

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Higher education institutions are one of the places that aim to prepare and improve the ability of Indonesia's younger generation to have high-quality human resources in professional fields, so that they can support the development and progress of the Republic of Indonesia. Higher education often focuses on theoretical learning, so to balance it students need to be involved in hands-on training activities to understand how to solve problems that arise so that they can coincide with the application of the theory they have learned. Therefore, it is imperative for universities to continuously improve and adapt their educational programs to the needs of the job market, ensuring that students have adequate insight and experience before entering the workforce.

Universitas muhammadiyah Yogyakarta which is one of the universities in Indonesia in particular provides one of the academic programs in higher education that deals with international relations, including the role of states, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, is the Department of International Relations. The program covers political, military, socio-cultural, and economic aspects in the study of international relations. The theoretical understanding that students gain from this program aims to improve their communication skills, critical thinking, and awareness of national and international issues.

In addition to facilitating the program through classes that support theoretical understanding, Muhammmadiyah Yogyakarta University also facilitates programs such as internships, which are a form of training that can help students develop their skills and abilities. In addition, internships allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the world of work through hands-on practice. Although the field of International Relations has a broad scope, which allows graduates to have diverse career prospects, ideally, graduates are expected to become diplomats under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

Diplomats play an important role in building positive relations between Indonesia and other countries, advancing Indonesia's interests abroad, protecting Indonesian citizens, and promoting a positive image of Indonesia at the international level. In the context of the internship, the participants hope to apply the theoretical knowledge gained during the lecture and observe the diplomatic practices carried out by Indonesian diplomats.

1.2. Goals of internship

Internships are an essential part of the learning process, allowing students to assess and hone their skills through direct exposure to real-world service processes. By combining the theoretical knowledge gained at university with practical experience in the field, interns gain valuable insight into their skills and potential career paths.

The expected outcomes of this internship are::

1. Gaining new learning experiences in a practical manner in the field of professional work, especially in the realm of consulates, almost all of international relations majors are expected to be a diplomats in the future;
2. Getting the opportunity to build a professional network. Interns can connect with professionals in specialized diplomatic fields, mentors, and fellow interns;
3. To reach the substantial knowledge and understanding of the consulate as a diplomatic institution, which in the future is expected to apply relevant interpersonal skills such as collaboration, communication, and adaptation in the context of professional work;
4. To conduct in-depth research on the process of economic diplomacy between Indonesia in the Philippines especially Mindanao;
5. To apply in a real-world environment the knowledge gained through academic studies at university, including all concepts and theories in a practical setting.

1.3. Benefit of Internship

For the benefits of this internship, the author divides it into four parts according to the beneficiaries:

1. Interns can gain valuable experience in the professional area with this internship. Second, it can give interns with professional information and a setting in which to exercise their talents before joining the actual professional world after graduation. Third, because the interns are international relations students, it will be an excellent opportunity for them to put essential concepts and theories learned in class into reality. Fourth, this internship is an excellent chance for interns to do research in the field of international relations and affairs utilizing data and sources offered by the consulate, which is an ideal organization for that.

2. This internship connects Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta and the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Davao City. This internship will provide an excellent chance for Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta to establish a solid alliance or collaboration for future academic advancement. In contrast, adding an intern to the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in New York will improve task completion and allow the intern to participate in a meaningful exchange of information and perspectives for the institution's development.
3. This internship holds significant value for the community, showcasing Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' commitment to supporting the aspirations and requirements of the people through their involvement in government agencies.
4. In the academic realm, this internship has the potential to enrich the understanding of international relations and affairs in Indonesia. Through conducting research, publishing journal proceedings, and documenting internship experiences, it can contribute valuable insights and serve as a reference for future scholarly endeavors.