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Chair, Evaluation Promotion Committee
Kwansei Gakuin
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2017 Kwansei Gakuin University Self-Assessment Results

We have the pleasure of releasing the results of the Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) self-assessment for the 2017 academic year—an initiative to review our philosophies, goals, education and research targets and policies, etc., and evaluate the progress toward realizing the goals and action plans.

Our AY2017 self-assessment evaluated the status of the achievement of the vision (goals) and action plans formulated in AY2015.

With a view to reinforcing the PDCA (Plan-Do-Check-Act) cycle toward spontaneous and self-sustaining development, in AY2004 Kwansei Gakuin established a New Self-assessment System, under which we would annually carry out a self-assessment linked to the Certified Evaluation and Accreditation System. In AY2006, KGU was subject to the first Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for University performed by the Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA), and was accredited as conforming to the JUAA University Standards.

In AY2009, we reviewed the evaluation items, reflecting changes in the JUAA's evaluation criteria, redefined our five-year goals through AY2013 and worked on them. In AY2014, we reassessed the progress made during the last five years in achieving the redefined goals. During that period, in AY2013 we underwent the Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for University for the second time, resulting in KGU again being granted accreditation as satisfying the JUAA University Standards.

KGU self-assessment conducted so far has enjoyed high acclaim as a pioneering approach to keep the PDCA cycle in motion. We have indeed been interviewed by several organizations including the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the JUAA and other universities on our self-assessment efforts. At the same time, however, we have faced several challenges.

In addressing these challenges, we have worked to incorporate a process that would allow us to modify our goals flexibly in response to changes in social and environmental conditions, and share important matters for inclusion in different policies, so as to create consistency among different schools and departments.

KGU self-assessment from AY2015 onward is obviously intended to ensure the quality in education that the JUAA suggests in its evaluation (basic evaluation) as to whether or not the School Education Act, the Standards for Establishment of Universities and other relevant legal requirements common to all universities are respected. In addition, our self-assessment seeks to have the internal quality assurance system operate effectively, thereby improving the quality of education and research, as indicated in the direction of the third Certified Evaluation and Accreditation.

We will adopt the perspective of the third Certified Evaluation and Accreditation and incorporate opinions from KGU and its schools and departments in the method of implementing the self-assessment. By doing so, we will ensure that the PDCA cycle for our internal quality

assurance system functions properly, thereby establishing a better self-assessment system.

We must ensure that KGU's self-assessment evolves in such a way as to lead to more sophisticated, more self-sustaining and higher quality education and research.

Should you have any comments or suggestions regarding our report (or its supporting documents), please contact our Secretariat.

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