



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION: UMJ and UTM TEACHING PRACTICE PERSPECTIVES

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Abstract

This paper reports on an international collaboration between two universities, one private university in Indonesia (Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta, UMJ) and one public and world class university in Malaysia (Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, UTM). Both collaborative action plans were implemented through projects in program development, faculty exchange, graduate student/teacher field experiences, pre-service student's internship mentoring and also conjoined research in the area of a foreign/second language teaching and teacher development, and educational technology. Over a three-year period from 2015-2018 reported that UMJ, i.e. Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan (Faculty of Education) sent students for teaching practice to Fakulti Pendidikan UTM in four batches with 65 preservice students. In March 2018, UTM sent seven students to do internship program at UMJ. This collaboration commitment portrayed a smooth international partnership between universities and hoped to be continued in other field of collaborations.

Keywords: international collaboration, teaching practice program, UTM, UMJ

1. Introduction

Higher education in Indonesia has been changing to be internationalized. Internationalization is a major trend in higher education [1]. As one of 174 PTM (Muhammadiyah's Higher Education), Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta (UMJ) continued to improve its global role by making international collaborations. This article is aimed to report internationalization of teaching practice held by Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan (Faculty of Education) and Fakulti Pendidikan Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (FP UTM).

The signing of LoC (Letter of Cooperation) between UTM and UMJ was held at Pulau Springs Resort, Johor Bahru, and was signed by Rector of UMJ and Dean of Fakulti Pendidikan, Prof. Baharuddin Aris. It was 3rd June 2015 in the commencement of International Collaboration for UMJ, i.e. Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan, by short FIP UMJ [2]. Starting from this agreement, on July-August 2018, directly FIP UMJ sent seven students as pioneer's project in the form of teaching practice or sit-in program.

The internship program was implemented in deploying students to UTM's partner schools. The program lasted for three weeks in SMK (Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan), a secondary public school in Johor Bahru, Malaysia. The sit-in program continuously reached sending 65 students during 2015-2018.

Above example of internationalization commitment implied international collaboration has been central to developing UMJ's higher education vision, mission and strategic international partnerships. Hopefully, it would play an important role in pursuing UMJ as a World Class University in the future. Otherwise, FIP UMJ collaboration with FP UTM contributed to increase accreditation grade from both national and international bodies, and to create the research environment needed to attract and retain world-class researchers, as other commitment signed since four years ago.

2. Method

Literature search and interview based method was applied to expose this paper. As a descriptive report, authors wrote this article in order to share information about perspectives in two universities axis. The data were collected from the research team, consisting of the faculty coordinator for the program both in UMJ and UTM. Two research questions were proposed here for clarity as survey instruments: (1) How is UMJ perspective towards the International Cooperation in teaching practice? and (2) How is UTM perspective towards the International Cooperation in teaching practice?

Collecting data from many sources were convinced to explain this report. Authors of report contacted head of International Relation Office Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta (IRO UMJ),



found data from UTM portal, interviewed program coordinators, and literature study.

3. Results

Overall, UMJ has conducted international cooperation in the field of education, as reported by IRO, International Relations Office [3]. The following figure was data from 2012 to 2018. But, universities collaboration certificates validated until 2024.

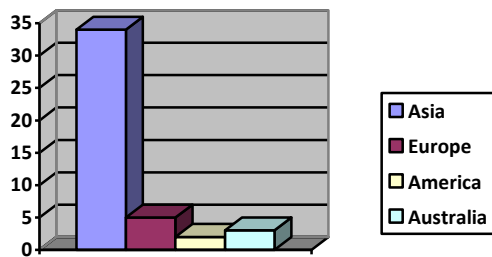


Figure 1. Foreign Universities in collaboration

Figure 1 explained that UMJ signed International Collaboration among universities in Asia (34 universities), Europe (2 universities), America (2 universities) and Australia (3 universities).

From 44 international universities, UMJ agreed to facilitate students to do internship program, such as teaching program at UTM [4], students exchange, teacher or lecturer experience, and joint research were also implemented.

Besides, UMJ also kept agreement by accepting 50 students to study based on Central Muhammadiyah Boards Decree to fuel students from Asia and Africa.

