

Waseda Vision 150 Progress Report  
on the Future Vision of the Faculty of Political Science and Economics

Report for AY2022

(1) Admissions (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategy 1)

-Status of implementation of admissions reform in each faculty and graduate school with a view to the 2023 academic year-

Topic Example:

- 1) Progress of studies toward the introduction of the Common Test for University Admission
- 2) Progress of studies on alternative entrance examinations to the general entrance examination
- 3) Public relations for admissions

- Revue of Undergraduate General Admissions for the 2021 and 2022 academic years.

We reviewed the AY2021 and AY2022 entrance examinations conducted after the entrance examination reform with respect to questions and scoring, etc., and made operational improvements in the preparation and scoring of entrance examination questions for AY2023. The current balance of 300 students in the Department of Political Science, 400 students in the Department of Economics, and 200 students in the Department of International Political Science and Economics is considered appropriate, and we will continue to examine measures to maintain this balance, including entrance examinations other than the general entrance examination.

- Promotion of High School-University Linkage

In order to further strengthen the high school-university linkage, we continued smooth communication with both high schools and affiliated schools. More than 30% of the students from those high schools have advanced to the School of Political Science and Economics, and with the main aim of further improving their academic abilities, we held a meeting with the executive offices of those high schools, which was held in AY2021. The meeting was more meaningful than expected, and was evaluated as an important opportunity for the promotion of high school-university linkage. The two high schools and all affiliated schools readily agreed to hold the meeting, and it was decided to continue the meeting every other year in principle. The next meeting is scheduled for AY2023.

- Review of the designated school recommendation system, etc.

We continued to discuss the publication of the criteria for recommending schools in Japan. The purpose of this disclosure is mainly for the following two reasons;

- Through the clarification of the criteria, we can expect that more high schools will try to increase the number of applicants and enrollments in our department.
- Transparency regarding the designated school recommendation entrance examination can be widely publicized.

Although the faculty recognizes the importance of this disclosure, careful consideration is required while assessing the impact on other faculties. We would like to continue to positively

consider this issue in the next fiscal year and beyond.

- English Degree Program Recruitment

Regarding the English Degree Program (EDP) entrance examination, in cooperation with overseas offices and the International Admissions Office (IAO), promoted and strengthened information dissemination to attract excellent students from various countries and regions without bias toward any particular country. In addition to the online information sessions utilized for the COVID-19 disaster, the number of face-to-face information sessions and fairs was increased in AY2022.

Continued to accept applications through the online application system: The Admissions Office (TAO), which was introduced for admission in September 2022.

- Proactive public relations development

In order to promote understanding of the purpose of the new entrance examination system among both instructors/advisers for the university entrance exams and students, we continued to actively promote the system through various PR media, such as the Internet, videos, and pamphlets. In particular, we have reflected on the fact that we have been overly biased toward explaining the need for basic academic skills in mathematics, and have conducted PR activities to appeal the significance of the Political Science and Economics curriculum in a balanced manner, as well as the fact that the school is open to students who are not necessarily strong in mathematics.

- Actively promote the Graduate School of Political Science's Global Public Policy (GPP) Course

The GPP course was also actively publicized to promote the purpose of its establishment and the features of its curriculum, to uncover potential demand, and to secure excellent applicants.

(2) Education (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategies 2, 3, and 4)

-The status of efforts at each faculty, high schools, and other schools to nurture global leaders-

Topic Example:

- 1) Reforms to systematize the curriculum
- 2) Progress in English degree programs
- 3) Efforts to reduce the teaching load
- 4) Efforts regarding faculty recruitment (introduction of open recruitment system and tenure track system)

- Further organization and systematization of the curriculum

Curricula were reviewed at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and the number of courses was reduced. In addition, while taking into account the experience of online class delivery in AY2020-21, we reviewed which courses are basically conducted online and which courses are preferable to be conducted face-to-face, and managed the courses to strike an appropriate balance between the two.

