



Australia Awards

Australia Awards in Indonesia – Short Term Award International Scholarship Collaboration



Participants of the Australia Awards' International Scholarship Collaboration Short Term Award visit the Department of Foreign Affairs and Australia Awards in Canberra

Course Highlights:

- Pre-Course Workshop on 17-19 September 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia
- In-Australia Component on 14-25 October 2019 in Brisbane and Canberra, Australia
- Post-Course Workshop on 4-6 February 2020 in Bogor, Indonesia

This Short Term Award (STA) builds on the relationship between the Australian Embassy in Jakarta and the Indonesian Government's scholarship programs. The objective was to identify further collaboration opportunities and benchmark ways programs are managed in Indonesia and Australia. The course explored how the Australian scholarship program has developed, how the scholarship schemes have changed over the years and how Australian Government funded scholarship programs including Australia Awards are administered.

The course covered the whole scholarship cycle – promotions, awardee selections, selection of universities and study programs, mobilisation, on-award support and enrichment programs, the role of the universities' international education offices (student support and promotion of international opportunities), monitoring and evaluation, reintegration and alumni engagement. The program looked at operational aspects such as different contracting methods, endowment fund operations and administration, payments to the universities as well as scholarship information management systems and practices.



The course was delivered by Griffith University's International Business Development Unit (IBDU); the Griffith Business School's (GBS) Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) combined with the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. Mr. Alan Atwell, Course Leader and Course Designer, is a senior development practitioner with extensive experience in Indonesia, the Pacific, and Asia. Course Co-Leader is Prof Caitlin Byrne, Director of the Griffith Asia Institute, who was directly involved in the design and development of Australia's Global Alumni Engagement strategy for DFAT and is on the Fulbright Selection Committee for Queensland. Other members of the team include Ms. Elaine Ward, an international development specialist with more than 20 years' experience in designing and performance-managing complex programs for the Australian government in Asia and the Pacific and who served as the Director, Scholarships and Alumni programs, Communications and Scholarships Division. Dr Anne Cullen is a lecturer in Asian Studies, International Relations and Political Science.

The program was conducted in Brisbane and Canberra. In Brisbane, a University Sector Roundtable at Griffith University was delivered with speakers from University of Queensland, James Cook University, and the Australia Indonesia Business Council (AIBC). Week 2 in Canberra saw presentations from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT); The Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM); Department of Finance, and the Department of Education.



Panelists from the University of Queensland, AIBC and Griffith University at the Round Table on the University's role in supporting sponsored students, delivered as part of the AAI International Scholarship Collaboration Short Term Award

Highlights of site visits and sessions

- In Brisbane, the University Sector Roundtable which invited representatives from several universities to present on the importance of supporting sponsored students to achieve good outcomes (student support and promotion of international opportunities), monitoring and evaluation, reintegration and alumni engagement. Speakers were from the University of Queensland; James Cook University; the Australia Indonesia Business Council (QLD); and Griffith's Business Strategy and Innovation Department and the Digital Campus Project.



Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director, Griffith Asia Institute delivers a presentation on the Australian Scholarship Program, including the Global Alumni Engagement Strategy at the opening of the program

- A networking event with Indonesian scholarship recipients studying at the three main universities in Queensland - Griffith University, University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology. The Brisbane forum highlighted the value of the students' integration stories relating to their study and the adjustments needed to live in Australia either as a single person or as a family. Many ISC participants committed to maintain linkages with these students on their return so that the lessons learnt could be shared with other applicants applying for similar courses.

- In Canberra, a networking event at Old Parliament House which was attended by: Mr. Mohammad Iskandarsyah Derry Aman, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), Indonesian Embassy; Mr. M. Imran Hanafi, Education and Cultural Attaché, Indonesian embassy; Sarah Willis Director, Indonesia Strategy and Performance Section (ICP), DFAT; representatives from ANU and Canberra University, AAI and Coffey personnel, and representatives from ANU and Canberra University such as Nurkema Muliani from the Indonesia Project and Cheyne Scott, Associate Director, Operational Performance| Global Student Recruitment (GSR) Canberra University. Twenty Canberra-based AAI Masters and PhD scholars also attended (selected on a first come basis).



Mr Mohammad Iskandarsyah Derry Aman, Deputy Chief Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia and Sarah Willis, Director, Indonesia Strategy and Performance Section (ICP) Indonesia Branch, DFAT, at the networking event

Pre and Post-Course Workshops

The pre-course was in Jakarta from September 17-19, 2019. The pre-course resulted in the 26 participants focusing on five areas not necessarily directly related to their individual projects but in areas where they wished to gain more knowledge and understanding of areas. Five thematic areas were established: 1) Monitoring and Evaluation; 2) Design and Re-design; 3) Scholarship Guidelines; 4) Co-funding; and 5) Post-Award.

