

## **Decision of Institutional Certified Evaluation and Accreditation**

Fukushima 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:

- Fukushima Future Center for Regional Revitalization, which works with Fukushima Prefecture and local governments, generating new community-building visions and proposals based on the findings of its study on the damage caused by the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami and the nuclear power plant accident, as well as offering support programs and services in the fields ranging from the environment, community policies, education and psychology, to industry revitalization, radiation, and energy, and providing, among others, learning and self-help support for disaster-affected children and youths, support to rebuild and revive local communities and industries, support to clean up and restore the contaminated natural environments, and support for efforts to promote renewable energy with new possibilities;
- Annual comprehensive teacher evaluations conducted based on the self-assessment sheet/self-inspection checklist, with the results reflected in the year-end bonuses for the respective academic year;
- A short-term program designed to promote understanding about post-disaster Fukushima and the rebuilding efforts (The Fukushima Ambassadors Program), which, while tailored for visiting American students, also provides Japanese students with an opportunity to engage in intercultural interactions and dialogue, participants being granted student status and receive academic credits for their work;
- Numerous courses that focus on the actual social conditions in Fukushima shaped by the earthquake and nuclear power plant accident, including such subjects in Soil and Water Pollution as Effects on Human Health; Subject Major Introductory Studies I and II; Study of Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction Support; Nuclear Disaster and Society; and Modern Society and the Environment;
- Making accessible the distribution of final grades for each subject/class to all teachers and students in order to ensure the accuracy, transparency, and fairness of evaluation;
- Having in place a fully functioning grade appeal process at the undergraduate and graduate levels, with the process effectively communicated to all students and staff;

- Programs providing a wide variety of learning opportunities through projects organized and run by students (*e.g.*, “*Machinaka Marché* (Fresh Produce Stall)” and Science Workshop for Kids), funded by MEXT’s support schemes from 2007 and continued after government funding ended;
- The Fukushima Future Studies, which was selected for the FY2013 Program for Promoting Universities as the Center of Community funded by MEXT;
- Cluster of Human and Social Sciences (Course of Liberal Arts for Modern Society), leading to marked improvement made in terms of the number and success rate of job seeker since 2011;
- Campus Life Activation Program, which offers a learning experience vastly different from classroom experience by having students identify problems and devise solutions while assisting to rebuild disaster-stricken lives and communities, and the regional revitalization project, which, designed to uplift community spirits in Fukushima, provides an opportunity for students to develop planning and problem-solving skills and to engage and reach out to local communities; and
- Having in place a basic policy on human resource development and other staff development systems and processes.

Areas for improvement identified by the review committee include:

- Enrollment far above the capacity in one of the graduate schools.

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