

Minutes from the Fourth Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2008

1. Date and Time: Tuesday, February 24, 2009
1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.
2. Location: The 1st Conference Room, 2nd floor of South Building at the Junior College Division
3. Attendance:
Present: 6 Members: (From the University) Chairperson Tsunoyama of the Board of Executives, Regent Kuroda, Regent Makita, Regent Saito
(External members) Council Member Sakai, Council Member Seya
2 Auditors: Auditor Arima, Auditor Kuriki
Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Council Member Kuroda, Council Member Saito
5. Proceedings

<New Business>

1. The FY 2009 Budget Proposal

Regent Saito provided an explanation regarding The FY 2009 Budget Proposal. After exchanging of opinions, etc. as summarized below, the Management Council approved that the proposal would be reported to the Board of Executives as on the draft.

(Opinions, etc.)

The total amount of the budget for the University Corporation will be approximately 4.3 billion yen. I wonder whether the allocation of 84 % of the budget to the University of Aizu and 16% of the budget to the Junior College Division is appropriate. How many students are enrolled at the University of Aizu and the Junior College Division respectively?

- The number of students at the University of Aizu, including graduate school students, is approximately 1200, and that of the Junior College Division, 350. Budget allocation to the University of Aizu and the Junior College Division was determined based on budget sizes for the two institutions before the incorporation, though there might have been an objection from the Junior College Division. We have to admit that budget for the Junior College Division has considerably decreased due to financial difficulties of the Prefectural Government.

Does this mean that nothing can be done regarding budget allocation within the corporation, which is based on a history before the incorporation, in case that the amount is not appropriate?

- Budgets will be allocated to each institution hereafter, according to policies of the University Corporation as a whole.

Was there any impact of the second supplementary budget from the national government regarding the budget for the University Corporation?

- At the end of December of 2008, I had heard that due to the financial situation of the Prefectural Government, it would be considerably difficult to meet requests made in budget proposals for FY 2009. However, it turned out that the situation involving the prefectural budget was not as tight as had been expected, and the situation seemed to have a favorable impact on the budget for the University Corporation. As the amount of local allocation of tax grants was increased and the limit of issuance of prefectural bonds was expanded, the necessary amount of reserve funds to be taken from relevant foundation was reduced upon preparation of the budget proposal by the Prefectural Government.

Does that mean that University's requests regarding its budget for FY 2009 will be accommodated? That's wonderful.

- We have one issue regarding the All-Japan High School Computing Contest, "PC Koshien" for which a significant budget cut will be made, as it is recognized as an event project. This event has been carried out with financial support from municipal governments, etc. at the request of the University to make up for the lack of funding in the budget.

As this project was initiated by the Prefectural Government, the Government should allocate considerable budgets for the event if it asks the University to continue the event.

- Although a certain progress regarding this issue has been made, ideally, the project should be implemented by the University of Aizu. The budget allocated for the project is enough to ensure its implementation.
- It is assumed that this event has been good publicity for the University, as over a thousand high school students have participated in recent years. In terms of programming skills, which is one of fundamental elements of education at the University of Aizu, a team from the University was selected as one of the representative Japanese teams, as well as a team from the University of Tokyo, for participation in the ACM world competition to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, in April of 2009. This good news may also help publicize the University.

It may be effective for publicity of the University if some students who do well in the All-Japan High School Computing Contest, "PC Koshien", are admitted to the University.

- Some high school students who had received high-ranked awards have been admitted to the University.

- An admission category for students who have received high-ranked awards in the All-Japan High School Computing Contest, "PC Koshien" for selection of students by recommendation was established. The number of applicants for the admission category has increased recently, which has attracted attention from high school students.

What are the assignments for the "PC Koshien"?

- There are three divisions in all, creation of digital content, for which participants create something like a cartoon film, creation of a simple piece of art, and programming, by solving problems presented on site.

