leading educational organization in this field, and is expected to develop further.