

How did you choose your proposed course and institution?

I understand that ASEAN Economic Cooperation (AEC) or Masyarakat Ekonomi ASEAN (MEA) is currently one of the most prominent issue Indonesia is facing. This is a whole new level of regional economic cooperation Indonesia is involving in, since we also talk about trade in services (or, free flow of professionals) and investment, in 10 very diverse Members, both culturally and economically. Indonesian government, Ministry of Industry included, needs to understand how this works, and how it will benefit our nation, especially development-wise. In a sense, how to exploit this new form of agreement to strengthen our economy especially in fundamental economic basis.

Moreover, i currently am a lecturer in Politeknik APP, a university under Ministry of Industry, specialized in logistics and international trade. Given the specialization, proper training for lecturers still underway, and we desperately need every highly knowledgeable people we can find in those areas. We are currently still developing our curriculum, and we are using APEC competency standard, which is adopted from Australia. Having a degree from Australia is surely precious not only since it will come from a country we adopting its curriculum in, but also strengthening our much desperately need cooperation with University from Australia.

Third reason is that i browsed professors i want to work with, with similar research interest, and ANU and Melbourne have the best two i need. I already applied to both University, but i still lack of GRE score. Planning to do it somewhere in April.

With that being said, I wouldn't mind having other university. Education in Australia is still my highest priority for now.

How will the proposed study contribute to your career?

A grade in economics and specialized in International Trade will be severely needed for my career as a lecturer in Politeknik APP, international trade specialization. I will be able to develop curriculum based on the country we adopt to, and i will also have link to Australian Education Institution. This is a priceless investment for me, as we are still in the stage of development. AEC also a brand new issue my Ministry is desperately need to know of, and my skill in international trade will greatly contribute to the policy making. I will promote much needed "evidence based policy" in our Ministry.

As for my own gain, d PhD is a must for a lecturer. PhD degree will open a door for aiming higher status of lecturer. Not only that, i will gain a huge network with Australia institution, and will exploit it to my advantage, such as joint-research program.

How have you contributed to solving a challenge and to implementing change or reform? Be specific and include: what aspect/s of your leadership knowledge, skills and practice you consider to be well established and effective; which people or organisations you worked with to solve the problem; and what creative methods were used.

I promoted evidence based policy during my first 2 years at the Ministry, when i was working as a planner. I help my supervisor designing a better planning document, involving indicators that can be evaluated easily by the end of a budget year.

I also work as Manager Representative ISO 9001:2008, a quality assurance mechanism, at that time. Using the proper indicators, i helped my institution move with a correct pace and making evaluation easier. I used the principle of Balance Score Card at that time, where never been used before in my office, Pusdiklat Industri.

Of course i wasn't work alone. I was given a team of handful talented young men. We work together as a team to audit and help section which move slower. The bad side of having a team of all young men is we had a hard time promoting continuous improvement. Thankfully we got help from our Chief in that area of improvement.

Please:- a) give up to three practical examples of how you intend to use the knowledge, skills and connections you will gain from your scholarship. Possible tasks can be personal and/or professional; and b) list any possible constraints you think may prevent you from achieving these tasks.

a) 1. I will increase my influence in the Indonesia's International Trade professionals by publishing papers about regional economic partnership. This will come with policy recommendation, and will be applicable. Additionally, our current publication {5400 in 2015} is dwarfed by our neighbors, Malaysia {25.300}, Singapore {17.000} and Thailand {12.000}. I will boost that by co-publishing with both my Indonesian and International Colleagues.

2. Poltek APP is currently trying to establish certification and promoting proffesional association in Logistics and International Trade. This certification and association will be crucial for making AEC MRA in moving natural persons. ASEAN currently have 8 professions, and we expect more. For the MRA, mutual understanding between ASEAN and APEC countries is needed. This is where the network plays great role.

3. Developing curriculum is also a crucial goal. Since we are using Australia's adapted version of Competency Framework, we will need an Australian school as our sister school, With this goal, goal No.2 will also be easier to achieve. Standardization is easier if we are already similar from the very beginning.

b) The biggest constraint is probably a replacement after my return. I can still contribute elsewhere but concentrating in developing Poltek APP is my top priority, My current employer promised me he won't replace my someplace else, but by the time i return, the top management would likely filled with different people.

Another constraint is a lack of money. The reason why i apply for scholarship is because my institution doesn't have allocation for lecturers to study abroad. This concern is challenging, but not impossible to tackle. Other than AAS, i also apply directly to ANU PhD scholarship, and also considering apply for LPDP. I will not stop until i get the funding i need.