

**Resident Director's Report
Semester 24, January 2007 to June 2007**

Orientation was quite relaxed with only twenty six students. The pace of the weekend was slowed right down following complaints that the schedule was too tiring from the previous semester. This is particularly the case for European students who come in off long haul flights immediately prior to the starting date. No doubt some students felt that not enough information was being conveyed over the course of the sessions, but the compensation was that we had only one person fall sick. In the past orientation fatigue has been a real health problem that greatly taxes our resources. The main change to the orientation schedule was that rather than canvassing study options and enrolment procedures during orientation, we deferred this session until the following Wednesday. It was much more useful to discuss study options on campus where we were able to directly assist students with enrolment.

Semester 24: Student numbers for were as follows

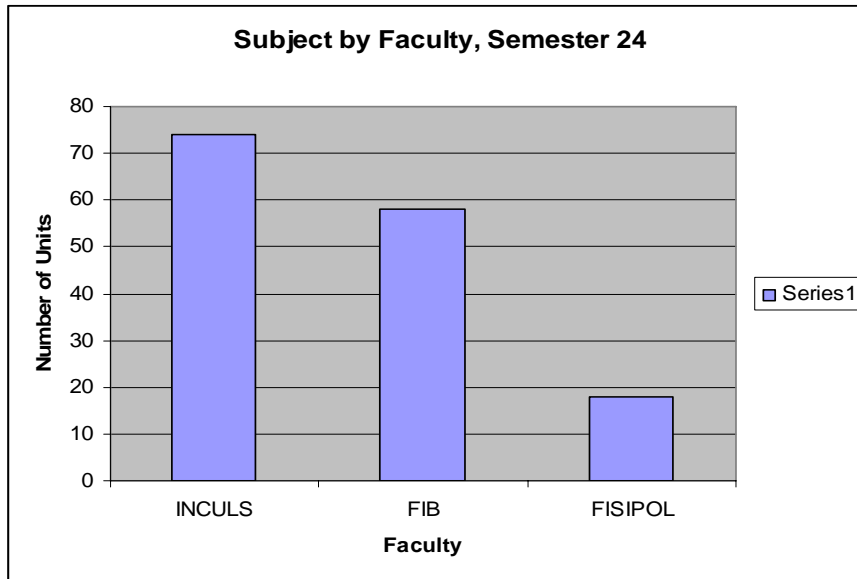
	UGM	UMM	UII	TOTAL
Continuing	1	8		9
New	25		1	26
				35

Universitas Gadjah Mada**Indonesian Cultural Learning Service (Incults)**

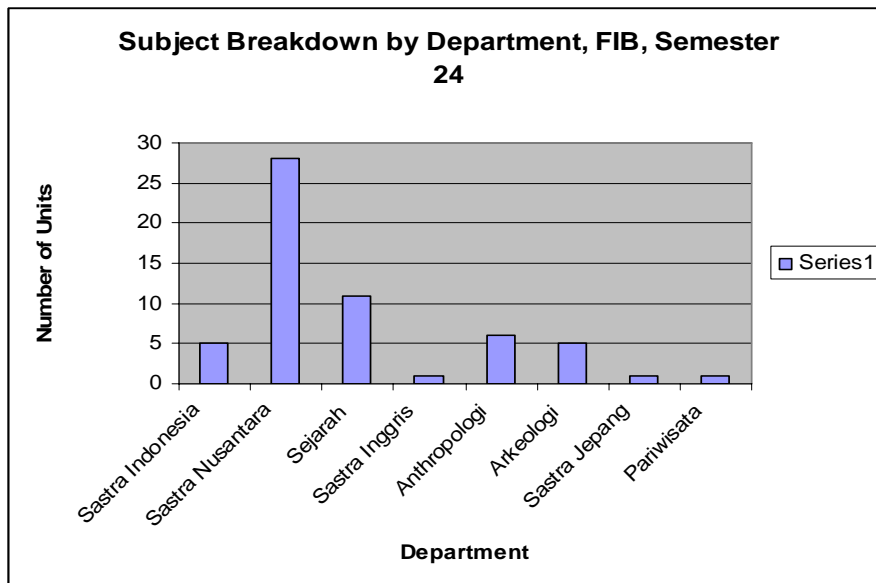
47% of the total number of subjects taken during semester 24 were with Incults. While the overall level of satisfaction with the language centre was good, various issues were raised by students regarding a need for improvements. The most important finding was that almost all students singled out as conversational skills as the area they are most eager to improve, a desire that is not always matched by the Incults curriculum. The overall results were forwarded to Incults and are to be used for a workshop on language teaching methods with Incults during July. The centre's directors have expressed a keen interest in responding to student opinions and Prof. David Reeve will conduct the workshop. In future I would recommend that any visiting language teachers be invited to speak to Incults teachers in order that the latter might learn something of the experience of teaching Indonesian abroad. This would assist them in understanding what the expectations of foreign students are.