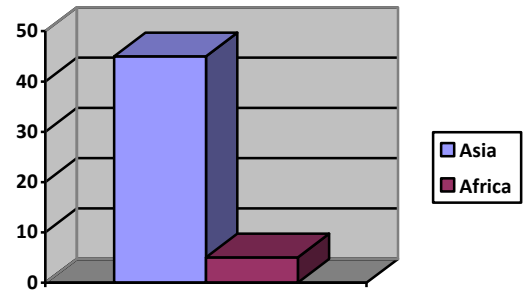


Figure 2. Foreign Students in UMJ

Figure 2 showed the position of international students from Somalia (5 student), Aljazair (1 student), Timor Leste (1 student), and Thailand (43 students). With total amount 50 foreign students shared to Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Islamic Religion, and Faculty of Health Sciences in UMJ.

FIP UMJ sent 7 students in 2015, 18 students in 2016, 28 students in 2017, and in the year of 2018, just sent 12 students.

4. Discussion

Much literature on the internationalization of higher education focuses on teaching and learning [5]. This statement associated with the discussion of teaching practice as the international program in both universities, UMJ and UTM as elaborated in this paper.

The following figure displayed 65 students from FIP UMJ got certificates of teaching practice program from FP UTM. The data gathered from 2015-2018:

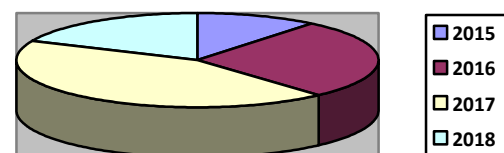


Figure 3. FIP UMJ student's internship placement



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Seeing the above figure, activities focused on international collaboration between FIP UMJ and FP UTM had included the followings:

a) 2015 first program of teaching practice at UTM

Seven students practiced sit-in program including social work. All students from English Education study program taught at high school and vocational school. One pensyarah/lecturer from UTM guided them to the teaching practice during three weeks. The pre-service student had a mentor teacher to assess their activities.

b) 2016 second batch in teaching practice

Applicants to join international internship had increased significantly. In the year 2016, FIP UMJ sent 18 students from English Department to be deployed in UTM partner school.

c) 2017 third program of teaching practice

28 students from three departments joined classroom teaching practice, 14 from English Education; eight from Primary Education; and six from Mathematics Education. The year 2017 was drastically increase of applicants to join the successful program.

d) The Fourth Batch

At the beginning of July 2018 FIP UMJ sent 12 students from three departments, five English Education, five from Primary Education, and two Mathematics Education. The decrease of quantity due to minimum student body from English Department which dominated internship applicants to UTM.

UMJ Perspective

As mentioned above, one of international commitments agreed by UMJ and its partners is internship program by sending preservice teacher student to do a sit in program during three weeks.

For UMJ staff development, in January 2016, the Dean of FP UTM, Professor Baharuddin Aris

gave Guest Lecturer on *Instructional and Learning Design Models toward Achieving Impactful Learning Outcomes* [6]. This event took place in UMJ, invited all lecturers from eight faculties in UMJ, discussed about technology in education.

Also in July 2018, a new school visit program held. Sekolah Rendah Islam Hidayah, Skudai, Johor Bahru was the first program of Lab School FIP UMJ visit brought 12 primary students.

Above all, looking perspective of international collaboration with UTM, many advantages came to UMJ in accessing internship program and school visit, while other ongoing joint research program was conducted.

UTM Perspective



Figure 4.
UMJ-UTM
student's
participation

Above figure expressed that UMJ students reached as the most participants rather than UTM students. Comparing 65:7 from UMJ-UTM participation in internship program was not a big problem. It was due to UTM not only sent students to UMJ, but also another partner campuses around Indonesia.

In addition, every year, UTM coordinator always coached and give a small discussion for FIP UMJ staff to enhance knowledge and skill. Latest seminar held in FIP UMJ, March 2018 discussed about *Teaching Model in the Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0*.

Internationalization, a central movement in higher education in the new millennium, has promoted a significant number of policies and projects related to student and faculty mobility, and, increasingly, to university-to-university collaborations [7]. This argued that student mobility in university to university collaboration became the keyword of international collaboration.



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To expand and to sustain international collaboration between UMJ and UTM, especially in teaching practice, both parties were involved in developing research on teaching practice and students exchange in short course program or transfer credit.

Teaching and Learning in Higher Education <http://www.isetl.org/ijtlhe>, p. 382

5. Acknowledgement

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