





Workshop report: Getting published in the Social Sciences workshop for Indonesian Early Career researchers

On 15th August 2017, a workshop aimed at assisting Indonesian early career researchers in getting their work published took place at the University of Warwick. The workshop was funded by the British Council's Newton Fund and constitutes part of the current Newton Institutional Links Project between the Department of Politics and International Studies at Warwick University and the Centre for Election and Political Party (CEPP) at Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta. The workshop brought together established researchers from both the UK and Indonesia, alongside early career scholars from Indonesia – all of whom are currently studying for PhDs in the social sciences in the UK. The event was also attended by Warwick masters and PhD level students and other Indonesian students who were keen to gain insights into the world of academic publishing.

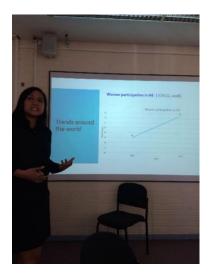
The day-long event was structured into three parts. Part one involved presentations from UK academics currently serving as journal and book series editors. A session focussed on 'demystifying the publication process'. The speakers in this session were Prof. Shaun Breslin (editor of the journal Pacific Review), Dr. Juanita Elias (project PI and editor of Rowman and Littlefield International's Global Political Economies of Gender and Sexuality series) and Dr. André Broome (editor of the Routledge series Studies in Globalisation, the Palgrave Global Reordering's book series and the CSGR working paper series). The session sought to highlight some of the 'dos' and 'don'ts' of academic publishing. Topics covered included: how to pick the journals you want to send your work to, and hints and tips on how best to present research work in ways that will appeal to journals. Dr. Broome and Dr. Elias also provided extensive commentary on how best to develop book proposals and manuscripts.





Part two of the workshop was dedicated to providing detailed and extensive feedback to Indonesian early career researchers – all of whom had submitted a draft of their paper to the workshop organisers in advance of the event. Three speakers were given 20 minutes to provide an overview of their current research work – with discussants then commenting on how the paper might best be revised for publication. The commentary focused on issues such as: target journals, development of core claims/arguments, strategies for improving academic writing, and how best to develop the theoretical contribution of the work. The three authors presenting at the workshop came from very different academic backgrounds (cultural studies, business administration and public management, and education) and the research they presented ranged from a focus on participatory video making in West Papua, new forms of public management in Indonesia and women's roles and experiences of higher education in Indonesia. The high-level of Indonesia expertise at the event (especially from our Indonesian partners and speakers) made for a fascinating event and the PhD students received detailed feedback on their work and publication strategies alongside networking opportunities.





The final part of the workshop involved presentations and commentaries from three Indonesia-based scholars, two of whom, Dr. Chusnul Mar'iyah and Dr. Reni Suwarso from CEPP, are project partners and one of whom, Dr. Sri Wiyanti Eddyono from Universitas Gadjah Indonesia, is associated with Warwick through global partnership activities funded by Warwick's Office for Global Engagement. The discussion reflected on the changing publication pressures that Indonesian-based scholars are facing. Particular attention was focussed on how changing academic cultures and funding rules in Indonesia had led to a greater emphasis on academic publishing – with scholars increasingly expected to publish their work in Scopus listed journals. It was felt that activities such as our workshop could play an important role in assisting Indonesian scholars seeking publication in such journals. But at the same time, concerns were raised about the very real difficulties that Indonesian scholars faced in publishing in what are predominantly English-language outlets. It was suggested that more funding needs to be made available to scholars to attend publication training-type events and to assist with English language editing. One concern raised was that the privileging of English-language publishing as the mark of 'quality' academic research had the potential to generate significant inequalities within Indonesian academia – with those who had been unable to access international programmes of study as part of their training,

significantly disadvantaged in terms of their career prospects. All workshop participants, however, also welcomed the emphasis on international engagement and research publication within Indonesian academia, not least, because it created greater opportunities for academic partnership and collaborative research.

Indeed, in light of the changing academic environment in Indonesia and the increased prioritization given to research-leadership, it was felt that workshops such as this could provide important opportunities to develop research capacity. The project team are keen to develop a legacy project that will enable those least able to access international collaborative opportunities to come to the UK for research workshops such as this. In particular, we would welcome the opportunity to engage with scholars from less high profile Indonesian institutions and women researchers in particular who are looking to develop their capacity in English-language, Scopus-linked publishing. Warwick University will also benefit from the development of such linkages as they can provide the basis for successful and ongoing research partnerships.

The project team are currently working together to develop a journal special issue that will provide opportunities for publication for Indonesian scholars.







The workshop was funded as part of the publication dissemination and capacity building activities associated with the British Council Newton funded institutional-links project: 'The Gendered Everyday Political Economy of Kampung Eviction and Resettlement in Jakarta' (project ID 271195589).