For required and elective courses, the syllabus was shared among multiple faculty members, and a system was further promoted to update lecture contents as needed.

Revised course rules to promote cross enrollment in Japanese and English courses with the aim of making all degree programs hybrid Japanese-English programs, and established an accreditation system to issue certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits.

The graduate school has provided opportunities for many graduate students to engage in friendly competition, but this has in some respects led to an increased burden on the faculty. The appropriate number of graduate students for graduate education was scrutinized and examined, and stricter admission standards were promoted accordingly.

- Further enhance English-language degree programs

We continued our efforts to realize a program that is on par with other major universities in the world. We will also clarify the significance of studying not only economics but also political science in Asia, Japan, and at Waseda University. In order to create an environment in which students from diverse backgrounds can take courses in English degree programs by encouraging students in Japanese degree programs to take courses in English, we have established an accreditation system to issue certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits, and will begin operating the system in AY2023.

- Preparation for 100-minute class

Preparations were made for the introduction of 100-minute classes, which will be introduced in AY2023. In addition, we rearranged the class subjects appropriately and organized the offered subjects. In anticipation of the post-corona, we decided on a policy to conduct classes face-to-face in principle from AY2023.

- Reduction of Teaching Load

In accordance with the AY2019 curriculum reform, we have decided to set a standard of teaching 5.5 to 6.0 classes per week for both undergraduate and graduate courses, but we aim to further enhance education and research by further reducing the burden on faculty members. In addition to continuing to reduce the teaching load of faculty members in administrative positions, the buyout system was initiated as a measure to reduce the load of faculty members who have achieved outstanding research achievements and have received high evaluations.

- Faculty Recruitment

The faculty councils in the areas of Political Science, Economics, and Liberal Arts and Foreign Languages discussed priority personnel appointments and formulated a recruitment plan for AY2023-2025. For tenure-track faculty members, we steadily implemented a system in which full-time faculty members in neighboring areas serve as mentors, and designed and

started a system in which the number of teaching hours is flexibly managed to ensure that tenure-track faculty members have enough time for research.

- Promotion of Faculty Development (FD)

The FD Committee within the Faculty was positioned as one of the priority committees, and while scrutinizing past efforts, FD activities were decided to be carried out not only by the respective steering committees of undergraduate and graduate schools, but also by the Faculty Meetings, and began operating from the March 2022 Faculty Meeting.

(3) Research (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategies 7 and 9)

-Status of efforts to develop a strategy for the international expansion of research-

Topic Example:

1) Status of collaboration with 7 TGU centers 2) Status of efforts by the Faculty to secure research time for faculty members 3) Efforts to disseminate research results (mainly to overseas markets) 4) Status of collaboration with research institutes

- Collaboration with 7 TGU centers

Further promoted collaboration with the TGU Center for Empirical Political Economy and other centers. In particular, we will actively utilize joint appointments of faculty members, invite outstanding researchers, and further promote joint research with faculty members and academic guidance to graduate students and students.

- Securing research time for faculty members

Further securing of research time was achieved by reducing the teaching load, allocating various tasks appropriately, and improving the efficiency of meetings.

A buyout program was initiated to secure research time for researchers with outstanding research achievements and high reputations, especially young faculty members.

- Dissemination of research results

We have focused on actively utilizing the web page for introducing faculty members. Many faculty members are already actively disseminating their research results in languages other than their native tongue (mainly English), and we will further encourage them to do so.

Pre-publication working papers prepared by faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Faculty are published on the website of the Waseda Institute of Political Economy. At the same time, working papers prepared in English are also posted on "RePEC", a global archive of articles. When the research results of faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Faculty receive notable honors, they are introduced on the website of the Waseda Institute of Political Economy. The TGU Center for Empirical Political Economy website will also continue to disseminate the educational and research achievements of its members and graduate students in English and Japanese.

