Study in Taiwan-: Challenges in Academic-Industrial Program of Indonesian Students

Abstract:

Taiwan’s government has developed “New Southbound Policy” since 2016. This policy is to recruit students from Southeast Asian countries to study in Taiwan, which means, this policy has led students to seek educational opportunities to study in Taiwan. T Thus, the purpose of this study is to investigate students’ learning experience and examine the challenges in this program.

This program started from 2018 to 2023, 36 college students with the profession of food and beverage management from Indonesia enrolled in this program, and 28 students graduated after this program. This program is a four-year program combining practical training, language learning and internship. Data from 28 graduates, collected via interviews and on-line surveys, conducted that the most crucial challenge of study in Taiwan is language barriers. This, the researcher adapted Foreign Language Classroom Anxiety Scale (FLCAS) to examine the challenges when students facing language barriers, trying to find suggestions and solutions.

This study shows the items related to language barriers and anxiety are confusion, confidence, and learning opportunities. To increase the learning opportunities, first, provide placement test when providing language courses to reduces the language anxiety and increase learning motivation. Second, integrate language learning to campus environment, such as cross-cultural activities, helping the students to lower anxiety and further develop the “New Southbound Policy”,

Key words: New Southbound Policy, language anxiety, adaptation