Sharing Information on Progress (SIP) Report

Kwansei Gakuin University

August 2014
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I. The commitment to PRME

KGU acceded to PRME in September 2012, followed by the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) in May 2003. It is our pleasure to present our first Sharing Information on Progress Report.

Kwansei Gakuin University, as a learning community based on the principles of Christianity, inspires its members to seek their life missions, and cultivates them to be creative and capable world citizens who embody its motto “Mastery for Service” by transforming society with compassion and integrity. Kwansei Gakuin celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2014, and the mission of providing education based on the principles of Christianity to nurture world citizens who embody our school motto has not wavered.

Kwansei Gakuin University recognizes producing graduates who will be able to contribute to society's progress in the next generation as its sublime mission and social responsibility. I am sure that in accordance with PRME, we will be able to fulfill this mission and help enrich society by focusing on producing world citizens who embody our school motto “Mastery for Service”.

Osamu Murata
President
Kwansei Gakuin University
II. Major achievements

[Principle 1] Purpose
We will develop the capabilities of students to be future generators of sustainable value for business and society at large and to work for an inclusive and sustainable global economy.

Brief Overview:
Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) was founded on “the principles of Christianity,” and these principles continue as the core of its existence. This refers to learning about the theological and cultural aspects of Christianity, but it also means that all the goals and values of this community are firmly rooted in Christian ideals. Human rights, peace, respect for nature, social justice, and cross-cultural understanding are prime examples of such values that guide our studies and life together.

Through this educational environment, KGU motivates its members to seek their life missions. The content of a KGU education nurtures people to develop social, moral, and academic skills that allow them to participate creatively around the world, and take leadership as agents of change in the societies where they live, thus actualizing the ideal of “world citizen.” World citizens have the skills to communicate and empathize with others, and then take responsibility for creating a better world. KGU’s school motto, “Mastery for Service,” is explained further by emphasizing that its motivation must be the care and concern for others.

Thus KGU contributes to develop the capabilities of students who are able to contribute to the sustainable development and growth of global society under a KGU education.

Achievement:
Publicizing and Advancing KGU’s Mission and School Motto
Kwansei Gakuin celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2014, and various projects are held as part of the anniversary celebration. As one of the projects, we have implemented measures, such as distribution of leaflets written about our mission statement and school motto at on-campus events, to disseminate KGU’s mission and to reaffirm what our mission and school motto, which have been passed down since our establishment in 1889, means in a modern society.

[Principle 2] Values
We will incorporate into our academic activities and curricula the values of global social responsibility as portrayed in international initiatives such as the United Nations Global Compact.

Brief Overview:
We set out our Visions for the next 10 years in 2009, composed of 6 key platforms, and embarked on a medium-term plan "New Strategic Plan" to be achieved in 2018. “Becoming a world center for research appropriate to KGU” is one of the key platforms. As researchers who are also citizens of the world, we must vigorously pursue research and create a global focus for research to search for solutions to global-scale problems such as income disparities, war, environmental degradation, natural disasters, poverty,
discrimination and cultural conflicts. We shall create a research promotion system that continuously broadcasts the findings of KGU research to the world.

Achievement 1:
**Activities of the Institute for Human Rights Research and Education**
The Institute for Human Rights Research and Education at KGU carries out various human rights education and research activities that deal with a wide range of discrimination issues from the perspective of human rights. We published a research journal and educational pamphlets, and held 4 research seminars in AY 2013.

Achievement 2:
**Admission of Refugees through Recommendation by the UNHCR**
KGU has signed an agreement in 2006 with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Japan whereby it admits 3 refugees chosen by the UNHCR to the university each year. Students admitted are exempt from all tuition fees. There are many cases of refugees who cannot enter Japanese universities for reasons such as the high cost of tuition and living and the difficulty of getting a certificate of graduation from schools in their home country. At KGU, our goal is to give these refugees a higher education and the specialized skills necessary to become leaders in contributing to peace and economic progress, working either in Japan or in their home countries. We also want them to study together with Japanese students so that all involved can work together to solve such worldwide problems as persecution and conflict. KGU is seeking donations that will go towards scholarships to support these refugee students. Currently KGU has included refugee students on campus from various countries, such as Myanmar and Vietnam.