- Initiatives at Research Institutes

At the Waseda Institute of Political Economy, groups that promote novel and highly original joint research with a view to obtaining external funding are allowed to establish themselves as research subcommittees, and support is provided to promote the emergence and autonomy of researchers inside and outside the university.

The establishment of the research subcommittee is conditioned on the participation of graduate students belonging to the doctoral course, making the research subcommittee a place for young researchers to grow and play an active role.

For groups that regularly conduct cutting-edge workshops on specific research areas, the program supports emergent exchanges between researchers inside and outside the university by allowing them to be established as a workshop series.

(4) International (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategy 8)

- The status of efforts to improve the environment to promote study-abroad programs and study-abroad acceptance-

Topic Example:

The study abroad experience is being considered for inclusion in the curriculum.

- Support for overseas study experience

To make the most of their overseas study experience, students were encouraged to enroll in English degree program courses.

The Japanese-English hybrid curriculum for the 2019 academic year has created an environment in which students in the Japanese Degree Program (JDP) can take courses in the English Degree Program (EDP). The reverse is also true. In order to encourage Japanese degree program students to take English courses and English degree program students to take Japanese courses, a course accreditation system was established to issue certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits, which will be operational from AY2023.

- Efforts to Motivate Students to Study Abroad

In order to motivate students to study abroad even before they enter the university, we plan to incorporate the experiences of students who have studied abroad into faculty information sessions, pamphlets, explanatory videos, etc., and will begin implementing this plan from the 2023 academic year.

- Joint degree programs with overseas universities

Continued discussions with the University of Essex in the U.K. regarding the establishment of an international joint degree program at the graduate level.

(5) Others

-Strategies, projects, etc. unique to each faculty, institute, or school that do not fall under (1) through (4) -

- Support for Endowed Chairs, Distinguished Professor, and Incentive Allowances Systems

We began to consider measures to attract excellent researchers by utilizing the newly established "Endowed Chair," "Distinguished Professor," and "Incentive Allowance" systems.

- Improve diversity and ensure "reasonable accommodation".

In order to promote diversity in faculty recruitment, (1) one female applicant should be included in the short list as much as possible and invited to mock lectures, etc., and (2) members of the Faculty should provide information to the selection committee members on suitable female candidates, if any, and this has been applied from the appointments made in AY2021. Based on this agreement, consideration and care were taken in each hiring process to secure excellent faculty members in AY2022.

## 2. 2023 Plan

### (1) Admissions (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategy 1)

-Implementation plans for admissions reform in each faculty and graduate school with a view to the 2024 academic year

Topic Example:

- 1) Progress of studies toward the introduction of the Common Test for University Admissions
- 2) Progress of studies on alternative entrance examinations to the general entrance examination
- 3) Public relations for admissions

- Revue of Undergraduate General Admissions in 2022.

We will review the 2021-2023 entrance examinations conducted after the entrance examination reform in terms of questions and scoring, etc., and further promote operational improvements in the preparation and scoring of entrance examination questions for the 2024 academic year. The current balance of 300 students in the Department of Political Science, 400 students in the Department of Economics, and 200 students in the Department of International Political Science and Economics is considered appropriate, and we will continue to examine measures to maintain this balance, including entrance examinations other than the general entrance examination.

- Promotion of High School-University Linkage

In order to further strengthen the high school-university linkage, we continued smooth communication with both high schools and affiliated schools. More than 30% of the students from those high schools have advanced to the School of Political Science and Economics, and with the main aim of further improving their academic abilities, we held a meeting with the executive offices of those high schools, which was held in AY2021. The meeting was more meaningful than expected, and was evaluated as an important opportunity for the promotion of high school-university linkage. The two high schools and all affiliated schools readily agreed to hold the meeting, and it was decided to continue the meeting every other year in principle. The next meeting is scheduled for AY2023.

- Review of the designated school recommendation system, etc.

Continue to consider the publication of recommendation criteria for domestic designated school recommendations and promote internal coordination. In addition, we will review the recommendation system for designated schools outside of Japan so that we can stably obtain excellent students for both JDP and EDP. The recommendation system for designated schools outside of Japan will also be reviewed to ensure the stable acquisition of excellent students for both JDP and EDP.