The Post-Course Workshop was held in Bogor from February 4-6, 2020. On the third day of the post-course workshop, the Indonesian Scholarship Collaboration Forum for Overseas Study was held. This Forum seeks to continue and build upon the objectives of the International Scholarship Collaboration Short Term Award. The Forum consisted of 26 participants from the ISC STA, key officers from public and private sector organisations and key staff from DFAT and AAI. At the completion of the presentations and the four interactive workshop sessions, all participants from the private sector DFAT, AAI and GU staff signed a joint declaration to continue to support the Forum as it continues to develop its collaboration program.

Quotes

Salamah Agung, Coordinator, Project Management unit at MoRA said: "This short course has been an extraordinary program for me as a member of an Indonesian scholarship management, 5000 Doctor Program. The course not only provides wider understanding of the scholarship management, but also triggers new ideas and innovation for quality improvement of our program."

Ali Muharam, Head of Division of Degree Program Center for Planners Development, Education, and Training, Bappenas said: "The short course is designed for those who are very eager to learn about scholarship in general sense. I am luckily part of the program and I learn much how to manage scholarship in a proper manner. Thanks to AAI/DFAT for such an impressive program course."

Boyke Jufuway, The Human Resource Development Board of Papua Province said: "The Short Term Award has given me amazing experiences and knowledge to manage the scholarship program with the best practitioners in the field and offices that run the scholarship programs in Australia. I also got the new connections and partnerships through this short course and think that this course is very useful for my future collaboration in the scholarship business."



Final day on the short course with Prof Sarah Todd, Vice-President (Global) Griffith University



Chairman of the Australian Indonesian Business Council, Mr. Paul Martins, opens the Round Table

Azmar Muammar, Partnership Development Specialist, Ministry of Finance sums up the general response of the participants regarding the applicability of the course to their government work in scholarships when he noted: "I gained valuable experience when taking courses conducted by the Australia Awards Indonesia. Apart of that, I found out that the course brings significant knowledge improvement in accomplishing the way I manage my job and create new network with stakeholders in Australia."

Muhammad Ruby, Aceh Scholarship Program, Aceh Provincial Government expresses the rounded delivered: "It has been a terrific journey, from gaining technical knowledge, meeting the experts, developing the project and having a wonderful time in Australia."

Ukik Kusuma Kurniawan from the Center for International Training and Collaboration BKKBN said: "So grateful to learn many collaborative schemes regarding international scholarship. Enjoyed the true friendship and networking very much between two countries, my lovely second home Australia."

Examples of participant project outcomes:

Overall the final projects presented were impressive with examples of changes already implemented for the betterment of their program, for example three books on guidelines had been completed between their return to Indonesia and the post-course workshop in Bogor.

- A key feature of the post course workshop was the launch of the Indonesia Scholarship Collaboration Forum for Overseas Study (ISCFOS). This very positive outcome from the ISC STA will sustain and build on the learnings of the ISC STA and help with the implementation of awardees projects through the linkages and collaboration formed. ISCFOS and informal networks developed during the ISC STA will provide an avenue where participants can discuss ways to influence supervisors and employers on ways to support their projects. Furthermore, on-going involvement by DFAT and AAI in the ISCFOS will support and build upon the 60% of participants who are establishing relationships with Australian institutions and or organisations.

- The MORA 5000 Doktor Scholarship team have identified program weaknesses by utilising a SWOT analysis and using the results for the implementation of clear logic processes. The participants from this program have created a slogan to promote their work and the program "Scholarship for the Agent of Change". They are currently addressing a major challenge of data management with collaboration with other participants who have database expertise.

- Collation of reliable data from multiple stakeholders to measure the impact of the scholarship program 'SPIRIT' which includes 10 coordinating agencies. The project was then able to identify major trends in overseas scholarship placements and success. Project expanded to now create tracing systems relocatable to other scholarship programs for the collation of verifiable data and trends upon which future management decision can be based.

- Creation of Scholarship Manuals and Handbooks for remote region scholarship programs, such as in Papua. The participants noted the clarity the handbooks and manuals created for scholarship awardees and general improvements in stakeholder relations.

- In all projects presented by the participants there was clear evidence of their project research in their daily workplace. In most of the project summaries participants noted improvements in their scholarship programs operations. Few participants cited impediments to their 'new' processes gained from the ISC short course.

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