2. Reassessment of the Mid-term Plans of the Public University Corporation, the University of Aizu

Regent Saito provided an explanation regarding this subject. After exchanging of opinions, etc. as summarized below, the Management Council approved that the subject would be reported to the Board of Executives as drafted.

(Opinions, etc.)

As for intellectual property, specifically patents, have discussions been conducted regarding attribution of patent rights pertaining to inventions developed through research conducted within the University and benefits gained by use of the patent rights?

- We have a center called UBIC (University Business Innovation Center) within the University, where assistance for university-industry cooperation has been provided and matters related to patents have been comprehensively handled. Faculty members shall apply to the University regarding duty-related inventions for which a patent may be obtained. In cases where the University has made a decision to make applications for patents, patent applications will be filed by the University and with relevant faculty members as inventors. Rights to one patent for which the University had filed an application were obtained this fiscal year.

What kind of patent was it?

- The patent was obtained for technology regarding measurement of electrocardiograms. A patent regarding IP addresses was obtained by the University last fiscal year.
- This technology will be useful when there will not be enough IP addresses in the near future. This is, so to speak, a look-ahead patent.

Does the University received the income related to these inventions?

- Relevant rules have been provided for, and inventors and the University shall have

equal shares to high-income patents, so that researchers will have incentive to make inventions.

- As employment-related inventions, researchers shall apply to the University first and the University shall file an application for a patent regarding the invention.

Issues regarding housing for students are very serious, but provision of housing for students by the University could have an impact on operation of providers of accommodations in the private sector in the local community. It may be necessary to discuss creation of a mechanism where university students can be provided with housing with inexpensive rent through cooperation between the University and the private sector in the local community.

- Based on results of a survey, rent in the local community is relatively high, as you can see on the attached document. With high rent for student housing in the Aizu area, the University would not be able to compete with universities in other areas inside and outside of Fukushima Prefecture. The University should present relevant data for consultation regarding this issue with relevant companies, etc. in the local community at this juncture, in my opinion.
- In reality, housing rent in the Aizu area has been high for years, though the occupancy rate regarding apartments, etc. is only between 70 and 80 %.

What is the capacity for the dormitory proposed by the University?

- We can only afford to build a dormitory with a capacity of about 80 persons, based on our financial strength. The dormitory is one attractive factor with which universities recruit applicants for admission, in my opinion. The dormitory proposed by the University should be used for activities for exchange programs with international students, provision of assistance by residing advisors in students' learning and lifestyle, etc., and use this for promotion and publicity of its attractiveness. As some measures to be taken for provision of financial support for students, housing with reasonable rent in the local community should be secured, and dormitories, etc. possessed by private companies should be rented by the University to provide reasonable housing for students, for example.

Promotion of cooperation between the Student Affairs Division and private companies in the local community, and between the Chamber of Commerce and the University seems to be necessary.

- The University has recognized this necessity.

What is the percentage of University students living in rentedhouses and/or apartments?

- Approximately 80%.

The capacity of the proposed dormitory is only 80, which is less than 10% of University's student population. It is necessary that Japanese students have opportunities for cultural exchange with international students. I would like for the University to cooperate with the local community.

- There are many citizens who would be very interested in taking care of international students in the Aizu-Wakamatsu area. Cooperation should be promoted with such citizens. As for Aizu Gakuho Junior and Senior High School, they should have a dormitory to attract students to the junior-high school from other areas in Fukushima Prefecture as well as from the Aizu area. It would be good to have a dormitory for junior-high school students where students from the University of Aizu could teach and/or provide some advice regarding their daily lives with junior-high students residing there.

The University should build a dormitory for 200 students, not for 80 students.

- The national government has revealed a proposal regarding acceptance of 300 thousand international students at universities in Japan and will start a relevant program next fiscal year starting with selection of 12 universities in Japan to act as central figures in accepting the international students. The University of Aizu has made efforts to be selected as one of the universities supported by the program. The university dormitory would be an essential factor in being selected as a university for the program. When I visited the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) in Vietnam and gave an explanation regarding minimum living costs in the Aizu area, he seemed to be attracted to the very reasonable costs of living in this area. I would like to develop a student housing environment for the purpose of promotion of exchange programs with universities in other countries, including Vietnam.

