# INCREASING THE COMPETENCE OF HIGHER GRADUATES THROUGH TRACER STUDY TO SUPPORT ACCREDITATION CONVERSION INSTRUMENTS

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#### **Abstract**

The mining engineering study program of the mineral technology faculty of UPN "Veteran" Yogyakarta has had an "A" accreditation based on the decision BAN-PT No 2480/SK/BAN-PT/Akred/S/X/2016 as of October 20, 2016. Given the validity period of the Mining Engineering Study Program accreditation has approached its validity period in October 2021, the application for accreditation is crucial as a form of validation of the implementation of the study program. In order to do this, it is necessary to make a instrumen suplemen konversi (ISK). in the conversion system there are items related to the increase in graduates so that in this study we will discuss the increase in graduates through alumni tracking (Tracer STudy). This research is a qualitative research. The unit of analysis is a graduate of the Mining Engineering Study Program, Faculty of mineral technology, UPN "Veteran" Yogyakarta. The sampling method used is purposive sampling with a sample of 200 graduates and 150 users. The research method used is a descriptive survey method. The results of the study indicate that the competencies that still need to be improved are English, computers, teamwork, written communication, oral communication, community empowerment, and leadership. Improving the quality of education in the Management study program can be done through improving the quality of education, research, and community service, as well as collaboration with industry.

Keywords: Accreditation, ISK, Study Tracer, Competence Improvement

## I. INTRODUCTION

College in Indonesia already has a standard called the Standar Nasional Pendidikan Tinggi (SNPT) as regulated in the Regulation of the Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Republik Indonesia Number 3 of 2020 concerning Standar Nasional Pendidikan Tinggi [1]. It aims to determine the qualifications and competencies of higher education. To measure the performance and feasibility of the implementation of higher education, the Ministry of Cultural Education regulates this in the Regulation of the Kementerian Pendidikan Kebudayaan Number 5 of 2020 concerning Accreditation of Study Programs and Universities [2].

Based on BAN-PT Regulation Number 5 of 2019 [3] and BAN-PT Regulation Number 2 of 2020 [4], accreditation of study programs with a value of "A" can be converted to a "Unggul" rating using the instrument suplemen konversi (ISK). ISK has 4 (four) assessment criteria: the number and suitability of permanent lecturers, implementation of the quality assurance curriculum, and tracking of graduates. The four assessment instruments have massive data, especially on the graduate tracking criteria. This requires a good and targeted data management system to fulfill this.

Therefore, in this study, a survey will be conducted on graduates and users in relation to the competencies possessed by graduates and improvement strategies that can be applied to graduates. The process that takes place in tracing the tracer study is a random sample. In order for alumni to know about the activities of

filling out the tracer study, the Study Program conveys information to graduates on the eve of the graduation ceremony held on Friday. The reality is that some of these graduates have been accepted by the company. The hope is that by hearing the information directly, you can fill out the form provided on the website and send it through the instruments provided by the University or Study Program

#### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Tracer study is an important part of the activities of an educational institution. Through the search for graduates, various important information will be obtained that are very useful for the educational institution concerned, for graduates, and other institutions related to the implementation of education. Tracer study allows an educational institution to track the condition of the graduates produced and from the information obtained various policies and actions can be taken that benefit the graduates and for the development of the institution concerned.

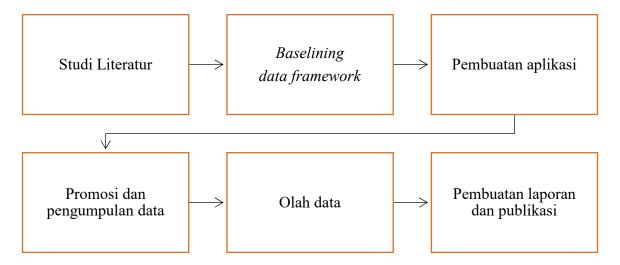
One of the important benefits of tracer study research is obtaining information about the relevance of the educational program organized to the needs of the field. Ensuring there is relevance between educational programs and field needs is a must for every educational institution. The Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System explains that the national education system must be able to ensure equal distribution of educational opportunities, quality improvement, relevance, and efficiency of education management to face challenges by the demands of changes in local, national and global life. Finch, et al [5] stated that the traceability study aims to determine graduates' mobility and satisfaction with their jobs. The mobility of graduates can be seen from career mobility, both vertically and horizontally. Vertical career mobility can be traced through the level of job titles obtained by graduates, while horizontal mobility can be traced through the number of graduates who move places of work.

Based on the search for graduates, schools can take various actions that are expected to improve the quality of the school concerned. Utilizing the results of tracing studies also allows schools to make changes and adjustments so that school sustainability is more guaranteed. [6] stated that the tracer study aims to determine the career history of graduates, career/job status of graduates, and graduates' assessment of educational programs based on their work experience. Meyer, et al. [7] classifies the purpose of tracing studies into three areas: 1) to improve teaching and to learn in schools, 2) to assist alumni in finding jobs, and 3) to gather important information so that it can be used to improve programs. Study Program Performance

#### III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a descriptive research method with a survey approach to explain and dig up information about the job profile of the graduates of the Study Program. The method used for tracing the tracer study is a research survey by:

- (1) Direct communication either to individuals or communities per batch via mailing lists or WhatsApp
- (2) Coordination with the Ikatan Alumni (IA) UPN "Veteran" Yogyakarta, and Ikatan Alumni Tambang (IKATA) to disseminate information on alumni tracking in the form of tracer study forms
- (3) Use of websites and e-mail



#### IV. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The existing mechanism for conducting study tracers in the Mining Engineering Study Program begins with a letter from the Chancellor regarding alumni tracking distributed by UPTPKK which is addressed to each Faculty as UPPS which is then directed directly to each Study Program. Mining Engineering Study Program has a website <a href="http://mining.upnyk.ac.id/">http://mining.upnyk.ac.id/</a>, as a communication bridge between the Study Program and outside parties, especially UPN Mining Engineering Alumni. The website provides special tools that contain tracer studies.

