Quality Assurance of Education in Physical Education and Sport Science
- Curriculum for the Development of Physical Educator and Sports professionals in Asia -

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Since the establishment of The National Institute of Gymnastics was established in 1878, Tokyo, the Japanese people's involvement in physical activity and exercise, physical education and sports have been largely changed. The recent Japanese people from the young to the elderly have begun to recognize important roles of physical activity and exercise, physical education and sports in the life of the 21st century. What this means is that physical education and sport, and the related sciences have a heavy responsibility to cultivate the people, maintain and promote their health, enhance human performance, improve elite athletes' performance and so on.

The symposium intends to present curricula for the development of physical educators, kinesiologists, sports leaders, and sport scientists in Asian countries and to exchange information in order to improve the quality assurance of education which is assigned to colleges and departments of physical education, health and sport sciences.

Aspects of "the quality assurance of education" in physical education and sport science in Japanese universities:

A report concerning "the reference standard"

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At present, Japanese university system has many problems. The ratio of high-school students going on to universities is about 50%. This ratio is low compared with that of foreign countries. Besides this, the more serious problem is that in Japan the number of applicants for admission to universities has become almost equivalent to the capacity of all of the universities' quota of students. Therefore, the university system has been widely popularized, and the educational quality has declined at many universities. Thereupon, the government and the society have required each university to raise their educational quality. The above-mentioned problem has already occurred at many departments of physical education and sport science.

Moreover, many universities/departments have great difficulties in securing their quota. Fortunately, this problem has not occurred yet at any college/departments of physical education and sport science. The present problem for those colleges/departments is that the rate of the graduates who have become specialists of physical education and sport is merely about 30%. It would be better to say that, 70% of the graduates have not attained their wish to be specialists of physical education and sport. If we do not cope with this issue, it will cause the colleges/departments to be unable to secure their quota in physical education and sport science in the near future. Furthermore, it may lead some of the colleges/departments of physical education and sport science to business failure.

In addition, these issues will have a great deal of bad influence on the whole academic community of physical education and sport science. After all, these are serious issues also concerning the existence of our academic community.

The Japan Alliance of Colleges/Departments of Physical Education, Health and Sport Sciences (JACPEHSS)" is organized by 24 universities/colleges which have such departments as are related to physical education, health and sport. Considering those departments' present state and the social requirement, JACPEHSS published "the reference standard" of a department of physical education and sport science last year. It refers to the direction which the department of physical education and sport science should aim at. At this symposium, I'd like to report the contents of "the reference standard" mentioned above.