How many international students are presently enrolled at the University?

- 47 students.

Minutes from the Fifth Management Council Meeting of Fiscal Year 2008

1. Date and Time: Wednesday, March 25, 2009
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
2. Location: Large Conference Room, Third Floor, Administration Complex
3. Attendance:
Present: 6 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 Sugihara
2 Auditors: Auditor Arima, Auditor Kuriki
Administrative staff
4. Signatories to the Minutes: Regent Kuroda, Regent Makita
5. Proceedings

<New Business>

1. The FY 2009 Proposed Plan

Regent Saito provided an explanation regarding The FY 2009 Proposed Plan. During this explanation, Regent Saito also proposed a change in attached martial No. 1: "COMPARISON BETWEEN THE MID-TERM PLANS AND ANNUAL PLANS FOR FY 2008", page 1, item 1.1.(1).A.(a).c in the FY 2009 ANNUAL PLANS (Draft), from "curriculum advisors shall play a central role in encouraging students to earn academic credits systematically," to "curriculum advisors shall play a central role in encouraging students to take courses systematically."

(This reflects an opinion from the Education and Research Council of the University.)

After exchanging of opinions, etc. as summarized below, the Management Council approved that the proposal would be reported to the Board of Executives as on the draft.

(Opinions, etc.)

Regarding the statement on page 9, "investigations and discussions shall be made, focusing on possible areas of education and research for joint graduate programs which can be realized in cooperation with other graduate schools.", I hear that MEXT has recently started to regulate establishment of universities and undergraduate schools, etc. although establishment of universities was encouraged and expanded in the past. Also, there has been a tendency of consolidation in practical sense among national university corporations even though physical merger and abolition of national university corporations would not be possible. I assume the University will be approached by other universities in the future for this issue. What would be the specific standards for the University of Aizu to collaborate with other universities?

- In last fiscal year, only Fukushima Prefecture within the Hokkaido-Tohoku region did not make any proposal (on collaboration with other universities). Regarding

collaboration specifically within the prefecture, our University is establishing a research center, and one of its three major missions is to make contribution to medical services, making use of information technologies. Collaboration with Fukushima Medical University would be feasible from this perspective. Also, involvement of College of Engineering of Nihon University in this collaboration would be possible in terms of making concrete things. Given these circumstances, we are now making a plan of collaboration within the prefecture. Frankly speaking, the issue is collaboration with Fukushima University. Fukushima University is considering collaboration with Fukushima Medical University in psychological fields. They also approached our University, but we have not reached any specific plan of collaboration. (by Chairperson of the Board of Executives)

2. Partial Revision of the Regulation Concerning the Internal Administrative Organization and Other Aspects of the University of Aizu

Director of the General Affairs Division provided an explanation regarding partial revision of the Regulation Concerning the Internal Administrative Organization and Other Aspects of the University of Aizu. There were no particular opinions exchanged on this subject. The Management Council approved that the proposal would be reported to the Board of Executives as proposed on the draft.

3. Partial Revision of the Regulation Concerning the Salaries for Executives

Director of the General Affairs Division provided an explanation regarding partial revision of the Regulation Concerning the Salaries for Executives. There were no particular opinions exchanged on this subject. The Management Council approved that the proposal would be reported to the Board of Executives as proposed on the draft.

4. Partial Revision of the Ruling Concerning Office Regulations for Personnel of the Public University Corporation, the University of Aizu

Director of the General Affairs Division provided an explanation regarding partial revision of the Ruling Concerning Office Regulations for Personnel of the Public University Corporation, the University of Aizu. There were no particular opinions exchanged on this subject. The Management Council approved that the proposal would be reported to the Board of Executives as proposed on the draft.