- English Degree Program Recruitment

Actively recruit for the English Degree Program (EDP) entrance examination and work with the Overseas Office and the International Admissions Office (IAO) to attract excellent students from various countries and regions without bias toward any particular country.

Promote the use of the online application system: The Admissions Office (TAO), introduced for September 2022 admissions.

- Proactive public relations development

We will continue to actively promote the new entrance examination system through various PR media such as the Internet, videos, pamphlets, etc., in order to promote understanding of the purpose of the new entrance exam system among both instructors/advisers for the university entrance exams and students. In particular, we will make use of the fact that we have been overly biased toward explaining that basic academic skills in mathematics are required, and will further promote the significance of the Political Science and Economics curriculum in a balanced manner, as well as actively promote the fact that the school is open to students who are not necessarily strong in mathematics.

- Actively promote the Graduate School of Political Science's Global Public Policy (GPP) Course

The GPP course will also be publicized in order to increase awareness of the purpose of its establishment and the features of its curriculum, to uncover potential demand, and to actively promote the course in order to secure excellent candidates.

(2) Education (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategies 2, 3, and 4)

-Planning of initiatives at each academy, institute, and school to nurture global leaders.

Topic Example:

1) Reforms to systematize the curriculum 2) Progress in English degree programs 3) Efforts to reduce teaching load 4) Efforts regarding faculty recruitment (introduction of open recruitment system and tenure track system)

- Further organization and systematization of the curriculum

Review the curriculum at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to further reduce the teaching load. In anticipation of the Covid-19 disaster, a course management system will be established in AY2023, with the principle of conducting classes face-to-face.

For required courses and elective courses, a system to share syllabi among multiple faculty members and update course content as needed will be further promoted.

Aiming for all degree programs to be hybrid programs in both Japanese and English, the course rules that promote cross enrollment in Japanese and English courses will be reviewed, and a course accreditation system that issues certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits will be launched in AY2023.

The graduate school has provided opportunities for many graduate students to engage in friendly competition, but this has in some respects led to an increased burden on the faculty. We will begin to consider reducing the enrollment capacity of the graduate school by scrutinizing and examining the appropriate number of graduate students for graduate education and promoting stricter admission standards accordingly.

- Further enhance English-language degree programs

We will continue to aim to realize a program that is on par with those of major universities around the world. In addition, we will clarify the significance of studying not only economics but also political science in Asia, Japan, and Waseda University, and enhance courses related to Japan Studies.

- Preparation for 100-minute class

Steadily promote class management in 100-minute classes, which will be introduced in AY2023. Furthermore, rearrange class subjects appropriately, organize courses to be offered, and steadily implement face-to-face classes in principle from AY2023, with a view to post- corona.

- Reduction of teaching load

In accordance with the AY2019 curriculum reform, the standard teaching load for both undergraduate and graduate courses will be 5.5 to 6.0 classes per week, but we will aim to further enhance education and research by further reducing the burden on faculty members. We will continue to reduce the teaching load of faculty members in administrative positions and promote the buyout system as a measure to reduce the load of faculty members with outstanding research achievements and high reputation.

- Faculty Recruitment

Priority personnel appointments will be discussed at faculty councils in the areas of Political Science, Economics, and Liberal Arts and Foreign Languages, and the guiding personnel plan will be restructured to look further into the next three to five years.

Utilize the tenure-track system as a default for general recruitment, and strive to recruit young faculty members with high international competitiveness. In addition, we will further devise ways to ensure that the education and research of tenure-track faculty members during their tenure will raise the level of education and research of the entire Academic Park.

To hire outstanding faculty members, the Faculty will study the use of "Endowed Chairs," "Distinguished Professor," and "Incentive Allowances" for the recruitment of outstanding faculty members.

