

Evaluation of Operational Performance : AY 2019

Hiroshima University

1 General Evaluation

Based on its founding principle, “a single unified university, free and pursuing peace,” Hiroshima University (hereinafter, “HU”) is committed to continuously developing highly cultured individuals with a global outlook who will work for peace through its traditional and proven liberal arts education and advanced education backed by world-leading research activities. It aims to become a University of Worldwide Repute and Splendor for Years into the Future. In its Third Medium-Term Period, HU sets basic objectives to boldly accelerate innovation and internationalization by steadily implementing its Global Campus Expansion and Innovation Initiative. With the goal of becoming a TOP 100 comprehensive research university in the World University Rankings, HU focuses on world-class educational and research activities and the development of leaders who will play important roles in international society.

HU has systematically implemented measures to achieve these objectives under the leadership of the President, in accordance with the “objectives of the university corporation,” including maintenance and improvement operations with funding from various sources.

(Actions for “Strategic and Ambitious Objectives and Plans”)

In AY2019, HU conducted the following major activities as part of its Strategic and Ambitious Objectives and Plans for the Third Medium-Term Period, to actively strengthen its functions as a corporation.

○ The University’s proposal, titled World-Class Researcher Development Through Regional Collaboration

(HIRAKU-Global), was submitted to and selected by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for MEXT’s Strategic Professional Development Programme for Young Researchers. To develop systems and training programs that will help young researchers grow, HU took the following actions: 1) reform of personnel systems, including its tenure track system; 2) centralization of faculty organizations within the Academy; 3) organizational reform, including restructuring graduate schools in ways that will promote interdisciplinary research; and 4) research capacity enhancement, including creating excellent research environments for younger researchers. (Efforts relating to the unit “Actions to Become a Top 100 University in the World University Rankings)

○HU introduced the Assumed Perfect Score system for selecting enrollees for AY 2019. Under the system, if those interested in enrolling in HU have met the external English-language qualification-test score criteria defined by the University, they are considered to have a perfect score on the National Center Test for University Admissions' foreign (English) language test. The University also announced on its website its policies on applying private-sector English language test scores to all of its various types of entrance screening processes, along with its intention to continue using the Assumed Perfect Score system in relation to the National Center Test for University Admissions' foreign language (English) test. (Efforts relating to the unit "Actions to Become a Top 100 University in the World University Rankings)

2 Evaluation by Element

<Overview of Evaluation Results>

	Notable achievement	Some achievement	Progressed as planned	Progressed mostly as planned	Delayed	Require serious improvement
1) Improvement of operation and efficiency			○			
2) Improvement of financial conditions			○			
3) Self-check/evaluation and provision of information			○			
4) Other operation-related matters			○			

I. Operations and Financial Position

(1) Objectives relating to “Improvement of operations and efficiency”

- (i) Improvement of organizational management,
- (ii) Restructuring of educational and research organizations, and
- (iii) Rationalization and improvement of efficiency of administrative operations

[Evaluation] Progressed as planned toward achievement of the Medium-Term Plan
 (Reason) All 12 objectives set in the annual plan were evaluated as being “implemented and exceeding the targets in the annual plan,” or “sufficiently implemented as scheduled in the annual plan.” The general evaluation was determined based on comprehensive consideration of these and other factors.

(2) Objectives relating to “Improvement of financial position”

- (i) Increase in external funds, donations, and internally generated funds for research activities,
- (ii) Cost reductions, and
- (iii) Improvements in asset management

[Evaluation] Progressed as planned toward achievement of the Medium-Term Plan
(Reason) All four objectives set in the annual plan were evaluated as being “implemented and exceeding the targets in the annual plan,” or “sufficiently implemented as scheduled in the annual plan.” The general evaluation was determined based on comprehensive consideration of these and other factors.

(3) Objectives relating to “Self-check/evaluation and provision of information”

- (i) Improvement of evaluation, and
- (ii) Active information disclosure and communication activities

[Evaluation] Progressed as planned toward achievement of the Medium-Term Plan
(Reason) All six objectives set in the annual plan were evaluated as being “implemented and exceeding the targets in the annual plan,” or “sufficiently implemented as scheduled in the annual plan.” The general evaluation was determined based on comprehensive consideration of these and other factors.

(4) Important objectives relating to “Other operation-related matters”

- (i) Improvement and use of facilities,
- (ii) Safety management, and
- (iii) Compliance

[Evaluation] Progressed as planned toward achievement of the Medium-Term Plan
(Reason) All six objectives set in the annual plan were evaluated as being “implemented and exceeding the targets in the annual plan,” or “sufficiently implemented as scheduled in the annual plan.” The general evaluation was determined based on comprehensive consideration of these and other factors including the following conditions.

