

# Implementation of an Internship Program as an Effort to Increase Vocational Competence of Vocational High School Students

(Qualitative Study in the Fine Arts Department of SMKN 14 Bandung)

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**Abstract**—The purpose of writing this article is to describe the results of research on the implementation of internship program to increase vocational compensation for vocational high school students who specialize in Fine Arts Department at SMKN 14 Bandung. This research uses a descriptive method with a qualitative paradigm. Research subjects are students who are doing internship, guiding teacher, and company manager. Data collected through observation, interview and documentation techniques. The internship program carried out by SMKN 14 Bandung is well planned, starting from the formation of a team that will handle the program, preparation of administrative activities, preparation of work programs, scheduling activities and briefing for students. The implementation is carried out in 4 places / industries, the activities have already taken place towards the achievement of professional expertise. Through this internship program, it is proven that the student's professional competence is increased, which is indicated by the increase in student's expertise in the field studied, the increase is influenced by internal factor, namely the motivation of students themselves and external factor, namely the learning climate or internship environment that supports, also the support of facilities and infrastructure that is adequate. This internship program contributes to the transformation of knowledge and skills between individual and group. This internship program is recommended to continue to be implemented by SMKN 14 Bandung.

**Keywords:** *internship program, vocational competence, fine arts*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Present many high school graduates, even college graduates who have difficulty finding work, this is due to limited employment and the quality of school graduates is still low. There are quite a number of vocational school graduates who become unemployed, one of them is because they lack expertise that is suitable to the needs of existing employment.

John Ovenham explicitly said if the graduates could not be employed or obtained jobs in accordance with the type and level of education they have [1]. Schools and teachers are considered unsuccessful with their assignments. This means

that schools have not been able to meet the needs of the community or working world.

One effort to improve the quality and relevance of vocational education is to increase skills and equivalence (Link and Match) in the implementation of Dual System Education (PSG) or Internship.

Among the top level education units that are now getting special attention from the government is the Vocational High School. The vocational school is directly related to the production process in the industry or business world, especially if seen as a function of middle labor producers.

The application of the Link and Match policy is essentially aimed to improve and strengthen the linkage and similarity (link and match) between vocational education / training institutions and working world. This is an attempt to find a meeting point for Educational Institutions as producers and working world / industry as consumers.

According to Pakpahan, the goal of the link and match movement is to bring suppliers closer to the quality of human resources especially those in accordance with the quality of employment [2]. While the basic concept of implementing a dual system Education is the implementation of Education that systematically integrates Education activities (theory) in schools with Education activities (practice) in the industrial world

Besides that, the internship program is also effective in reducing unemployment (People's minds, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005). Because some of the internship participant can be directly absorbed by the company where the participant is doing the internship.

SMK Negeri 14 Bandung is one of the vocational high schools in the field of fine arts and crafts. As one of formal education.

This Vocational High School has a vision to be a superior school and mission that is to prepare a middle-class workforce in the field of fine arts and crafts with professional, productive

nuance and has a culture of hard work, orderly and clean to become an honest and independent superior human being.

**II. METHODOLOGY**

The method used in this research is a descriptive method with a qualitative paradigm, which is a method that is expected to provide an overview freely between interrelated factors. The subjects in this study were third-grade (3) students majoring in fine arts at SMKN 14 Bandung doing internships at four (4) companies in Bandung. In this study, Purposive Technique is used where the object studied is only a part of the number of participants who are doing internship.

The location used in this research is SMKN 14 Bandung, located at 341 Cijawura Hilir Street, Margacinta Bandung.

Data sources are students and teachers of SMKN 14 Bandung and other competent parties where students carry out internships.

Data collection techniques are done through Observation, Interview, and Documentation.

In this research the authors use descriptive analysis technique (Descriptive Analysis Research), which is a technique used to solve problems by collecting data, compiling / clarifying, analyzing and interpreting [3].

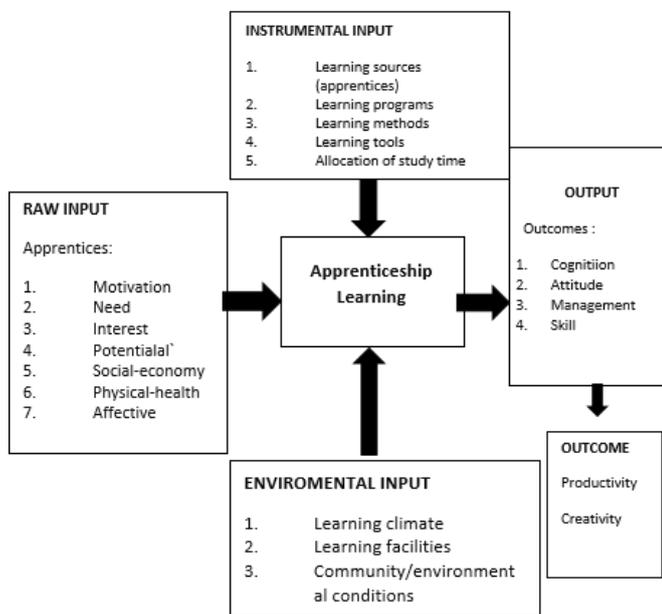


Fig. 1. Thinking framework.