Achievement 3:
**Mandatory Business Ethics Course**
A firm ethical basis and a high level of English-language ability are essential for the international business person. To acquire these, all students of the Institute of Business and Accounting at KGU take compulsory courses in Business Ethics and English Communication, each carrying 2 course credits. The Business Ethics course aims to provide students with understanding of the ethical issues of facing the manager. It will first look at the definition of ‘ethics’ and at its general significance in the business context, with attention to the corporation’s responsibilities to all its ‘stakeholders’ and to society as a whole. It will then look at the topic from a variety of viewpoints – historical, cultural, financial and legal – looking in each case at the ethical implications of managerial decisions.

**[Principle 3] Method**
We will create educational frameworks, materials, processes and environments that enable effective learning experiences for responsible leadership.

**Brief Overview:**
KGU provides various educational programs and systems to enable effective learning experiences for responsible leadership, such as Cross-Cultural College (CCC) and Global Leader Certificate Program.
**CCC**

KGU has received a subsidy from the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for the “Re-Inventing Japan Project” from FY2011 to 2015, to establish a Canada-Japan collaborative education project (CCC) in collaboration with Mount Allison University, Queen’s University, and the University of Toronto.

The objectives of CCC is to educate the leaders of the future, who possess:
- The basic knowledge and multicultural awareness which will enable them to contribute to the sustainable development of society, and to solve the problems facing that society.
- A grasp of the common issues facing Canada and Japan, and the ability to propose solutions based on a comprehensive understanding of the cultural background of the two societies.
- The ability to communicate effectively in a multi-cultural context, including a high level of language skills so that they may both understand the opinions and viewpoints of others, and communicate their own.
- An interest in other cultures and societies, and the ability to work effectively in collaboration with people from diverse backgrounds, with understanding of and respect for their values.
- The confidence and determination to act effectively in a multicultural environment, based on practical experience of working with people from other cultures.

**Global Leader Certificate Program**

The Global Leader Certificate Program aims to foster leaders who will have the knowledge and skills to lead management roles. Students are required to participate in a 5-month International Cooperation Activity: UN Youth Volunteers, or KGU International Volunteer Program in collaboration with partner institutions such as International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV). This Certificate Program is offered for 50 students. We are confident that through the program KGU will produce capable world citizens who will contribute positively in the global community.

**Achievement 1:**

**CCC Joint Seminar in Japan and Canada**

Joint Seminar 2013 was conducted in Japan and Canada for 4 weeks from August 2 to 31, 2013. Students were at Mt. Allison University in Canada for the first half until August 16 and then at KGU for the last half. 6 students from 3 Canadian Universities and 6 students from KGU participated in this program. During the program, they lived and studied together. For the joint research, the students were divided into three groups of Canadian students and KGU students for research and final group presentations.
Achievement 2:

**CCC Global Career Seminar**
Global Career Seminar was held at KGU for 10 days from August 1 to 10, 2013. A total of 40 students from 4 universities worked together to analyze and solve real problems posed by industry and company representatives. Participants presented their conclusions to representatives from participation firms.

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**[Principle 4] Research**
We will engage in conceptual and empirical research that advances our understanding about the role, dynamics, and impact of corporations in the creation of sustainable social, environmental and economic value.

**Brief Overview:**

**Research Consortium**
KGU Graduate School of Policy Studies recognizes the necessity to ensure “diversity of viewpoints” and “practicality and cooperation with real-world society.” The Graduate School of Policy Studies organizes the Research Consortium as an institution for research cooperation between industry, government and academia, with the aim of promoting research cooperation and human resource exchange with private businesses, research institutes, national/local government bodies and other organizations.

**Institute of Business and Accounting**
The Institute of Business and Accounting at KGU offers a unique education system, comprising the Business School and the Accounting School. In the International Management Course (IMC) under the Business School, all courses are conducted in English. The IMC places great emphasis on practical training: group work and case studies will deal with actual business issues; lectures and seminars by business leaders and others with practical business expertise will give students insights into the day-to-day issues faced in business life, and the internship system will enable students to gain hands-on experience of life in the business world, before graduation.

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**Achievement 1:**

**The 16th Research Consortium**
The consortium comprises members from business and other organizations, as well as the Graduate School of Policy Studies faculty and students. This consortium holds general meetings in May every year, as well as commemorative projects. At the 16th Research Consortium held in 23 May 2014, presentations were made by 12 students.

**Achievement 2:**

**Activities of Institute of Business and Accounting**
In an effort to enhance and invigorate research activities pursued by faculty members,
the Institute encourages them to publish their research in the study group journal “Business & Accounting Review” issued by the Institute. The research achievements of faculty members are made public on KG’s official website via the University’s research achievement database.