The following are notable activities implemented in AY2019:

○ Maintenance and improvement operations with funding from various sources

With funding from corporations and other sources, HU opened the Fukuyama Transport Komaru Nigiwai Pavilion multipurpose hall (159 m²) and completed the maintenance of the Higashi-Hiroshima Dream Field soccer ground (artificial turf field of 7,883 m²). Furthermore, to build international exchange facilities to welcome world-class overseas researchers and talented international students, HU concluded an agreement with Higashi-Hiroshima City on jointly funding the construction of the International Exchange Center (funding from Higashi Hiroshima City: 500 million yen; own funds: 1 billion yen; land size: about 4,000 m²).

The following are points that require improvement in AY2019:

○ **Misconduct related to research activities**

There has been a case of scientific misconduct (plagiarizing research results) by a graduate student of Graduate School of Education. It is desirable that HU continue to take systematic measures to prevent scientific misconduct, including reinforcing research ethics education for students.

○ **Inappropriate use of research funds**

Regarding the confirmed cases of inappropriate use of research funds, while HU has taken measures against the recurrence of such incidence, including finding out the cause and taking preventive measures, it is desirable that it continue to take active measures to prevent the misuse of research funds.

II. Improvement in Quality of Education, Research, and Other Academic Activities

The following are notable activities implemented in AY2019:

○ Developing world-leading research bases

In AY 2019, HU implemented a project titled the Cutting-edge International Project, which is aimed at developing a super interdisciplinary international research and education base to provide graduate school students with opportunities to learn in collaboration with education programs, and selected the Hiroshima Institute of Health Economics Research for the Project. Furthermore, HU has built a network of both on- and off-campus organizations to create a system for setting up research bases for collaborating with other organizations on international joint research and interdisciplinary research, and subsequently established the RIKEN-Hiroshima University Collaboration Research Facility to promote collaboration and cooperation with RIKEN.

Joint usage and joint research centers

○ Promoting joint research in collaboration with Inter-University Research Institute Corporations

Hiroshima Synchrotron Radiation Center collaborated with the National Institutes of Natural Sciences and other organizations in conducting joint research on controlling the quantum state of atoms with the time structure of synchrotron radiation, and subsequently published two press releases in a newspaper and other media. In addition, with the University's project, the Academic Network of Synchrotron Radiation Science Infrastructure, adopted for the Master Plan 2020 (Science Council of Japan), HU has strived to further strengthen its collaboration with other organizations.

Hiroshima University Hospital

(Education and research activities)

○ Promoting international exchange with overseas organizations

To further promote international exchange with overseas organizations, the HU Hospital and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) jointly launched a grassroots technical cooperation project, Project for Improving Epilepsy Diagnostic Capability and Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Kathmandu and Surrounding Areas, and welcomed Nepalese doctors for training and medical students visiting the University from Egypt on a short-term exchange program. The Hospital provided them with practical training on how to operate the surgery support robot "Da Vinci," a tour of

the Hospital, and a special lecture on the novel coronavirus.

(Medical services)

○ Promoting genomic medicine in the field of childhood cancer

In September 2019, the Hospital was appointed as a designated cancer genomic medicine hospital and developed a system to provide cutting-edge cancer treatment. In addition, as the only designated childhood cancer hospital in the Chugoku-Shikoku area, the Hospital has created a network to collaborate with other hospitals and promoted genomic medicine as a new approach to treating childhood cancer.

○ Establishing a Hiroshima Diabetes Mellitus (DM) Station

The Hospital set up a Hiroshima DM Station to improve the quality of diabetic medical care through collaboration with other medical institutions to the same high standard throughout Hiroshima Prefecture. With a subsidy from Hiroshima Prefecture's Fund for Comprehensively Securing Regional Health and Long-term Care, the Hospital began providing the following services:

- 1) telemedicine, or medical advice on daily care with the use of IoT and ICT technologies to patients in regions that lack diabetes specialists; and
- 2) medical care delivery, or sending medical consultants to medical institutions in need.

(Operations)

○ Strengthening the Hospital's Medical Safety Management Department

To improve the quality of its medical services and provide safer medical care, the Hospital appointed professors to the Medical Safety Management Department and endeavored to strengthen its medical safety management system.

○ Career continuation support for female doctors

As in AY 2017 and in AY 2018, the Hospital was selected in AY 2019 for the third consecutive year by the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare as an organization to help implement its Female Doctors Support Project and thereby helped female doctors continue their careers.