

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

Report for AY 2023

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

-Status of implementation of admissions reforms in each faculty and graduate school.

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 entrance examinations

- Revue of General Admissions for Undergraduate Students in 2023

We reviewed the AY2021 - AY2023 entrance examinations conducted after the entrance examination reform in terms of questions and scoring, etc., and made operational improvements in the preparation and scoring of entrance examinations for AY2024. 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 Connection

In order to further strengthen the high school-university connection, we continued smooth communication with both high schools and affiliated schools. More than 30% of the students from both high schools have advanced to higher education, and with the main aim of further improving their academic abilities, we held a meeting with the executive offices of both high schools, which was held in AY2021 and AY2023. The meetings were 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.

- Review of the designated school recommendation system, etc.

We continued to discuss the publication of the criteria for recommending schools in Japan. We also reviewed the recommendation system for designated schools outside of Japan to ensure stable recruitment of excellent students for both Japanese Degree Program (JDP) and English Degree Program (EDP). In addition, we have started to provide pre-entrance study using Waseda Moodle to students who are admitted to JDP through entrance examinations other than the general selection process, including those who are to be admitted through the designated school recommendation system.

- Revision or abolition of the entrance examination system in line with the curriculum and diploma policies

The curriculum for the AY2019 has been reorganized to provide small-group exercises from the first year, and a curriculum that acquires basic knowledge through introductory courses and a wide range of liberal arts courses and systematically builds up specialized knowledge from then on. The university has decided to stop accepting applications for the Transfer Examination, Entrance Examination for BA holders, Global Entrance Examination (for those with working experiences), and General Examination for Non-degree Students from AY2026, as they lose the opportunity to offer first-year curriculum education.

- English Degree Program Recruitment

The University actively recruited students for the English Degree Program (EDP) entrance examination, including visits to local high schools, and worked with the Overseas Office and International Admissions Office (IAO) to attract excellent students from various countries and regions, without bias toward any particular country. In addition, we steadily operated the online application system: The Admissions Office (TAO), which was introduced from September 2022 enrollment.

- 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 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 the number of faculty members 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 classes was reduced. In anticipation of the Corona Disaster, while conducting classes face-

to-face in AY2023 as a general rule, we managed to strike an appropriate balance between the two, such as hybrid courses that combine online and face-to-face classes, while taking into account our experience with online class delivery.

For required and elective courses, the syllabus was shared among multiple faculty members to further promote the system of updating lecture contents as needed.

Aiming for all degree programs to be hybrid programs in both English and Japanese, we revised the course rules to promote cross enrollment in Japanese and English courses, and started a course accreditation system in AY2023 to issue certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits.

- Strengthening of the function for fostering young researchers in the Graduate School of Graduate Studies

Although the graduate school has provided opportunities for many graduate students to engage in friendly competition, this has in some respects led to an increased burden on faculty members. We have begun to examine and review the appropriate number of graduate students for graduate education and to promote stricter admission standards accordingly, and have begun to consider reducing the enrollment capacity of the Graduate Schools.

In addition, the criteria for submitting doctoral degree application theses at graduate schools were reviewed. The Graduate School of Political Science had previously accepted only Book Thesis-type doctoral dissertations, but has decided to accept Three Essays-type doctoral dissertations, which are internationally recognized and have already been introduced by the Graduate School of Economics.

The Graduate Schools of Political Science and The Graduate Schools of Economics, in collaboration with the Waseda Institute of Political Economy, held a doctoral lunchtime workshop. The workshop was launched in AY2023 as a way for doctoral graduate students to present and discuss their research results in front of graduate students and faculty members outside their own seminars to improve their chances of success in conference presentations and paper submissions.

Further enhance English-language degree programs

We continued our efforts to realize a program that is on par with other major universities around the world. We also clarified the significance of studying political science as well as economics in Asia, Japan, and Waseda University, and enhanced courses related to Japan Studies. We have also adopted a scrap-and-build approach, and have revised our plan to establish an English-language degree program in the Global Public Policy (GPP) course to make it more attractive by reallocating resources.

- 100-minute classes

In the 100-minute class introduced in AY2023, we managed the class after careful preparation, including a review of the lesson plan for each class.

