The Impact of *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM) Program on Inbound PMM Students of English at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang

A thesis by

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FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

2024

APPROVAL

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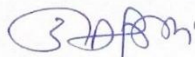Language and Arts Education Department

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COMMITTEE APPROVAL

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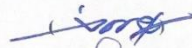PMM Students of English at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang

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This thesis was defended by the writer in the final program examination and
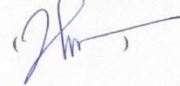was approved the examination committe on:

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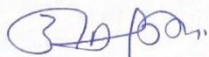
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Certify that thesis entitled "The Impact of *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM) Program on Inbound PMM Students of English at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang" is my own work and did not have any plagiarism or inappropriate quotation against the ethics and rules commended by the Ministry of Education of Republic Indonesia Number 17, 2010 regarding plagiarism in higher education. Therefore, I deserve to face court if I am found to have plagiarized this work.

Indralaya, 30 July 2024

Undersigned,

Arsi Agustina

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my parents, Anwar and Susi, who always support me even when I was in my lowest time.

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Alhamdulillah, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Allah SWT for His countless blessings and mercy, enabling me to complete this thesis and earn my bachelor's degree in English Education from Sriwijaya University. Every success I have achieved is a testament to His grace, particularly throughout the journey of researching and writing this thesis. May blessings and peace be upon the final chosen messenger, Prophet Muhammad SAW.

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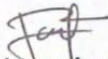
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ABSTRACT

The Indonesian Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology's *Merdeka Belajar-Kampus Merdeka* (MBKM) policy aims at enhancing student competence and preparing them for future challenges. As a key component of MBKM, the *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM) program facilitates student exchanges between universities within Indonesia. This study examines the impact of the PMM program on inbound students of the English at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang (UIBU). The objectives are twofold: to find out the motivations behind these students' participation in the PMM program at UIBU and the academic and social impacts of their involvement. Utilizing a case study design in the qualitative research method, interviews were conducted with 20 inbound PMM students. Data analysis employed the interactive analysis model by Miles and Huberman, incorporating coding techniques to identify themes and patterns. The findings reveal that students are motivated by both intrinsic and extrinsic factors. Intrinsic motivations include the desire for new learning experiences, building relationships, and exploring diverse cultures. Extrinsic motivations encompass opportunities such as free travel and peer influence. Specific reasons for choosing UIBU also reflect a blend of intrinsic interests, such as interesting modules, and extrinsic considerations, such as course matching, high acceptance quotas, tourist attractions, and peer recommendations. The academic impacts of PMM program are enhancing students' academic skills, enriching their academic experiences, and presenting certain academic challenges. The social impact of PMM program are improving communication and collaboration skills, fostering cultural understanding, and expanding social networks and connections. These results underscore the comprehensive benefits of the PMM program in promoting both educational and personal growth.

Keywords: *PMM, inbound students, impacts, motivation*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces the background of the study, the problems of the study, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, and the limitation of the study.

1.1 The Background of the Study

Merdeka Belajar-Kampus Merdeka (Independent Learning-Independent Campus), also known as MBKM, is one of the policies that is introduced by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia. The program is designed to empower students with the freedom to shape their educational path within higher education institutions. It provides students with the flexibility to choose their courses based on their interests and talents (Sopiansyah et al., 2022). The objective of MBKM is to improve graduates' skills to meet current needs and create an excellent generation. This effort aims to make sure that graduates have the necessary skills for today's challenges, promoting excellence in the next generation (Fuadi, 2021).

MBKM supports experiential learning beyond the campus by offering nine programs that can be explored, those are *Kampus Mengajar* (KM, Campus Teaches), *Magang Bersertifikat* (Certified Internship), *Studi Independen* (Independent Study), *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM, Student Exchange), *Riset atau Penelitian* (Research)*, Membangun Desa* (KKN Tematik, Village Development), *Proyek Kemanusiaan* (Humanitarian Project), Indonesia International Students Mobility Awards (IISMA), and *Wirausaha Merdeka* (Independent Entrepreneurship). Those programs help to achieve the goals of MBKM. The experience of students in *Kampus Merdeka* activities will significantly impact their career readiness by ensuring that they stay attuned to changes in the world outside the campus while studying. This provides them with opportunities to

apply their knowledge to real-world issues (Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia, 2022).

One of the most popular programs within MBKM is student exchange that known as *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM) (Khoiri & Isnaini, 2022). The PMM program provides students with the opportunity to study at another campus with the freedom to choose courses of interest for a duration of one semester. The primary goals of PMM include enhancing students' proficiency in applying national perspectives, deepening their comprehension of ethnic, religious, racial, and intergroup diversity along with fostering unity, fostering intensive dialogue within diversity to promote mutual understanding and unity reinforcement, and expanding students' academic knowledge (Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia, 2022).

At Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang (UIBU), formerly known as IKIP Budi Utomo Malang, the *Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka* (PMM) program has become an integral part of the university's efforts to advance the quality of higher education. Since PMM batches 1 through 4, UIBU has been actively involved in it. According to the official PMM website, this university opened a quota for 600 students. This demonstrates the university's commitment to support the success of PMM as one of the programs under MBKM.

In the context of this research, the research gap refers to the academic and social impact of PMM among inbound students of English at UIBU that have not been sufficiently studied or understood in existing literature. The specific academic and social impact of the PMM program in the university environment remains an underexplored area of research. This indicates the need for further investigation into the subject. Therefore, this study aims to address this knowledge gap by finding out the academic and social impacts of PMM on inbound students of English at UIBU.

This research lies in the personal experience of the researcher who participated in the PMM program batch 3 with a major in English language studies. By drawing from firsthand experience, this study aims to provide insights into the impacts of PMM in academic and social. The findings of the researchers can benefit students who is interested in joining the program.

In the study conducted by Nisa (2024), it was found that PMM brought positive and negative impacts on student's academic performances. However, the impact of PMM was not significantly determined due to the varied effects it entailed. This was evidenced by the positive impacts of PMM, such as increasing GPA, skills, and abilities, while the negative impacts also included lowering GPA, skills, and abilities. Therefore, it was unclear whether PMM had a positive or negative effect on GPA, skills, and abilities. In line with the recommendations of previous study, this study needs to conduct similar studies with more diverse subjects.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

The problems of the study are formulated in the following research questions.

1. What are the motivations of inbound PMM students of English Study Program from other universities to join PMM program at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang?

2. What are the academic and social impacts of the PMM program on inbound PMM students of English Study Program from other universities at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In relation to the background provided above, the objectives of this study are:

1. to find out the motivations behind inbound students of English Study Program from other universities participating in the PMM program at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang, aiming to comprehend the factors influencing their decision to engage in the program.

2. to find out the academic and social impacts of the PMM program on inbound students of English Study Program from other universities at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang, aiming to identify the effects of their participation in the program.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

This research is expected to provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of PMM programs in facilitating academic and social outcomes among inbound PMM students. This study can inform educational policies and program developments. Understanding the impact of PMM is crucial for enhancing students' global competitiveness and motivations at joining this program. Furthermore, the findings of this research can contribute to improve the student experiences within PMM program.

1.5 The Limitation of the Study

While this study focuses on motivation, academic and social impacts of PMM among inbound PMM students at Universitas Insan Budi Utomo Malang (UIBU) from various universities of origin and different semesters, it is important to note its scope. The research may not capture the full range of experiences among inbound PMM students due to the specific criteria for inclusion. The participants of this research are inbound PMM students Batch 3 in English Study Program at UIBU.

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