Immersion option

Once again the overwhelming majority of immersion units were taken from the Faculty of Cultural Sciences (FIB) and Faculty of Social and Political Sciences (FISIPOL). Subjects taken outside of these faculties were Nursing (one unit), Geography (two units) and Law (three units). There was high level of satisfaction with most immersion units. The Law Faculty were very responsive to our requests for assistance to a visually impaired student for which we were most grateful.



The above graph shows a pretty even split between the overall number of units taken by ACICIS students with 47% and 53% of subjects being in Inculs and Immersion units respectively.



Sastra Nusantara retained its popularity. There was a significant rise in the number of students in history when compared to semester 23.

Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang

The Malang option proceeded very well for semester 24 with a total of eight students pursuing the field studies option. The three SOAS students in-particular performed very well with their research projects.

Malang Research Topics, Semester 24

AL-RASHID, Hannah Aidinal	Putih Cantik: Persepsi Kecantikan dan Obsesi Orang Indonesia untuk Memiliki Kulit Putih
BREWIS, Linda Elisa Jennifer	Band Indie dan Underground Malang: Sebuah Contoh Subkultur di Indonesia
DICKSON, Anne Louise	Pandangan Ibu-Ibu 'Aisyiyah' di Malang terhadap Poligami
JAMES, Nina Osborne	Permasalahan untuk Nelayan di Selat Bali dan Dampak dari Otonomi Daerah
MCQUEEN, Marion Yvonne	Dampak Sosial Ekonomi Semburan Lumper Lapindo Terhadap Masyarakat Kecil, Khususnya Para Pekerja Sektor Informal
PICKERING, Sameul James	Pengaplikasian Konsep Pembangunan Berkelanjutan Sebagai Upaya Dalam Mencari Perbaikan Sistem Pengelolaan Hutan Bakau, Desa Grajagan, Kabupaten Banyuwangi, Jawa Timur
VOOLES, Candice Adele	Persepsi terhadap Nyai Roro Kidul dan Petik Laut di Muncar
WELCH, James Lee	Keselamatan Industri Penerbangan di Indonesia Pasca Deregulasi: Unsur-Unsur yang Mempengaruhi Keselamatan dan Siapa dapat Dipertanggungjawabkan

Universitas Islam Indonesia

Semester 24 saw the inaugural intake for an ACICIS student in the UII Faculty of Economics International Program. Enrolment and immigration procedures went smoothly. Student feedback was very positive. There were a number of teething problems over the course of the semester but these were to be expected. On the whole the FE IP program did a fine job in looking after the first participant.

Immigration

All immigration affairs proceeded smoothly. The Office for International Affairs, UGM has been helpful, prompt and efficient in the issuance of various letters required by students for temporary or permanent departures from the country as well as in their general management of ACICIS visa applications.

Immigration affairs experienced the regular set of disturbances with the coming of a new Head of the Yogya office. The ACICIS RD paid a courtesy call on the new Head of immigration in January. Following a conference on immigration affairs organised by the UGM Office of International Affairs in March 2007, the ACICIS RD was nominated by UGM as a proxy for immigration matters regarding our students. Basically this officially enables the RD to accompany students when attending to immigration matters and to submit and retrieve student files on their behalf.

