Building linkages for improved higher education in Indonesia

Vice Chancellor and President, Prof Ian O’Connor, welcomed a group of Indonesian university Rectors and Vice Rectors to the University’s Nathan campus on Monday, 10 August 2009.

Three senior personnel from the Private Higher Education Institution were also a part of the delegation representing over 800 universities and colleges (out of 2800 nationwide) in the Jakarta, Medan and the Aceh regions.

The Private Higher Education Institution operates within the Directorate General of Higher Education of the Ministry of National Education in Indonesia which is responsible for controlling, empowering and coordinating the private education sector across 12 regions.

Prof O’Connor gave a special thanks to Prof Haryoto Kusneputran, Coordinator for the Private Higher Education Institution - Jakarta Region, who is also an adjunct Professor with Griffith University, for his contributions in teaching and researching at the University of Indonesia in the areas of Public and Environmental Health.

Prof Haryoto and Dr Peter Davey, the Director of the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development for Indonesia (CESDI) at Griffith, have also completed many projects together, including research workshops, capacity building initiatives within Indonesia’s public higher education sector in Eastern Indonesia, and from 2000 – 2004 on a joint program between Griffith and the University of Indonesia for Masters of Public Health (Indonesia) students (funded with approx AU$3 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)), to study at the Griffith Nathan campus.

They have also worked the Indonesian Ministry of Health for training and development in the areas of Environmental Epidemiology, Port Health and Quarantine and Risk Assessment.

Prof Haryoto has been a very active academic with the University of Indonesia (UI) and was seconded from his position to direct the private University development in the Jakarta district from 2006.

This visit broadened Griffith University’s capacity to further improve tertiary education outcomes for Indonesia in other areas of education priority including: Public Health, Information and Communication Technology, Engineering and Biomolecular and Physical Science and Business.

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