

Minutes from the First Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2008

1. Date and Time: Friday, June 27, 2008
1:50 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.
2. Location: The Large Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Administrative Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 1 non-member: Auditor Kuriki
9 Members: (From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Vice-chairperson Mirenkov of the Board of Executives, Regent Kuroda, Regent Makita, Regent Saito
(External members) Council Member Suetake, Council Member Seya, Council Member Sakai, Council Member Nakajima
Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Makita, Council Member Saito

5. Proceedings <New Business>

Prior to the proceedings, council members were introduced. Following this, the Chairperson of the Board of Executives provided an explanation on “operational situations, etc. of the University.”

A: FY 2007 Project Achievement Report

Regent Saito provided an explanation on the descriptions in the project achievement report pertaining to the Corporation and the University, and Regent Makita provided an explanation on descriptions in the said report pertaining to the Junior College Division. After the following exchange of opinions, it was decided that this report would be proposed to the Board of Executives.

Opinions, etc.

Are there any particular reasons for specifying “the ratio of international faculty members to be in charge of specialized courses” described as barometers in the mid-term goals and mid-term plans?

- This is an objective that had been indicated by the Prefectural Government. It can be presumed that the Prefecture may be expecting the University, as an international university, to have a percentage of international faculty of approximately 50%. It is assumed that networks of international faculty members was highly influential in the University’s acceptance to the “Career Development Program for Students from Asia

for FY 2008.” Although there are still pension plan issues to be addressed regarding employment of new international faculty members, initiation of recruiting activities in Eastern Europe this autumn is being considered.

- At the time when the University was established, roughly 60% of the faculty members were from overseas, and it is assumed that this ratio is regarded as reference point for setting of barometers by the Prefecture.

(Opinions, etc.)

When will the annual plans be formulated? I would also like to ask if the barometers which have already been submitted are the finalized version.

- The annual plans will be formulated and submitted to the Prefecture by the end of March based on the interim evaluations. All the barometers indicated in the mid-term goals and mid-term plans are shown in the submitted documents.

(Opinion, etc.)

There seem to be too many items in the plans. I would like to know how we should judge the number of items which have been assessed with an evaluation of “D.”
(Council Member Suetake)

- Since the current plans were based on the mid-term plans which were drawn up when the University was incorporated, the University did not have much experience in formulation of plans and the same items are written in multiple sections, so the current plans may not seem to be well-organized. In addition, it is necessary to operate the University in order to reduce items assessed as “D” within the six-year period for achievement of the mid-term goals.
- This evaluation clearly shows the situations of the Corporation. In accordance with the evaluations conducted by the Prefectural Evaluation Committee last fiscal year, support was expressed regarding the Corporation’s approach in conducting evaluations. Extremely important items and details which must not be forgotten have been included in the items which had been assessed with an evaluation of “D” because of slow progress relevant to these items. It is necessary to start and focus on implementation of important items. At first, the reform of the Undergraduate School, which was considered for years, and the reform of the Graduate School were completed in FY 2007. Initiation of faculty development (FD) is planned for the next stage.

B: FY 2007 Settlement of Accounts

Regent Saito provided an explanation on the FY 2007 settlement of accounts. After the following exchange of opinions, it was decided that this report would be proposed to the Board of Executives.

(Opinion, etc.)

Budgets for operational subsidies may be reduced by the Prefecture unless early proposals pertaining to utilization of the appropriated surplus are made.

- The mid-term plans are scheduled for review this fiscal year, and utilization of the appropriated surplus will be discussed taking account priority of items in the mid-term plans.

(Opinion, etc.)

The budget for the IT Summer Forum is only 5,000,000 yen. I wonder if some of the appropriated surplus funds could be utilized for the forum.

- Regarding the IT Summer Forum, it is possible to make ends meet within the Corporation. It has not been considered to utilize appropriated surplus funds for concrete projects.

