

Chapter 1

Introduction

Background

Nowadays, Indonesian government makes many efforts to develop the performance of lecturers. It is seen in the changes of the curriculum and scholarship for lecturers to make better educational equivalency. Lecturers are very influential in improving students' learning outcomes as well. The performance or loyalty of a lecturer is highly demanded in an effort to improve the quality of students' learning.

The government has done a lot of effort in improving the quality of education. This can be seen in the government-owned program that provides scholarships to teachers to continue their education abroad and domestic. This program needs to be appreciated because it can provide benefits to the educational world in Indonesia.

In addition to improve the quality of teaching, the government is also increasing the professionalism of a teacher. A professional is someone who has completed a program of meticulous initial preparation concerning specialized knowledge as decided by the occupation and who has been approved by the occupation as a registered practitioner with the right to exercise autonomous, professional judgment (Hooley, 2007, p. 50). Based on this theory, both teachers and lecturers have to go through about several steps in order to be regarded as a professional teacher.

Professionalism in teaching is needed by a teacher. Nowadays, many teachers in school or university level have inadequate teaching staff in terms of both age and

quality in teaching. One of the major education keys at the school is teacher. In order to get to the goal of education, teachers must be knowledgeable. Teachers must be able to give a high-quality service for their students; and teachers are also required to master the material, apply a good strategy, and guide the students, so that the students can be success in every aspect of their life (Setyaningsih, 2012, p. 95). Although the technique which is used in the teaching is independent learning, a teacher must have adequate capability and capacity.

To measure lecturers' professionalism, it is needed an assessment which is containing teaching performance. The assessment will be students' perception both Australian and Indonesian graduates teaching performance. Students' perception actually can be a professional assessment, because students are the part of teaching and learning process.

In this case, students' perception is a tool to measure lecturers' teaching performance. Perception is actually sensory impressions arise as a result of the interaction between stimuli in our environment and our sensory organs (Anthony, 2002, p. 19). On the other hand, by the perception of students can obtain someone or peoples' opinion regarding with the problem which is asked. Students' are needed to answer or to assess lecturers by providing some statements which is containing about teaching performance. Nevertheless, students as the respondents only assess lecturers who graduated from Australia and Indonesia on their postgraduate.

From the students' perception, it is expected to get a general reflection of lecturers teaching performance. The expectation can be the advantages and drawbacks of

Australian and Indonesian graduates. On the other hand, the findings of this research can be an assessment for lecturers in order to enhance their professionalism in teaching.

Educational background in both Australian and Indonesian graduates gives its own way of performance in the learning process. Talking about the teacher or lecture which graduates from overseas such as from the United State and Australia, they are provided a distinct advantage both academically and popularity. Study abroad giving so many life-changing and enduring academic, profession, intercultural, personal, and social benefits, and students should watchfully consider studying abroad when searching for a college and during their collegiate profession (Dwyer and Peters, 2002, p. 2). It can be concluded that studying abroad has many advantages, from the advantages above; lecturers can be a professional lecturers as well.

Overseas graduates has qualification in enduring academic, career, intercultural, personal, and social benefits (Dwyer and Peters, 2002, p. 2), however domestic graduates does not necessarily produce the graduates who are not qualified. The present time, based on the analysis of the participants of the conversation, the quality of our academic staff are still very apprehensive. Many teachers who are not capable in the subject matter or materials to be delivered to the students, on the other hand a lot of lecturer who do not comprehend the methodology or a good way to educate, even many teachers and lecturers who do not master these two important aspects in teaching and education (Ki Supriyoko, 2002, p. 1). It needs for the follow-up of the government to pay close attention to the quality of teaching in the country.

Related to the problem above, Widodo (2009) conducted the educational background affects toward teaching performance and students' outcome in SMPN Temanggung academic year 2008/2009. He conducted the research and limited only; first, the research focused to all history teachers. Second, the basic of the educational is only SMP grade. Third, the design of the research used ex post facto. The limitation of the previous research is the strengthens of this research.

This research tends to the lecturers generally. This research would like to know what students' perception on Australian and Indonesian graduates teaching performance is. Moreover, this research is useful for the University as an assessment for all lecturers and the expectation of this research is to enhance lecturers' teaching performance.

This research was designed by using Descriptive Quantitative method. Quantitative method is used to study through the certain population and sample and the analysis of the data used the statistical analysis in order to quantify the certain hypothesis (Sugiyono, 2012, p. 7). To support the research, this research used survey to conduct the research.

Research Question

The problem of this research is what is the students' perception on Australian and Indonesian graduates teaching performance?

Aims of Study

The objective of this research is to find out students' perception on Australian and Indonesian graduates teaching performance.

Significance of Study

The significance of research is dealing with students, lecturers, further researches, and policymaker. For students, this research aims to students, because they would get additional knowledge about Australian and Indonesian graduates teaching performance. For the lecturer, it is advisable for the lecturer to develop their professionalism in teaching process. Besides it, teacher is more ingenious in developing new techniques of teaching English in order to make the students curious and more interested in getting involved in the teaching language process and then it is important to be a self-reflective teacher since it is one of the ways to develop teacher professionalism. For further researchers, this research can be guideline to other similar research, and the most important, it is expected that the findings would be used as starting points to conduct another research. For policymaker authority, this research can be an assessment for all lecturers in order to enhance their professionalism in teaching.

Delimitation

Delimitation of this research has several ranges. First, this research only focuses to lecturers who passed their postgraduate in Australia and Indonesia. Second, it focuses on learning components. Third, the sample of this research goes to the students of academic year 2011/2012.