**III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The implementation of the apprenticeship held in four places/industries namely:

**A. Research Conducted at PT. ARTIC**

The company engaged in the printing, invitations maker specialists. Activities which done in this company include some stages:

- First, made a drawing/design for the invitation. The design was based on the clients' order or from the company/Art Department maker and offered to the customers/clients.
- Second is the setting stage, after the design is approved by clients, the unnecessary parts are removed.
- Third is the filmmaking.
- Fourth is the mottling stage.
- Fifth is the printing stage.
- Sixth is the finishing.
- Fold, attach, glue, etc.

In the first stage, the apprentices designed an invitation card on HVS using a pencil (freehand).

The design could be made by themselves or based on clients' orders. After completion, Supervisor perceived at the works of apprentices and gave directive correction/instruction related to the unnecessary part, then the result was given to the design sector for scanning and inclusion in the computer.

**B. Research Conducted at PT. Bismi**

The company engaged in design consultant. The apprentices' activities were drawing illustrations in English books for children. So, they only needed to make a temporary sketch which later the results were colored in computer.

**C. Research Conducted at PT. Syamil Cipta Media**

The company engaged in the Graphic Design field and manufacturing of children's reading books as well as making exhibition stands or interior exhibits.

This company has its own printing press. Its clients include PT. Pos and PT. Astra.

In this company, apprentices also got material/theory about making animation. Currently, the company is working on a project to make children's books, drawing and coloring, and making children's character designs for comics. The apprentices only need to make a sketch and then thicken it with a pencil, then it is handed over to the supervisor there.

**D. Research Conducted at PT. Serba Laras**

This company engaged in glass painting. The company owner is Eddy Noor, an alumnus of FSRD ITB. He was awarded by the Indonesian Record Museum (MURI) for two achievements: the largest glass painting (MURI'97) and the first painter to use the Cast Technique (MURI'98), The Best CEO for the Classification of Art Management (Cheivement Foundation 2003), and pioneering modern glass painting (Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture'1998).

The paintings applied to monumental buildings include glass paintings at Bank Indonesia Semarang, Balikpapan Bluesky Hotel, Freeport Irianjaya, Media Hotel Sheraton Jakarta, Menara Mulia Jakarta. The largest in the world (MURI Indonesian Record Museum 1997) was installed in the Puri

Indah Mall in Jakarta. Renariti Spectacular Fashion Store Bandung, and others.

The marketing has reached Brunei, USA, Australia, Dubai. The apprentices' activities here were:

- Creating a design/layout image on the glass.
- After that, coating it (giving with special ink).
- Then, coloring or color mixing.
- After drying, it finished and framed.
- Exhibition preparation, exhibited / sold.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Through this apprenticeship program, it is proven that the students' professional competence is increased, which is shown by the increase in students' expertise in the field studied, the increase is influenced by internal factors, namely the motivation of students themselves and external factors, namely the learning climate or supportive internship environment, as well as the support of facilities and infrastructure adequate. This apprenticeship program contributes to the knowledge and skills transformation between individuals and groups. This apprenticeship is recommended to be continued by SMKN 14 Bandung.

#### V. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

##### A. *Suggestions for Education Units or Apprenticeship Organizers*

It is necessary to increase the understanding of teachers who are directly involved in the implementation of apprentices

so that the process can run effectively and efficiently in achieving their goals.

Teachers need to receive learning related to the demands of the business / industrial world in order to provide adequate knowledge for students who will face an apprenticeship.

##### B. *Suggestions are Addressed to the Government or Educational Policy Holders Both at Central and Regional Levels*

It is necessary to provide counseling to the business / industry world to increase their partnership in accepting the apprenticeship implementation, as well as providing adequate funding and learning media for the implementation of the apprenticeship program, which can be collected from the business / industry world itself.

And it is expected that the findings obtained can provide significant value to be used as input for planners and curriculum development in preparing various types and forms of learning activities in skills-oriented companies and for further research.

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