C: Selection of Members of the Committee for Selection of the Chairperson of the Board of Executives

Mr. Katahira, Director of the General Affairs Division, provided an explanation on selection of members of the Committee for Selection of the Chairperson of the Board of Executives. Taking into consider the following opinions, Council Member Sugihara and Council member Seya were selected by mutual selection, and Council Member Suetake was selected as supplementary member of the said Committee.

(Opinion, etc.)

I would like to decline the post as a member of the Committee as I am employed in public administration.

Council Member Sugihara's insights from a national perspective should be made most of as a member of the Committee.

<Report>

D: Policies Regarding International Strategies of the University of Aizu

Regent Iwase reported on policies regarding the International Strategies of the University of Aizu.

Minutes from the Second Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2008

1. Date and Time: Wednesday, October 8, 2008
1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.
2. Location: The Large Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Administrative Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 2 Non-members: Auditor Arima, Auditor Kuriki
8 Members: (From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Vice-chairperson Mirenkov of the Board of Executives, Regent Kuroda, Regent Makita, Regent Saito (External members) Council Member Sakai, Council Member Seya, Council Member Sugihara
Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Kuroda, Council Member Saito
5. Proceedings
<New Business>
A: Budget Planning Policy of the Public University Corporation, the University of Aizu of FY 2008 (Draft)
Regent Saito provided an explanation on the budget planning policy of FY 2008 (Draft). After the following questions were asked and answered, the proposal was approved by the Council as proposed.

(Questions)
Questions related to computer lease fees, including companies that leases would be contracted to and the number of computers to be leased

<Report>
B: Surplus Funds after the Settlement of Accounts for FY 2007
Regent Saito provided an explanation on the surplus funds after the settlement of accounts for FY 2007, followed by the exchange of opinions, etc. as described below.

(Opinion, etc.)
It is necessary for the Cooperation to request the Government of Fukushima Prefecture to make rules regarding provision of operational subsidies more appropriate, from the viewpoint of management of the Corporation in a well-planned manner.

C: Visits to Universities in Eastern European Countries

Chairperson of the Board of Executives reported on visits to universities in Eastern European countries.

D: The IT Summer Forum 2008

Regent Iwase reported on the IT Summer Forum 2008, followed by the exchange of opinions, etc. described below.

(Opinion, etc.)

From the perspective of contribution to regional agriculture, it is necessary to promote cooperation with JA (Japan Agricultural Cooperatives) as well as Fukushima Agricultural Technology Center.

In terms of contribution to local communities, consideration should be given to securing of graduates to work for companies within Fukushima Prefecture.

E: Activities with Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Regent Iwase reported on activities with JST currently under way. After the exchange of opinions, etc. described below, Regent Makita reported on activities carried out by the Junior College Division.

(Opinion, etc.)

These activities are challenges to make the University of Aizu recognized internationally as a base for IT-related research and education.

Minutes from the Third Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2008

1. Date and Time: Wednesday, November 5, 2008
2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
2. Location: The Large Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Administrative Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 9 Members: (From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Vice-chairperson Mirenkov of the Board of Executives, Regent Kuroda, Regent Makita, Regent Saito
(External members) Council Member Sakai, Council Member Suetake, Council Member Sugihara, Council Member Nakajima
Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Kuroda, Council Member Saito

5. Proceedings

<New Business>

A: Opinions to be Given to the Governor of Fukushima Prefecture Regarding (Changes to) the Mid-term Goals

Regent Saito provided an explanation on the opinions to be given to the Governor of the Prefecture regarding changes (draft) to the mid-term goals, and the following exchange of opinions was made. On the condition that in the future, opinions expressed during exchange of opinions would be reported by the Corporation to the Prefecture, it was approved that the response of “no opinion” would be reported to the Board of Executives by the Council.

(Opinions, etc.)

An item, “industry-university-government cooperation,” was changed to “development of regional industries” due to suggestions by the Prefectural Assembly. Does this mean that there will be no problem for the University even if the term “industry-university-government cooperation” is not used?