The number of respondents who filled out the survey on the study tracer conducted by the mining engineering study program was 234 people, divided into the last 3 graduates, while the number of graduate users who filled out the questionnaire was 232, this means a lot of participation from graduate users.

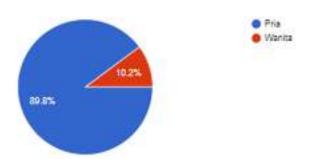
Table 1. Number of Graduate Respondents

No	Tahun Lulus	Jumlah Lulusan	Jumlah Lulusan Terlacak
1	2	3	4
1	TS-4	176	90
2	TS-3	107	44
3	TS-2	263	90
Jumlah		546	224

Tabel 2. Number of Respondents Users Graduates

No	Tahun Lulus	Jumlah Lulusan	Jumlah Responden Pengguna Lulusan
1	2	3	4
1	TS-4	176	80
2	TS-3	107	51
3	TS-2	263	101
Jumlah		546	232

With the distribution of respondents filling between men and women

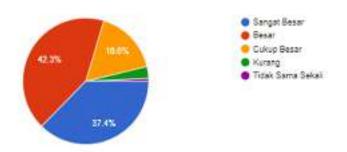


From the tracking results, it is known that based on the content of the question, it is divided into several points as follows:

### **Learning Process Experience**

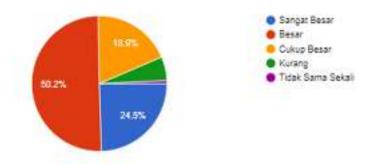
This first question received responses from 224 respondents with the distribution of answers as follows:

1. The relationship with the emphasis on learning methods in delivering lectures carried out in your study program can support your current career



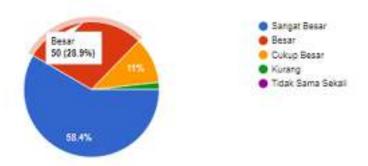
From the data above the survey results, it is known that most of the learning methods and the delivery of face-to-face lectures in class have a big impact on graduates in obtaining material, which means that the quality of learning must still be improved, and always evaluate the applied learning methods.

2. Learning methods in the classroom with demonstrations like today can support your career



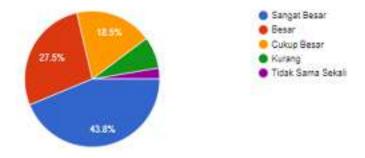
Demonstration learning activities in the classroom also received positive responses where demonstration activities were also considered to provide an overview of lectures in a good and structured manner. These activities can be increased by making case studies which are then completed by students and then an explanation of the solved cases is carried out. This method can also increase students' knowledge of other materials that develop in the field.

3. Kaitannya dengn penekanan pada metode pembelajaran dengan kuliah lapangan di program studi anda dalam meningkatkan kemampuan anda setelah lulus



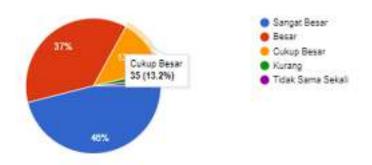
Based on the results of the survey above, it is known that the existence of fieldwork activities can improve the ability of students when they graduate, almost 58.4% stated that the importance of fieldwork was very large, while 28.9 stated that fieldwork was very good for improving the ability of graduates.

4. What is the role of your final project in supporting your current career



The final project is also one of the learning methods in the study program that can improve students' abilities in supporting their careers 43.8% of respondents stated that the final project plays a very important role in supporting the careers of graduates, so in this case the study program will always improve services as well as the quality of the final project that will be carried out by students. In addition, the study program also makes a policy for each student to produce publications from the results of the final project obtained.

#### 5. Bagaimana Peran Kegiatan Praktikum dalam Menunjang Karir anda Saat ini



46% of graduates stated that practicum is very big in supporting careers for graduates. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the existing management in the laboratory. so that every student will get excellent service from the study program and will improve the quality of graduates.

Based on the analysis of the tracking results above, it is known that graduates are very satisfied with learning and teaching activities in the mining engineering study program, including related to the methods applied, but basically it is necessary to improve service and quality of learning in order to improve the standardization of competencies possessed by graduates. Learning process development programs and service quality also need to be implemented to create an academic atmosphere. Improving the quality of learning is also one of the parameters that will affect the rating of accreditation in the Mining Engineering Study Program. In the preparation of the UTI conducted by the mining engineering study program, the tracer study and the quality of service in the education sector are one of the parameters that have great value. If it is not fulfilled, the accreditation of the study program may decrease. For this reason, the study program continues to strive to improve learning services.

#### V. CONCLUSION AND FURTHER RESEARCH

Alumni tracking is one of the assessments carried out to equalize accreditation in mining engineering study programs. By conducting this study tracer, we can evaluate the quality of the learning that has been carried out. Based on the analysis of the tracking results above, it is known that graduates are very satisfied with learning and teaching activities in the mining engineering study program, including related to the methods applied, but basically it is necessary to improve service and quality of learning to improve the standardization of competencies possessed by graduates. With the existence of this study tracer, it can be used as an evaluation material for study programs to improve their quality. To create superior study programs based on accreditation conversion supplements.

#### VI. preface and acknowledgement

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