Security and Health

Health wise semester 24 was remarkably trouble-free. We had only one hospitalisation in Yogya (for typhoid). The excellent health record of the students was basically a reflection of their healthy lifestyles.

Security concerns were raised by further arrests of terror suspects in March. Following the capture of a group of suspects in Yogya and an emailed threat against nightclubs in Yogya on the same day, a general ban on all nightclubs and bars was placed on ACICIS students. The ban remained in place for two months. Following a revision of the security situation in late May, the decision was made to repeal the ban. We continue to strongly advise all students against frequenting bars and clubs in Indonesia.

Miscellaneous

1. Australian Education International (AEI) Outreach Programs

At the conclusion of semester 23 Michael Mersiades (CDU) participated the invitation of the Padang Provincial Government and AEI.

Anne Dickson (UNSW) and Stuart Maxwell (USC) participated in week long workshops in Bali and Lombok respectively for the AEI during semester 24. In June we plan to have one more student head off to Pekanbaru and Palembang for a week long program. Our good relationship with AEI (via the Australian Embassy) continues to provide fantastic opportunities to our students. The AEI in Jakarta is a great supporter of ACICIS and they are very appreciative of our student participation.

2. Meeting with Australian Ambassador in Yogyakarta

In early June the ACICIS RD along with a number of students met with the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia on the occasion of a collaborative Indonesian-Australian arts performance. The following day the Ambassador and the RD paid a courtesy call on the newly elected Rector of Gadjah Mada University.

3. Interview for SBS Documentary

In early May a group of students were interviewed by veteran Australian reporter Mike Carlton as part of an upcoming three-part documentary titled *Bridging the Timor Sea*. Carlton subsequently wrote a brief piece for the Sydney Morning Herald praising the enthusiasm of our students. See <http://www.acicis.murdoch.edu.au/hi/carlton.html>

4. International Seminar on Teaching Indonesian Overseas, Guest Lectures

On May 9-10 the Faculty of Cultural Sciences hosted an international seminar on the above subject. The ACICIS RD was invited to present a paper, the substance of which was an overview of the state of Indonesian language studies in Australia and student perceptions of in-country language teaching. In addition to the seminar, guest lectures were conducted in the Faculty of Cultural Sciences and Faculty of Economics International Program.

5. Charitable Activities

In semester 24 a *becak* race was organised with the funds raised used to purchase essential items for a local orphanage. In between various ACICIS students were involved in voluntary teaching for local schools in Jogjakarta and Central Java.

Follow-up earthquake relief efforts were also conducted. One million rupiah was handed over by ACICIS students to a village in Bantul for the replacement of gamelan instruments lost in the May 2006 earthquake. A further seven million rupiah was channeled to local NGOs involved in the long reconstruction process.

Closing Comments

Despite relatively low student numbers, semester 24 (January 2007 to June 2007) was a good one for ACICIS Yogya. Students continued to be involved in a wide range of activities off-campus that greatly contributed to their language proficiency and general understanding of Indonesian culture and society. The political situation in both Jogja and Malang remained quite conducive to study with no major disruptions or natural disasters. The relationship between our office and host institutions continues to be very good.

The inclusion of SOAS and Leiden University students has had a very positive effect on Australian students. The increasing diversity of the ACICIS student body has drawn Australian-based students into social relations with other Western students with different values and ambitions. Likewise the ever-increasing diversity of Inculs students has had a positive effect in breaking down ideas of Australian exclusivity. On the whole the past year has seen ACICIS students drawn into a great variety of meaningful extra-curricular activities. Publicising local cultural events and offering opportunities to volunteer with various local organisations must always remain an important part of our work in Jogja.

Once again the Jogja office received very good support from the Perth secretariat and Consortium Director over the course of the year. The sense of *kekeluargaan* between the various branches of the organisation makes life much easier at the Jogja end of things where conditions can be rather trying at times. The support from our partner institutions in Indonesia continues to be excellent. I hope that the coming year will see ongoing improvements both in student numbers and our level of service here in Jogja.

Dr. Philip King
ACICIS Resident Director
Yogyakarta
June 30th 2007