Supporting Program for Disadvantage Students to Increase the Successful Rate in Study in University

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to find out the expected program to be conducted by university to encourage the confidence of the disadvantage students in Indonesia in order to increase the successful rate to finish their study in university. Disadvantage student in this research refers to the students from minority race, disability, lower socio-economic condition.

There are two groups of respondent in this research. The first group is 30 lecturers who teach in several universities and the second group is six students from two areas in Indonesia; east and west. The lecturers are interviewed to find out their perspective and idea on how to develop and increase the success rate of disadvantage students in university and the students are interviewed about their feeling of being in disadvantage conditions and their responds upon the condition. Collected data are analyzed by collecting the answer and listing out the program based on priority. The expected program is divided into two programs. The first program is to open access for disadvantage students to enter university and the second program is to increase the success rate of disadvantage students to finish their study in university.

Keywords: Disadvantage students, program, successful rate

Introduction

Education is generally perceived as a bridge to a better life in the future, which will improve the quality of life. Thus, access to education should be open to everyone without exception. The beneficial contributions of education have been analyzed along the years from various points of view: productivity growth, income growth of educated persons, decreasing social discrepancies, reducing disparities between the levels of development among countries (Livia & Laura, 2009). Unfortunately, access to higher education is very limited particularly for people with disabilities in various fields such as economics (Asplund, Adbelkarim, & Skalli, 2008); gender differences; ethnic groups (Livia & Laura, 2009) and so on.

In Indonesia, compulsory education for all citizens is given to primary and secondary education for 9 years. Furthermore, higher education is an optional education for everyone; therefore the access depends on economic condition and intellectual ability to entrance university. Despite embracing the ideology of Pancasila in which humanity and social justice are core principles, taking care of disadvantaged students is not yet mainstream in Indonesian society nor tertiary education. Respondents acknowledged that some universities were structurally