Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Professional Graduate Business School

Tokyo Institute of Technology, Graduate School of Innovation Management, Department of Management of Technology



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Ownership: Private Location: Tokyo, Japan

Accreditation Status

Year of the Review: 2014

Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2020)

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Department of Management of Technology, the Graduate School of Innovation Management, the Tokyo Institute of Technology

The Department of Management of Technology (hereafter, the Department) in the Graduate School of Innovation Management at Tokyo Institute of Technology (hereafter, Tokyo Tech) has been engaged in educational activities with a particular purpose of "fostering the business persons who can contribute to the development of industry and society by constructing his/her own theories through the application of science and technology as the leaders in creating innovations." The Department's purpose meets a generally required mission for a professional graduate school in this field to foster personnel equipped with specialized knowledge necessary for the management of corporations or other organizations with high professional ethics and a global perspective.

The Department was established in 2005 and conducted its first self-study in 2008 when it had sent out its first graduates. In 2009, it underwent its first review of the Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for Professional Graduate Business School by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) and was accredited as fulfilling the established standards. In 2012, the Department reported its responses and improvements regarding the previously suggested points, and is receiving its second accreditation review this year.

The curriculum of the Department consists of "the research course group," "the specialized course group," and "the liberal arts and general education course group." In the seminars that make up the majority of classes in research course group, students actively engage in research activities under the supervision of the faculty members in each field, and are expected to write project reports, which are required for completion of the program. The specialized course group consists of four subgroups that correspond to four areas in management: technology management strategy, intellectual property management, finance, and information and service innovation. In addition to these subgroups reflecting the particular purpose of the Department, this course group includes internships for companies and specialized courses offered by other graduate schools of Tokyo Tech. Following the standard course requirements in all the graduate schools, the liberal arts and general education course group consists of several courses including "interdisciplinary course," "international communication," "course for international students," "interdepartmental courses," "arts and humanities," and "career development courses." In each course group, courses that offer the basis for personnel development are classified as the basic courses, and the courses that offer highly specialized knowledge in management are classified as advanced. To complete the program, students are required to earn 40 credits or more and submit a project report. As a notable feature of the curriculum, the Department emphasizes seminars that require active involvement of students. It is commendable that the teaching methods utilized in these classes are considered to be effective to achieve the particular purpose of the Department. In these classes, students independently learn to recognize problems in corporations and society, gather and analyze the data, and examine and present the results.

Regarding the faculty and the other supporting organization, eleven full-time faculty and a graduate school administration office are organized. The full-time faculty come from the fields of technology management strategy, intellectual property management, finance and information, and service innovation, and they have advanced degrees and proven research competencies in these fields. In regards to the administration, the offices of the Innovation Management Graduate School are located at both the Ookayama campus and Tamachi campus, and each office houses two full-

time staffs, one part-time staff, and three assistants. The size and functions of the staff are considered to be appropriate.

In order to achieve its particular purpose, the Department defines an admission policy in which students "based on the knowledge acquired through one's own experience and learning," are expected to "think objectively considering the current situation and express it," and "with rich and broad knowledge, grasp the matter from diverse perspectives," "have language ability to act in international arenas," and "display high motivation for self-improvement and the willingness to take leadership in society." According to this admission policy, the entrance examination involves essay and oral examinations in addition to an external English examination that assesses English proficiency. In 2013, the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap was 1.15, and the Department admitted an appropriate number of students. Also, as part of its efforts to support students, the Student Support Center offers a comprehensive support system from learning support to care for student welfare, in addition to various scholarships.

Regarding the education and research environment, the Department's library is located on the Tamachi campus and carries about 700 volumes of books and journals related to technology management and intellectual property management. Tokyo Tech's main library carries about 800,000 volumes and more than 11,000 electric journals. A Collection Development Committee, which takes into account the balance between science and technology fields and the humanities and social sciences, responds to recommendations from faculty and requests from students and selects materials collected for the libraries. The libraries hold sufficient materials for student learning and education and research activities of the faculty.

Based on the evaluation above, the JUAA concludes that the Department satisfies the legal and other basic requirements for professional graduate schools in this field. It is expected that the notable features based on the Department's particular purpose will be further developed with distinctive efforts.

Even so, the points suggested as issues for review this time may be used as guidance to maintain and improve the quality of education of the Department, and are expected to be used in the formulation of a mid- and long-term vision. By identifying how the particular purpose of the Department has been achieved through conducting a survey on the current situation and activities of graduates, we hope that the Department will further improve its educational contents in the future. Furthermore, in regards to the information posted on the website, the fact that some information is not up-to-date causes problems for users (students, future applicants, etc.) who cannot access accurate information. The Department should make efforts for appropriate timely disclosure of information.

Finally, we hope that the Department makes continuous efforts for improvement and innovation, further polishes the distinctive features of the Department, leads education and research in the field of technology management, and dispatches the results to the world.