- Reduction of teaching load

In accordance with the AY2019 curriculum reform, we decided to set a standard of 5.5 to 6.0 classes for both undergraduate and graduate students, but we also sought to further reduce the burden on faculty members to further enhance education and research. In addition, the buyout system was introduced as a measure to reduce the load of faculty members with outstanding research achievements and high reputation, and one researcher took advantage of the system in the first year.

- Faculty Recruitment

Priority personnel appointments were discussed at faculty meetings in the areas of Political Science, Economics, and Liberal Arts and Foreign Languages, and the personnel plan that guides these appointments was reorganized to look further into the next three to five years.

The tenure-track system was utilized as a default for general recruitment personnel, and efforts were made to recruit young faculty members with high international competitiveness. In addition, to ensure that the education and research of tenure-track faculty members during their tenure enhances the education and research standards of the entire Academia Sinica, we steadily implemented a system of mentoring full-time faculty members in neighboring areas, and flexibly applied the system by reducing the number of class hours and administrative workload of tenure-track faculty with an eye to securing research time for them.

In order to recruit outstanding faculty members, the Academic Senate has been considering the use of "Endowed Chairs," "Outstanding Professorships," and "Incentive Allowances".

- 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 the FD seminar was held after each Faculty Meetings.

(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 SGU centers 2) Status of efforts by the Academia Sinica 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 developed collaboration with the TGU Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy and other centers. As part of the education and research projects of the Support Program for the Creation of Top Global Universities, we implemented joint appointments for faculty members, invited outstanding researchers, and promoted joint research with faculty members and guidance for graduate students and students. In addition, looking ahead to the end of the TGU grant period in AY2024 and beyond, we organized the projects developed by the TGU centers and promoted their incorporation into the existing projects of the Faculty.

- Securing research time for faculty members

Further secured research time by reducing the teaching loads, allocating various tasks appropriately, and improving the efficiency of meetings.

In order to secure research time for researchers and young faculty members with outstanding research achievements and high reputation, measures were newly introduced, such as Buyout system, Endowed Chair, and Incentive Allowance. One faculty member used the Buyout system in AY2023.

- Dissemination of research results

We have focused on actively utilizing the web pages introducing faculty members. Many faculty members are already actively disseminating their research results in languages other than their native tongue (mainly English), and we further encouraged them to do so. We continued our efforts to publish pre-publication working papers prepared by faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Faculty on the website of the Waseda Institute of Political Economy. At the same time, working papers written in English were posted on RePEC, a global archive of research papers. When the research results of faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Faculty received notable honors, they were introduced on the website of the Waseda Institute of Political Economy and their achievements were widely disseminated. The TGU Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy also continued to disseminate the educational and research achievements of its members and graduate students in English and Japanese on its website.

- Creation of opportunities for researcher exchange: "Retreats

A "Retreat" was held at the Waseda International House of Literature "Murakami Haruki Library" as a place for exchange where researchers of the Faculty can freely exchange ideas.

Not only faculty members affiliated with the Faculty but also graduate students and foreign researchers accepted from overseas freely participated in the retreat, and it is expected to provide an opportunity for new research ideas and research exchanges through exchanges that transcend the boundaries of specialized fields.

- Initiatives at Research Institutes

At the Waseda Institute of Political Economy, we continued to support the emergence and autonomy of researchers inside and outside the university by establishing a research group to promote innovative and highly original joint research with a view to obtaining external funding, and also provided opportunities for young researchers to grow by encouraging doctoral students to participate in research projects. In addition, efforts were made to provide young researchers with opportunities for growth by encouraging doctoral students to participate in research projects.

(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

In order to make the most of their overseas study experience, Japanese degree program 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, and the system has been in operation since AY2023.

- Efforts to Motivate Students to Study Abroad

In order to motivate students to study abroad even before they enter the university, we have been incorporating the experiences of students who have studied abroad into faculty information sessions, pamphlets, explanatory videos, etc. since AY2023.

In addition, the Kawagishi Norikazu Scholarship, a scholarship program to support highly motivated graduate students who are willing to take on the challenge of long-term research activities overseas, was established in AY2023, and scholarship recipients were selected.

- Double degrees programs with overseas universities

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

(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 Professorships, and Incentive Allowances

The committee began to consider measures to attract excellent researchers by utilizing the newly established "Endowed Chair," "Outstanding 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 Council should provide information on suitable female candidates to

the selection committee members for the relevant appointments, 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 ensure the recruitment of excellent faculty members in AY2023.

