

In 1897 Ms. Young arrived at Kwassui, and the following year she became principal. The greatest problem which faced her was dealing with the Girls' High School Order and the Private School Order, promulgated in 1899, which laid down that in order to receive government accreditation it was necessary to give up all religious education. This put all of the Christian schools in Japan into a serious predicament, as to give up the teaching of Christianity would be to give up the whole ethos underlying the establishment of the schools.

Ms. Young's decision was to give up accreditation as an officially approved high school based on this act, and to resign herself to Kwassui's being classified with the "various other" schools. Although this decision resulted in 40 students leaving, the quality of education that Kwassui was able to achieve allowed the school to survive through these difficult times.

While Kwassui's achievements were being recognized by society, at last, in 1912, formal government approval was received which recognized Kwassui graduates as being competent to enter a "Senmon Gakko" (in the pre-war system a higher school or college, the highest level then available to women), with a level equal to or above the level achieved by graduates of the officially approved girls' high schools.

This meant that, while preserving the founding spirit of the school, Kwassui had succeeded in being recognized as an institution of higher education.