



Australia Awards Short Course

Capacity Building for the Management Team of the Indonesian International Islamic University (IIU)



The Australia Awards Short Course on Capacity Building for the Management Team of the Indonesian International Islamic University (IIU) aimed to connect and develop institutional links between IIU and Australian universities. Through the course, participants were provided with opportunities to benchmark the way leading Australian universities manage their internationalisation, financial management and information technology (IT) in the university context. The course was implemented by Deakin University and targeted 25 participants from IIU's management team, including professional and academic staff.

The short course consisted of a 3-day pre-course workshop, a 10-day course, a 2-day post-course workshop and three online mentoring sessions. The pre- and post-course workshops were conducted at the IIU campus in Depok, Indonesia, and the 10-day course was conducted in Australia across Melbourne, Geelong, Canberra, and Sydney. Across the 10 days, participants visited seven leading Australian universities, including Deakin University, the University of Melbourne, Monash University, RMIT, the Australian Catholic University (ACU), the Australian National University (ANU), and the University of Sydney.

Participants connected with university administrators and experts to learn how Australian universities develop and manage various aspects of their internationalisation, finance and IT. Participants also engaged in one-on-one mentoring sessions to guide the planning and implementation of their Award Projects.

Course Highlights:

Pre-course workshop:

26 – 28 July 2022 (in-person, Depok)

In-Australia course:

15 – 26 August 2022 (in-person, Australia)

Mentoring sessions:

8 August 2022, 3 October 2022 & 7 November 2022 (online)

Post-course workshop:

13 – 14 December 2022 (in-person, Depok)



Pre-course Workshop

At the pre-course workshop, participants presented their draft Award Projects to course leaders. Course leaders organised awardees and their projects into three streams: internationalisation, finance management and IT. The course leaders took on the role of a mentor for the development and implementation of each project. Participants shared their hopes and expectations for the Short Course and course leaders presented on the Internationalisation of Education and Islamic Studies in the Australian context.

“Excellent exposure to the internationalization of universities provided by very competent speakers. Practical strategies and examples provided from Australian universities.”

“Some of the most memorable sessions were having a discussion session with the professional staff at Monash University on the theme of IT. I gained a lot of new knowledge about IT, Cyber Security, and IT policies implemented at a university.”

“I learned so much from Australian universities, particularly about financial management and the sources of university income.”



Meeting with Indonesian Ambassador to Australia H.E. Dr. Siswo Pramono, Indonesian Embassy, Canberra.

In-Australia Course

The 10-day course in Australia focused on key learning objectives, such as benchmarking and sharing experiences and best practices on universities' internationalisation efforts; benchmarking best practices on the use of IT in the university sector; developing a financial management system that is accountable, effective, efficient and minimises risk; and identifying ways to improve existing risk management approaches in internationalisation.



Participants celebrate graduation at the post-course workshop, IIIU campus, Depok.

Participants noted the following beneficial components of the course:

- Increased knowledge about student recruitment and mobility, program and curriculum design, finance, business, IT management, social media strategies, internationalisation and strengthening university networks
- Visiting seven leading universities, with professional and academic staff offering diverse and unique strategies and perspectives on how to develop and manage their internationalisation, finance, and IT
- Having in-depth meetings and rich discussions with content experts, noting the content experts' qualities, such as experience in their fields and being very knowledgeable, supportive, and personable
- Learning from a comprehensive, well structured and well organised course
- Team building and getting to know colleagues and team members more

Throughout the course, participants were provided with many networking opportunities to strengthen linkages between IIIU and Australian universities. These included an evening networking event with several Deans, Directors, and academic staff from leading universities in Melbourne; a dinner in Melbourne CBD with Mr John Molony, Pro-VC and President (International), and Professor Wei Shen, Associate Pro Vice Chancellor (International Relations) from Deakin University; a networking lunch at Monash university with Indonesian experts. During the course, several informal networking lunches and one-on-one meetings were coordinated for participants to meet with university academics and professional staff who were beneficial to their work.

“What I want to emphasize about the course, is that I was able to meet with experts in their fields and discover the key formula for enhancing our capacity as participants. This course regularly involved speakers from a variety of backgrounds, including academics, professionals, and government policymakers.”

“Shahram and Zahid facilitated in-depth discussions with informal sessions such as a networking lunch with Deakin's Librarian, and networking dinners, which allowed us to have more conversations with people who have mastered their respective topics.”

“I am very grateful to meet Ms Bronwyn Bartsch from ACU. She gave a comprehensive explanation of how ACU, as a faith-based university, shares the university's values to the world, especially to prospective students.”

Post-course Workshop

In the lead up to the post-course workshop, participants engaged in monthly peer group mentoring sessions that provided intensive support for participant Award Projects. At the post-course workshop, participants reflected on their AAI course experience and presented their Award Projects. The Deakin team felt that the quality of Award Projects was outstanding. All projects made meaningful impact, and many demonstrated established linkages between awardees and administrators and experts at Australian universities. A post-course evaluation by Deakin University following the in-Australia component of the course, showed participants had an overwhelmingly positive experience with all aspects of program.

“The program was extremely useful and well-organized. The structure of the program was tailored according to our actual needs. The director of the program was very informative and knew how to lead the program. The information, particularly the face-to-face sessions, were extremely beneficial.”

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