2. 2024 Plan

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

-Admission reform plan for each faculty and graduate school.

Topic Example:

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

- Revue of the General Admission Test for Undergraduate Students in 2024

We will review the 2021-2024 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 2025 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 Connection

Continue smooth communication with both high schools and affiliated schools in order to make the high school-university linkage even closer. More than 30% of the students from both high schools enter the university, and with the main aim of further improving their academic abilities, we will continue the discussions with the executive offices of both high schools that were held in AY2021 and AY2023. The meetings were more meaningful than expected, as it enabled the faculty and the schools to share and understand each other's educational system and philosophy, and to exchange specific opinions and make mutual suggestions, such as requests for mock lectures and areas to be studied at the high school level, etc. The meeting is evaluated as an important opportunity to promote the high school-university connection. The meeting was more meaningful than expected, and is regarded as an important opportunity for the promotion of high school-university linkage. Since both high schools and all affiliated schools have readily agreed to hold this meeting every other year in the future, we will continue to hold this meeting every other year in principle. The next meeting will be held in AY2025.

- Review of the designated school recommendation system, etc.

Continue to review the disclosure of the recommendation criteria for the domestic designated school recommendation system and promote internal coordination. In addition, the recommendation system for designated schools outside of Japan will be reviewed to ensure the stable acquisition of excellent students for both JDP and EDP. In addition, the provision of pre-entry learning using Waseda Moodle for students admitted to Japanese degree programs through entrance examinations other than the general selection process, including those who plan to enter through the designated school recommendation system,

began in AY2023, and we will review the results in AY2023 and make necessary improvements to continue the program.

- English Degree Program Recruitment

Actively recruit students for the EDP entrance examination, including visits to local high schools, and work with the Overseas Office and International Admissions Office (IAO) to attract excellent students from various countries and regions without bias toward any particular country. In addition, steadily operate the online application system: The Admissions Office (TAO), which was introduced from September 2022 admission.

- Proactive public relations development

Continue to actively promote the new entrance examination system through various PR media such as the Internet, videos, and pamphlets, in order to promote understanding of the purpose of the new entrance examination system among the instructors and students. Reflecting on the fact that we have been overly biased toward explaining that basic academic skills in mathematics are required, we will continue to promote the significance of the Political Science and Economics curriculum in a balanced manner, as well as continue to promote the fact that the school is open to students who are not necessarily strong in mathematics. In addition, we will continue to consider measures to secure a diverse student body.

(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 the number of faculty members 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 undergraduate and graduate levels to further reduce the number of classes. With an eye on the Corona Disaster, while continuing to conduct face-to-face classes in AY2024 as a general rule, the management of courses will be conducted by striking an appropriate balance between the two, such as hybrid courses combining online and face-to-face classes, while taking into account the experience of online class delivery.

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.

- Strengthening of the function for fostering young researchers in the Graduate School of Graduate Studies

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 number of graduate students that is appropriate for graduate education will be scrutinized and examined, and a reduction in the enrollment capacity of graduate schools will be considered by promoting stricter admission standards accordingly. At the same time, secure financial resources and design a system to consider the introduction of a system to support the development of competent researchers and research activities.

In addition, the Graduate School of Political Science will inform enrolled students that in addition to the conventional Book Thesis type, the internationally recognized Three Essays type of doctoral degree application thesis will be accepted from the 2023 academic year.

The Graduate Schools of Political Science and Economics, in collaboration with the Institute for Contemporary Political Science, will hold a doctoral lunchtime workshop. The workshop was launched in AY2023 as a way for doctoral students to present and discuss their research results in front of graduate students and faculty members outside their own laboratories to increase their chances of success in conference presentations and paper submissions and improve their research results.

- Further enhance English-language degree programs

We will continue our efforts to realize a program that is on par with other major universities around the world. We will also clarify the significance of studying political science as well as economics in Asia, Japan, and Waseda University, and enhance courses related to Japan Studies.

- Reduction of teaching load

In accordance with the FY2019 curriculum reform, we have decided to set a standard of 5.5 to 6.0 classes for both undergraduate and graduate students, 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 and encourage the use of the buyout system as a measure to reduce the load of faculty members who have achieved outstanding research results and have received high evaluations.

