

Decision of Institutional Certified Evaluation and Accreditation

Nara Women's University complies with the Standards for the Establishment of Universities and other relevant laws and regulations, and meets the Standards for Evaluation and Accreditation of Universities set by NIAD-UE.

Good practices identified by the review committee include:

- Having in place centers that take advantage of the characteristics of the university, including the Center for Research of Ancient Culture, the Center for Gender and Women's Culture in Asia and the KYOUSEI Science Center for Life and Nature, and these centers producing results in both research and education,
- Having in place various systems and schemes to help female academic staff balance their education and research activities and parenting, and postdoctoral fellows and students in the Doctoral Course to develop their careers, including a system to employ mainly Doctoral Course graduates as fellows to assist educational and research activities, a support system for young researchers, a scheme to provide research funds for newly recruited academic staff, and a scheme to provide funds for helping researchers and academic staff enhance their research skills and quality of research; and the university actively working to resolve challenges facing its academic and supporting staff members in respect of gender equality, exemplified by the establishment of a child care facility,
- Carrying out academic staff evaluation in a strict manner, and reflecting the results in staff allowances and other conditions, exemplified by use of the results in selecting candidates for excellency bonus in the December payment, making decisions about staff salary increase categories in January, and allocating funds to promote research activities,
- The "Career Education Taking Women's Lifestyles into Consideration" program, selected in the FY2010 Support Program for Preparing University Students for a Career offered by MEXT, and the "Development of Human Resources Who Can Contribute to the Growth of Local Communities in Shiga, Kyoto, Nara and Other Neighboring Areas," a joint program of 16 schools including the university (a theme group leader) selected in MEXT's FY2012 Program for Creating Systems for Enhancing and Augmenting Education to Respond to the Needs of Industry, in

which the university promotes systematic career education at institutional level,

- The university's program selected in FY2011 in MEXT's Promotion of Internship Program for Postdoctoral Fellow Program supported by its Funds for the Development of Human Resources in Science and Technology, in which the university actively develops female human resources, targeting postdoctoral fellows and students in the Doctoral Course,
- The "Practical Education to Help Women Develop Advanced Professional Skills," a program in the humanities/social sciences category, and the "Development of Female Scientists in Science and Technology with Practical Knowledge and Skills," a program in the science/engineering/agriculture category, selected in MEXT's FY2008 Support Program for Improving Graduate School Education; and the university continuing to conduct activities after the programs ended in FY2010, and
- A number of the university's students in the undergraduate program, the Master's Course and the Doctoral Course receiving prizes from various local and international academic societies, and winning other prizes, including one of Kodansha's literary prizes (the 46th Mephisto Award), during the period between April 2008 and May 2013.

Areas for improvement identified by the review committee include:

- An inadequate admission rate far below the admission capacity at the Doctoral Course.

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