**Principle 5** Partnership

*We will interact with managers of business corporations to extend our knowledge of their challenges in meeting social and environmental responsibilities and to explore jointly effective approaches to meeting these challenges.*

**Brief Overview:**

With a view to revitalizing efforts concerning the three missions of academia, i.e. education, research and social contribution, and thereby enhancing the presence of the University, the New Strategic Plan, established in 2008, and the New Medium-term Plan, formulated in 2009, specify the following Vision, key strategy and action, which are made public on KGU’s website.

- **Vision:** Strengthening the University’s ties to the local community, business and global society
- **Key strategy:** Establishing a system for expansion and enhancement of the University’s ties to the local community, business and global society
- **Action:** Planning and promoting measures to reinforce the functions of the Social Outreach Center

While establishing the abovementioned principles, organizations, the New Strategic Plan, and the New Medium-term Plan, the University has set out its policy of collaboration with industry, government and other universities, etc., as well as cooperation with local community and the international community.

**Achievement:**

**Support for entrepreneurs and corporate managers in cooperation with businesses**

As a university with specialists in the diverse fields of humanities, social science and natural science, KGU has put in place systems to cooperate with businesses and provide comprehensive support for entrepreneurs and corporate managers who have an outstanding technological competence and innovative ideas, holding a “key” to a vital society in the future.

- **Business clinic:** This is a system whereby the University provides various managerial, entrepreneurial and technical consultations, free of charge, by taking full advantage of its human resources. The University accepts requests for consultation regarding business management, technology, legal affairs and tax affairs, and sends its faculty members, alumni and other specialists to the “clinic users” as necessary, in accordance with the content of consultation. The University received 8 requests for consultation in AY 2011.

- **Investment and loan system in tie-up with Senshu Ikeda Bank:** Based on the collaboration agreement with the Senshu Ikeda Bank, Ltd. (concluded December 14, 2004), monthly “KGI Business Support Committee” meetings are held with a view to ensuring appropriate operation of the investment and loan system established in tie-up with the Bank for the purpose of revitalizing the local economy. Under this system, on
February 29, 2012, the University and the Bank made an investment in Maruchipuru Denshi Zukan (literally “multiple e-picture book”), a company launched by graduate students of the University’s Graduate School of Policy Studies.


*We will facilitate and support dialog and debate among educators, students, business, government, consumers, media, civil society organizations and other interested groups and stakeholders on critical issues related to global social responsibility and sustainability.*

**Brief Overview:**

Serving society – often referred to as ‘the third mission of a university’ – is an important function linking the university with society, and has direct relevance to the KGU mission. We shall strengthen our links with the local community, corporation, public authorities and other universities, and enhance the scope of the activities of our Social Outreach Center to include service to society, and thus reinvigorate the educational and research activities of KGU. We shall also strengthen our ties with international organizations and serve international society by contributing in such globally important areas as poverty, conflict education, welfare, medical care and the environment.

**Achievement:**

**Second KGU World Citizens Global Forum**

KGU World Citizens Global Forum features keynote lectures by prominent figures that embody the concept of “world citizen” by practicing “Mastery for Service”.

The second KGU World Citizens Global Forum was held on February 2nd 2013 at Tokyo Station Conference. The forum included a keynote lecture and a panel discussion. In the keynote lecture, Ms. Angela Kane, the United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, introduced the UN’s efforts to achieve peace through disarmament and said that education through academic institutions such as universities has an important role in building a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons. Following the keynote lecture, a panel discussion was held with Ms. Kane, Mr. Nobuyasu Abe (Director, Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Japan Institute of International Affairs), Dr. Fumihiko Yoshida (Deputy Director of the Editorial Board, The Asahi Shim bun), and Dr. Takahiro Shinyo (vice-president of Kwansei Gakuin University).

The forum attracted an audience of about 120 people, including foreign embassy officials, students and local residents. The forum also included a lively question-and-answer session.
III. Key objectives

The above-mentioned New Strategic Plan (2009-2018) reconfirms the ‘Mission’ and the school motto “Mastery for Service” that all members of KGU have held in common over its long history, and sets out clearly the ideals for our graduates and students with regard to the implementation of Principle1. These were brought together to form Six Visions of KGU for the next 10 years (2009-2018). To realize these Visions, KGU formulates in 2014 the “New Medium-term Plan 2014-2018” as strategic and specific mid-term measures within five years from AY 2014.

Regarding Principle5, to plan and promote measures to reinforce the functions of the KGU Social Outreach Center, KGU will reestablish a clear policy on how the University should pursue social outreach/collaboration efforts, in terms of the goal, objectives, scope and continuity of such efforts.

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