- Faculty Recruitment

Priority personnel appointments will be discussed at faculty meetings in the areas of Political Science, Economics, and Liberal Arts and Foreign Languages, etc. A personnel plan looking ahead to the next three to five years will be developed to guide the faculty recruitment plan, and the plan will be discussed and shared among the members of the Academic Senate Faculty Senate.

Utilize the tenure-track system as a default for general recruitment, and strive to recruit young faculty members with high international competitiveness. In addition, to ensure that the education and research of tenure-track faculty members during their tenure enhances the education and research standards of the entire Academy, we will steadily implement the system of mentoring full-time faculty members in neighboring areas, and continue to flexibly operate the system by reducing the number of teaching hours and administrative workload of tenure-track faculty with an eye to securing research time for them.

To hire outstanding faculty members, the Academic Senate will study the use of "Endowed Chairs," "Outstanding Professorships," and "Incentive Allowances" to be utilized.

- Promotion of FD

The FD Committee within the Faculty will be positioned as one of the priority committees, and FD activities will be conducted not only at each management committee of faculties and graduate schools but also at Faculty Meetings, while closely examining past efforts. FD seminars will be held after each Faculty Meeting.

(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 SGU centers 2) Status of efforts by the Academia Sinica to secure research time for faculty members 3) Efforts to disseminate research results (mainly to overseas markets) 4) Status of collaboration with research institutes

- Continuation of the TGU Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy

Organize the projects developed by the TGU Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy and promote their incorporation into the existing projects of the Faculty. The joint appointment system for faculty members will continue to be implemented as it is

expected to be highly effective in inviting outstanding researchers, conducting joint research with faculty members, and providing guidance to graduate students.

- Securing research time for faculty members

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

Further promote the use of the buyout system, which was introduced in AY2023.

- Dissemination of research results

Focus on actively utilizing the web page introducing faculty members. Many faculty members are already actively disseminating their research results in languages other than their native tongue (mainly English), and this will be further promoted. We will continue our efforts to publish pre-publication working papers prepared by faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Waseda Institute of Political Economy on its website. At the same time, working papers written in English will be posted on RePEC, a global archive of research papers. When research results of faculty members and researchers affiliated with the Faculty receive notable honors, we will widely disseminate the results by introducing them on the website of the Waseda Institute of Political Economy.

- Creation of opportunities for researcher exchange: "Retreats"

The "Retreat" will be held continuously at the Waseda International House of Literature "Haruki Murakami Library" as a place for exchange where researchers of the Academic Park can freely exchange opinions. Not only faculty members of the Faculty, but also graduate students and foreign researchers from abroad are welcome to participate freely, and it is hoped that the exchange of ideas beyond their fields of specialization will lead to new research ideas and research exchanges.

- 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 opportunities for young researchers to grow by encouraging doctoral students to participate in research projects. At the same time, efforts will be made to provide young researchers with opportunities for growth 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

Promote enrollment of Japanese degree program students in English degree program courses in order to make the most of their overseas study experience.

The Japanese-English hybrid curriculum for the 2019 academic year has created an environment in which students in the JDP can take courses in the EDP, and vice versa. The same goes for the other way around: promote the course accreditation system, which began operating in AY2023 and issues certificates to students who have completed a certain number of credits, to encourage Japanese degree program students to take courses in English and English degree program students to take courses in Japanese.

- Efforts to Motivate Students to Study Abroad

To motivate students to study abroad even before entering the university, we will continue our efforts to include stories from students who have studied abroad in faculty information sessions, pamphlets, explanatory videos, etc.

In addition, we will support overseas research activities by continuing to operate the Kawagishi Reiwa Scholarship, a scholarship program established in AY2023 for ambitious graduate students who are willing to take on the challenge of long-term research activities overseas.

- Double Degrees Programs with overseas universities

Continue to study and discuss the establishment of an international double degrees 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 Professorships, and Incentive Allowances

Consideration will be given to measures to attract excellent researchers by utilizing the newly established "Endowed Chair," "Outstanding Professor," and "Incentive Allowance". The "Incentive Allowance" will be designed with the aim of starting its operation in AY2025.

- 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 Council 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 will be taken in each hiring process to secure excellent faculty members in AY2024.