

Minutes from the First Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2010

1. Date and Time: Friday, June 25, 2010
1:30 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
2. Location: The Large Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Administrative Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 10 Members: (From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Vice-Chairperson Sedukhin of the Board of Executives, Regent Oka, Regent Makita, Regent Kanno
(External members) Council Member Sugihara, Council Member Seya, Council Member Matsukawa, Council Member Miyazawa, Council Member Naito
2 Auditors : Auditor Kuriki, Auditor Fukunishi
Regent Iwase, Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Makita, Council Member Kanno
5. Proceedings

<New Business>

A: FY 2009 Project Achievement Report

Regent Kanno provided an explanation on the FY 2009 Project Achievement Report. After exchanging opinions, etc. as summarized below, the Management Council approved this issue as proposed on the draft.

Opinions, etc.

- 92.5%, the employment rate for graduates from the University of Aizu in FY 2009 is splendid. What measures will be taken to raise this rate to 100%, a target for FY 2011?
 - The Office for Employment Support was established in this fiscal year, with two career counselors working at the office. Students having difficulty in talking to and negotiating with someone are likely to have difficulty at their job interviews as well. Emphasis will be placed on supporting such students.
 - As students these days seek a job by communicating with companies through the Internet, career education must be started at an early juncture after students' admission to the University. I am under the impression that faculty members at the University of Aizu have not supported students' job seeking activities very much, as faculty members take it granted that that University can find a job by graduation of students. As it is likely that employment situation will become more difficult hereafter, the University should enhance close relationship with local communities and industry more than ever.
 - Previously, as the employment rate of the University graduates has been high, faculty members have taken the situation regarding students' employment activities without careful consideration. However, University faculty's awareness regarding the situation has been changing recent years, and they have started to believe that earnest support from faculty members is required for students' job seeking activities. Even so, the number of job offers to University students from companies in the Prefecture is critically small.

- With no expectation that students from the University of Aizu would seek jobs within the Prefecture, companies in the Prefecture have not sent job offers to the University. There may be mismatches between students seeking jobs at the University of Aizu and employers in the Prefecture.
 - I assume that students proficient in English have an advantage in seeking employment not only at IT-related companies but at non IT-related companies. Employers should be free from preconceived notions regarding students in order to recruit good human resources.
- It was explained that there are some students who are not very good at English. That is quite contrary to an expectation that students at the University of Aizu have outstanding English skills.
 - It has been decided that all first-year students at the Undergraduate School will be required to take TOEFL.
- It was stated that the amount of external funds obtained had declined. I wonder if compiling evaluation results for the University Institutional Accreditation Evaluation, which is the next item for discussion, has placed burden on faculty members, and and negatively affected their efforts on application for Kakenhi, etc.
 - The application procedures for Kakenhi are not so complicated. Faculty members just have to learn how to prepare documents to have their applications accepted.
 - With regard to the amount of external funds for educational/international exchange obtained per faculty member, the University has obtained a relatively large amount of funds, compared with other universities in the similar size.
- It was stated in the explanation regarding local contributions by the Junior College Division that the Junior College Division took part in a business project commissioned by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry as a managing corporation. Is there any plan to extend this style of participation in projects?
 - As for this project, it was considered the best that the Junior College Division takes part in the project as a managing corporation.
- I would like to be informed of future plans for collaborative activities between prefectural high schools and the University of Aizu.
 - In this academic year, Aizu Gakuho High School, a unified lower and upper secondary school, was designated as a super science high school by the National Government, with comprehensive support from the University of Aizu. there is no point encouraging competition between Aizu High School and Aizu Gakuho High School for the first place in the Aizu area. Discussions on this subject should be conducted with the local communities, so that individual high schools can further develop by emphasizing their distinctive characteristics, promotion of international aspects in education for Aizu Gakuho High School, for example.

B: FY 2009 Settlement of Accounts

Regent Kanno provided an explanation on the FY 2009 settlement of accounts.

No questions were particularly asked on this issue, and the Management Council approved this issue as proposed on the draft.

C: Self-evaluation by the University of Aizu for University Institutional Accreditation Evaluations

Regent Kanno and Regent Makita respectively provided an explanation on the self-evaluation for university institutional accreditation. After exchanging opinions, etc. as summarized below, the Management Council approved this issue as proposed on the draft.

(Opinions, etc.)

- Were evaluations conducted based on a system of absolute evaluation or comparative evaluation?
 - They were conducted based on a system of absolute evaluation.
 - Is it considered sufficient if a minimum requirement is satisfied for each evaluation item? Are there any items which have been positively evaluated for their high attainment level, indicating that this is excellent, for example?
 - In this evaluation, satisfaction of minimum requirements is considered sufficient.

6. Other

Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives gave an explanation regarding the contribution of the University of Aizu made for the “Hayabusa” mission, and the special forum on next-generation supercomputers scheduled to be held at the University of Aizu.

Minutes from the Second Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2010

1. Date and Time: Tuesday, November 2, 2010
3:28 p.m. – 3:48 p.m.
2. Location: 双鶴 (Sokaku), 2nd Floor, Aizu-Wakamatsu Washington Hotel
3. Attendance:
Present: 10 Members:(From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Vice-Chairperson Sedukhin of the Board of Executives, Regent Oka, Regent Makita, Regent Kanno
(External members) Council Member Sugihara, Council Member Seya, Council Member Matsukawa, Council Member Miyazawa, Council Member Naito
2 Auditors : Auditor Kuriki, Auditor Fukunishi
Regent Iwase, Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Oka, Council Member Kanno
5. Proceedings

<New Business>

A. FY 2011 Budget Planning Policy (Draft)

Regent Kanno provided an explanation on this issue based on the document labeled “New Business A”, which had been distributed to members of the Council. After exchange of questions and answers summarized below, this proposal was approved by the Council as proposed.

