



Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Substantive Change Report

Name of School:	Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin (62 75000 999)
Address:	4-4-16, Onohara-Nishi Mino-shi, Osaka, 562-0032 Japan
Visit Chair:	Dale J. Mitchell, Ed.D.
Date of Visit:	April 6, 2017
Substantive Change(s):	Added International Boarding Students

Introduction/Background Information

The Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin (OIS) was founded in 1991. OIS is a coeducational college preparatory school, which educates students from kindergarten (ages 4½) through grade 12. Its current enrollment K-12 is 273 students of 29 nationalities. OIS is accredited through June 2018.

Reason for Substantive Change Visit

Commencing with the 2015-2016 school year, Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin expanded the boarding program to include international students. It did not know that the school needed to apply for a Substantive Change until summer 2016. Previously, only Japanese nationals attending the sister school, Senri International school of Kwansei Gakuin, lived in the dormitories. The international boarding program is called Global Futures Program (GFP) for international students. Japanese students attending OIS and participating in the boarding program are considered "regular" dormitory students.

Substantive Change Visit Findings

The dormitory capacity for the combination of Osaka International students and Senri International School (SIS) students, the integrated international school that shares facilities and programs with OIS, is 35 students. At the end of the second trimester in March 2017, a total of 24 students were enrolled in the dormitory program, thirteen (13) from OIS and

eleven (11) from SIS. Of the thirteen OIS students six (6) are part of the Global Futures program and seven (7) are regular students. The dormitory serves students for grades 9 - 12.

A formal application, interview, and selection process are implemented in order to help ensure that students will be successful in a boarding school environment. The school has produced a "Dormitory Handbook" to assist parents and students interested in considering a dormitory experience.

The Visiting Committee identifies the following strengths of the boarding school program:

1. The dormitory provides a positive environment for social interaction among international and Japanese students.
2. There is a sense of family among dormitory students.
3. The dormitory experience is aligned with the school's vision and mission and supports student achievement of the student learning results.
4. The dormitory building, rooms, and common spaces are clean and well maintained. Safety and security measures are in place. These support the goals of the boarding program and address specific health and safety boarding expectations.
5. There is ongoing supervision and evaluation of the boarding school program. This includes administering a student questionnaire to receive input regarding the effectiveness of the experience. There is a six-member (6) committee that has oversight responsibilities. Additionally, the school has established a "Focus Group" to help the school consider Criterion F1. School Boarding Program has part of the self-study process the school has implemented in preparation for the next full WASC visit.

The Visiting Committee identifies the following growth areas for the boarding school program:

1. OIS needs to ensure that it is meeting its "pastoral care" responsibilities in supporting boarding school students, especially international students. The new, contracted out supervision of the boarding school will not be able to provide this necessary support.
2. OIS should ensure that there are a sufficient number of intentional activities that promote and engage dormitory students in cultural interactions. Simply providing shared living space and providing opportunities without requiring interaction are inadequate.

Recommendation to the Commission

The Visiting Committee recommends that Osaka International School of Kwansai Gakuin (OIS) continue to be accredited noting the addition of a dormitory program.

Dale J. Mitchell, Ed.D., Retired Superintendent



4/6/17

Chair Name, Title, and Signature

Date