

UPNVJ Held Audiences, as Respond to Student Actions

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Public Relations Team - On the fourth day of second phase of Computer-Based Writing Test (UTBK) at the UTBK centre of UPN Veteran Jakarta, several students who called themselves *Jiwa Bara Alliance* gave a speech in front of the campus, Thursday, July 23, 2020. They put up posters and gave speeches, this student action demands 5 things, as follows:

- 1) Demanding the reduction of UKT (tuition) for all students by 50%.
- 2) Demanding University to guarantee the internet-quota subsidies to all students during PJJ (distance learning).
- 3) Providing exemption for tuition fees for final year students who are working on their final project/thesis and their graduation is hampered because of Covid-19.
- 4) Demanding University to ensure none of the student will be dropped off due to economic problems.
- 5) Ensuring academic freedom on campus, respectively freedom from intimidation from any party.

This action was then responded by the Vice Rector for Student Affairs and Cooperation, Dr. dr. Ria Maria who represented the Rector at that time with an invitation to discuss the demands by the student. An invitation for dialogue planned at 3 PM. But until 4 PM the invitation was not welcomed. Students prefer to keep giving speeches on the road. Observing the five points demanded by the student, the Vice Rector for Student Affairs and Cooperation explained that all demands had been accommodated in the Rector's Letter Number 58 / UN61.0 / SE / 2020 concerning Technical Guidance on Adjustment of UPNVJ Tuition Payment, which was given various tuition adjustment schemes that are in line with the economic conditions of student's parents. The scheme starts from delaying the tuition payment, instalment tuition payment, reduction of tuition, by 50% reduction or 100% exemption. This scheme is provided to fairly support the student that truly need it.

The information of tuition adjustment has been discussed and socialized together by University Bureaucrat regarding student affairs to student organizations in the campus, for example UPNVJ Student Executive Board and several representatives, had previously understood, because all schemes were available to ease the tuition payment for the students who needed and impacted by Covid-19.

The students who gave speeches calling themselves "*Jiwa Bara Alliance*" also had submitted an audience request to the UPNVJ Rector, but because in the submission it was not clear that who holds the responsibility of this Alliance, not even including name, and indeed the Rector could not accept, because all The aspirations of UPNVJ students have a clear channel through the student organizations in UPNVJ which so far have the freedom to express student aspirations critically but responsibly and based on empirical facts. Regarding the audiences that had been rejected, then they sent a bouquet of flowers addressed to the UPNVJ Rector using inappropriate sentences.

Various critical aspirations have been conveyed to the faculties/universities and dialogue was held to find solutions, said the Vice Rector for Student Affairs and Cooperation.

Up to this moment, approximately 1045 students have submitted an adjustment from various schemes at this first phase, and currently the Team for adjustment of the tuition payment is conducting a rapid validation of all submissions. It is targeted that by the end of July 2020 an approval agreement for tuition adjustment will be issued for those who have submitted and completed the required documents.

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