- Regarding change of a title of this item, the term “industry-university-government cooperation” still remains in item (ア), and it could be recognized that this change has made the goal broader.
- For the University, industry-university-government cooperation is the only way that it

can contribute to regional industries.

Regarding ensuring that excellent students can be secured, what are the reasons that the term “strategic” is used only in the goals of the Undergraduate School and the Junior College?

- My understanding is that further strategic actions will be taken in severe situations for the University Graduate School and Junior College in particular, now and in the future.

Why was the phrase, “which will facilitate flexible,” added to a sentence in the goals?

- It is likely that conditions for flexible formation of frameworks for research have been developing following recognition of joint graduate schools by MEXT. The Prefecture has been taking this matter into consideration.
- Although proposals on joint undergraduate schools, etc. have been made in Japan, only Fukushima Prefecture has not yet made a proposal.

“Industry-university-government cooperation and development of regional industries” may be preferable to “development of regional industries” as a title.

“Industry-university-government cooperation” may be a broader concept than “development of regional industries.”

“Development of regional industries” is a bit strange as a title gives.

- It does give an impression that this is a plan made by a government agency. However, regarding the parts of the mid-term plans changed by the Prefecture based on opinions from the Prefectural Assembly, it was judged that the University could recognize this as a minor change which the University could concede without giving an opinion in response to the change.

Government agencies have leading roles for industry-university-government cooperation. It would be difficult that only Universities conduct activities for development of regional industries.

- As a Corporation, mid-term plans are scheduled to be reviewed in January and February, 2009, in order to realize mid-term goals, and discussions on this matter should be made during this review.

As the University of Aizu used to be a prefectural university, industry-university-government cooperation has been conducted by the Prefecture. However, it may also be necessary for Aizu-Wakamatsu City to aggressively address actions for development of regional industries.

6. Other

<Report>

B: Concept for the Research Center for Advanced Information Science and Technology (Tentative title)

The Chairperson provided an explanation on the concept for “ARC-Space,” and explained that discussions will be made regarding organizational reforms starting from next fiscal year and that the current Software Engineering Center was scheduled to be reorganized for the new center. Regent Kuroda then provided an explanation on further details regarding this matter. The following exchange of opinions, etc. was made.

(Opinion, etc.)

The concept is dream-inspiring, but I wonder if space research is appropriate from a perspective of local contribution. This may be far removed from the motive of the Prefecture, which actually is development of regional industries. Is there enough budget for ensuring of faculty members for ten or fifteen more years? Medical matters have not progressed due to problems in coordinating with Fukushima Medical University. If environment is regarded as a field of agriculture, how about industry? From a standpoint of business management, it may be difficult if we do not confront reality.

- Computer science and engineering may not be directly related to creation of concrete items in the Prefecture. However, if a large budget can be acquired, partial outsourcing will be necessary for work concerning cameras and software. A budget related to space projects is expected to be provided from JAXA, not from the Prefecture. Furthermore, taking into consideration the educational factors, offering lectures of leading-edge computer science will definitely be provided, and, math and physics will be covered under a circumstance where students are moving away from the sciences.
- From the perspective of business management, faculty members affiliated with this Center will not be involved only in research, but also in education. In addition, a budget from the Prefecture will not be allocated for space projects since external funds will be acquired.

If development of regional industries which was discussed previously is the objective of the center, it may be difficult to provide an explanation to members of the Prefectural Assembly for understanding regarding the relevance of space projects with this goal.

- The University can appeal to the Prefecture that the Center's research, etc. related to medical engineering is local contribution. There are a considerable number of private medical companies in Fukushima Prefecture, and net export values from this industry are ranked about 6th or 7th in Japan. Stimulation to this industry could be a connection to development of regional industries.
- In the field of medical industry, collaboration with Fukushima Medical University is necessary for prevention of mismatches with medical doctors' needs.
- Discussions will be made in the future regarding approximately five clusters to be placed in the Center. Various proposals would be highly appreciated.