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Pengembangan Fakultas & Keilmuan

A study on understanding plagiarism exercise and findings ways and strategies in diminishing plagiarism practice

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ABSTRACT

This study sets out to examine students’ perception on the issue of plagiarism across four departments; Indonesian, English, Art, Drama and Music, and Tourism department in Faculty of Letter and Culture in the State University of Gorontalo (UNG). There are only few researches focus on understanding issue of plagiarism and its matter in Indonesia Educational context, and more specifically in Gorontalo Province. This study contributes to describe the phenomenon of students’ understanding on the issue of plagiarism and what factors may or may not influence them to be involved in the practice across several departments in a faculty. In addition, what are the perspective on the issue of plagiarism and its practice at multiple level in the university also have been pinpointed by lecturers across departments and their thoughts on ways and strategies which can be used to offer solution to the existing problem on the issue. This area of research has great potential to make a significant contribution in understanding the views on plagiarism from both students and lecturers side in Indonesia, and in Gorontalo state University and in a faculty level in particular. Data of this research obtained from a survey; through questionaries of 122 students across four the departments in the Faculty exploring the students’ understanding on the issue of plagiarism within their learning context. In depth interviews were conducted to 11 lecturers across the four departments in the Faculty in determining their understanding on the issue and discovering what ways can be offered to face with all the challenges and difficulties in diminishing the plagiarism exercise within departments and Faculty.

The result of this study highlights several key points. First. The students’ views on plagiarism practice and how it influences them appeared to be significant. Despite the fluidity of the views across departments, the students have shown the certain level of awareness on the practice of plagiarism which is quite high. The majority of them also indicate that the practice is a kind of academic crime, and thus should be diminish and bann within their academic life environment. Second. Both students and lecturers in the faculty are optimistically believe that the exercise of plagiarism in their academic surroundings can be minimalized and even be banned from their learning context despite the difficulties and challenges are taking place in that context. This study recomends that it is important to immediately establish a clear regulation and policy which cover the ‘detection’ and regulations, as well as punishment and reward that can be used as parameter for any scholars within the Department, the Faculty, as well as within university level in general. The related and supporting trainings working on the issue and its matters are also strongly recommended to be immediately held as there are still confusion take place on the issue discussed among lecturers themselves. This study is enernously instigated the larger research for working on the ways and strategies discovered in this study, and then followed by further actions for implementation steps and its process so the expectation of powerful lecturers created the powerful students can be realised and achieved in this university academic environment.
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