Questions and Answers

- The operational subsidies from the Prefectural Government have been reduced by 1% every year. Until when this situation will continue?
 - The rule for reduction of the subsidies by 1% every year will continue during the current period of the mid-term plan.
- When will the rule (for 1% reduction of the subsidies) be reviewed?
 - As the next mid-term plan period will start from FY 2012, consultation with the Prefectural Government is expected to start within the next fiscal year.
- The University should be well-prepared for consultation with the Prefectural Government towards the review.

<Report>

A. Surplus Funds after the Settlement of Accounts for FY 2009

Regent Kanno provided an explanation on this subject based on the document labeled “Report A”, which had been distributed to members of the Council. Questions and answers were exchanged as summarized below.

Questions and Answers

- According to the explanation, a total of 450 million yen will be used for construction of the dormitory (250million yen) and renewal of durable goods for lecture rooms (200 million yen). This accounts for approximately 80% of the accumulated reserve funds for specific purposes. Isn't there any problem with

using such a large portion of the funds?

- As approximately 210 million yen of the surplus funds after the settlement of accounts for FY 2009 will be added to the accumulated reserve funds of approximately 500 million yen, the total amount of reserve funds will be approximately 700 million yen, out of which 450 million yen will be used for construction of the dormitory and renewal of durable goods.

Minutes from the Third Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2010 (Summary)

1. Date and Time: Monday, February 28, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.
2. Location: The Large Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Administrative Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 8 Members: (From the University) Vice Chairperson Sedukhin of the Board of Executives, Regent Oka, Regent Makita, Regent Kanno
(External members) Council Member Sugihara, Council Member Seya, Council Member Miyazawa, Council Member Naito
1 Auditor: Auditor Fukunishi
Administrative staff
4. Absent: Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Council Member Matsukawa
5. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Oka, Council Member Makita
6. Proceedings
<New Business>
 - A. FY 2011 Budget for the Public University Corporation, The University of Aizu (Draft)

Regent Kanno provided an explanation regarding the draft of the FY 2011 Budget. After an exchange of questions and answers described below, the budget was approved as proposed on the draft.

(Questions, etc.)

 - Under restricted conditions, the budget plan is well organized through various efforts. How has the budget allocation ratio between the University and the Junior College Division changed over the last four or five years?
 - Although the total budget is reduced every fiscal year by 1 %, approximately 20 million yen, the budget allocation ratio between the University and the Junior College Division remains basically unchanged. However, it varies considerably depending on expenses required for repair of facilities and equipment, and retirement allowances paid to retiring faculty members, etc.
 - During the first term of the mid-term plans which will come to an end in FY 2011, the reduction rule of 1%, a factor for promotion of business efficiency, has applied to general business operations. With regard to handling of operational subsidies for the second term which will start in FY 2012, discussions between the University and the Prefectural Government are now underway toward the establishment of a relevant rule by the end of FY 2011. If the annual budget cut of 20 million yen continues, research and educational expenses will have to be reviewed sometime in the future.

- As for national universities, funds accumulated through the reduction of budgets have been returned to national universities in the form of research grants from the national government. How about it in cases of public university corporations?
 - The question is whether it is possible to make a new relevant rule. The 1% reduction rule is still in effect for national university corporations, which have entered in the second term of the mid-term plans. In addition, the emphasis on allocation of national government research funds has been shifted to prestigious universities.
- It is said that the gap in allocation of research funds is widening between national universities and public universities. How do you explain it?
 - National university corporations receive operational subsidies from the national government, and private universities receive national subsidies for private schools. Although public university corporations do not receive subsidies directly from the national government, equivalent amounts are allocated to relevant local governments as local tax grants. As for national research grants, which are budgeted separately from subsidies mentioned above, the open application system is employed. However, due to the shift of the emphasis on allocation of national government research funds to prestigious universities, the system does not work to compensate for the reduction in operational subsidies for all universities. Someday as the mechanism to sustain all universities may disappear, the University must take all kinds of measures to survive.

7. Other

A. A Summary of Activities of the Public University Corporation, The University of Aizu

Regent Kanno and Regent Iwase provided an explanation regarding activities of the University, and Regent Makita provided an explanation for the Junior College Division. After the explanations, there was an exchange of questions and answers as described below.

(Questions, etc.)

- With regard the development of super computers which the University of Aizu will work on hereafter, does “10-petaflops” mean the processing speed?
 - The development of 10 petaflops-scale super computers has been worked on in Japan as a national project. “FLOPS” is an index of computer performance, which indicates how many floating-point operations can be carried out per second. The goal of this project is to achieve performance of 10 petaflops in total by integrating multiple small-scale and high-speed processors. Considering the significance of the University’s engagement in this development, the University is required not only to develop hardware but also to educate and nurture human resources who will be involved in research on super computers in the future.
- If the University is to work on development of super computers, is it necessary for the University to substantially upgrade computers currently used for research activities?
 - It would cost the University a huge amount of money to improve its computer environment on campus.
 - Will the University have super computers somewhere else, and use them by remote control?
 - For some other research activities conducted at the University, super computers already

installed at other major universities in Japan have been used through networks, and the research for this project will be carried out in the same manner.