Peter Chandler
Minister for Education

Country Liberals Government Strengthens International Education Relations

27 April 2016

Today, the Minister for Education launched the Northern Territory Indonesia Alumni Network.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said “The Alumni Network event aims to engage past exchange students and teachers from Indonesia to the Northern Territory.”

Over 70 people attended the networking event, including Indonesian ministers and Consul, Indonesian alumni of Northern Territory schools and universities and Territorians who have participated in exchanges to Indonesia over the past 40 years.

The networking event coincides with the meeting of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines representatives, also known as the East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

“The Northern Territory Indonesia Alumni Network creates opportunities for Indonesian students who have studied in the Northern Territory to continue their connections and to form new personal and professional relationships,” Mr Chandler said.

“The Network builds on educational and cultural experiences for both Territorians and Indonesians.

“A second Alumni Network event will be held in Indonesia later this year to continue the engagement between Northern Territory and Indonesian schools and universities.

“The regular meetings of the Alumni Network will celebrate existing links with individuals and institutions in Indonesia and will attract more Indonesian students to choose the Northern Territory as their study destination.

“Establishing an alumni network between the Territory and Indonesia is a key commitment under the Northern Territory International Education and Training Strategy 2014-2024 and is an opportunity to celebrate the success of the long-running teacher and student exchange programs between our countries,” Mr Chandler said.

The teacher and student exchange program has been operating for over 40 years and provides Northern Territory teachers and students with the opportunity to undertake a portion of their education in Indonesia, and vice-versa.

Charles Darwin University graduate Rangga Daranindra said studying in the Northern Territory has provided him with fantastic opportunities to put his qualifications into practice.
“I have lived in Darwin for almost six years and have completed my Bachelor of Commerce and Masters in Business Administrations with CDU. I also gained work experience with the Northern Territory Government, leading to full time employment. The real benefit to me is working alongside Territorians and learning real-life workplace skills.”

“I always believed that the reason I studied abroad was so that I can come back to my home country and share the knowledge I learnt overseas. I enjoy my experience studying in the NT as it allows me to see the place where I came from with new eyes and extra colours. With the experience I gained while studying in the NT, it has shaped me into a better person.”

Mr Chandler said “The Northern Territory Government’s StudyNT unit is working with international students to achieve academic success and discover new pathways to their future in Australia’s Northern Territory.

“International students who have studied in the Territory are our very best ambassadors. They know that the Territory offers high quality internationally recognised qualifications, a safe and friendly place to study, and opportunities for paid work experience while studying.

“The Northern Territory Government is delivering on its commitment to build stronger relationships with Asian countries and grow the international education and training sector in the Top End,” Mr Chandler said.

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