Promotion of FD

The FD Committee within the Faculty will be positioned as one of the priority committees to further promote FD while closely examining past efforts.

(3) Research (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategies 7 and 9)

-A plan of action to develop a strategy for the international expansion of research-

Topic Example:

1) Status of collaboration with 7 TGU centers 2) Status of efforts by the Faculty to secure research time for faculty members 3) Efforts to disseminate research results (mainly to overseas) 4) Status of collaboration with research institutes

- Collaboration with 7 TGU centers

Further develop collaboration with the TGU Center for Empirical Political Economy and other centers. Education and research projects after the completion of the Top Global University Project, especially joint appointments of faculty members, invitation of outstanding researchers, joint research with faculty members, and promotion of academic guidance to undergraduate and graduate students, will be incorporated into existing projects of the Faculty.

- Securing research time for faculty members

Further secure research time by reducing the teaching load, allocating various tasks appropriately, and improving the efficiency of meetings, etc.

To secure research time for researchers and young faculty members who have achieved outstanding research results and are highly regarded, the Academy will consider measures to introduce a buyout system, an endowed chair excellence research system, incentive allowances, etc.

- Dissemination of research results

Proactively utilize web pages to introduce faculty members. Many faculty members are already actively disseminating their research results in languages other than their native tongue (mainly English), and we will further encourage them to do so. The TGU Center for Empirical Political Economics website will also continue to disseminate the educational and research achievements of its members and graduate students in Japanese and English.

- Initiatives at Research Institutes

At the Waseda Institute of Political Economy, we will continue to support the emergence and autonomy of researchers inside and outside the university by establishing a research subcommittee to promote innovative and highly original joint research with a view to obtaining external funding, and provide young researchers with opportunities for growth by encouraging doctoral students to participate in research projects. We will also provide opportunities for young researchers for their academic career by encouraging doctoral students to participate in research projects.

(4) International (related to Waseda Vision 150 Core Strategy 8)

-Plan for the development of an environment that promotes study abroad and study in Japan-

Topic Example:

The study abroad experience is being considered for inclusion in the curriculum.

- Support for overseas study experience

To make the most of their overseas study experience, students were encouraged to enroll in English degree program courses.

The Japanese-English hybrid curriculum was introduced in the 2019 curriculum reform which encourage students in the Japanese Degree Program (JDP) to take courses in the English Degree Program (EDP). The reverse is also true. In order to encourage Japanese degree program students to take English courses and English degree program students to take Japanese courses, a course accreditation system was established to issue certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits, which will be operational from AY2023.

- Efforts to Motivate Students to Study Abroad

In order to motivate students to study abroad even before entering the university, we plan to incorporate stories from students who have studied abroad into faculty information sessions, pamphlets, explanatory videos, etc., to be implemented from AY2023.

- Initiatives to Promote Study Abroad

In conjunction with the shortened semester due to the introduction of 100-minute classes in AY2023, we will work to provide a flexibilities to study abroad programs. We will try to be flexible to provide students who go abroad and return with more convenience. As part of this effort, we will start including the period of study abroad in the period of enrollment from AY2023 in order to make it easier for students to understand their academic plans and graduation plans, and to eliminate any anxiety they may have during their study abroad.

- Joint degree programs with overseas universities

We will continue to study and discuss the establishment of an international joint degree program at the graduate level with the University of Essex in the U.K.

(5) Others

- Strategies, projects, etc. unique to each academy, institute, or school that do not fall under (1) through (4) -

- Support for Endowed Chairs, Distinguished Professors, and Incentive Allowances

Formulate concrete plans for measures to attract outstanding researchers through the newly established "Endowed Chair," "Distinguished Professor," and "Incentive Allowance" systems.

- Improve diversity and ensure "reasonable accommodation"

We will continue our efforts to establish a system that welcomes not only women but also faculty and students who have been socially subordinated and suffered disadvantages that they do not deserve, and to provide them with reasonable accommodation in a detailed manner.

End of Document