




International Office
Hasanuddin University

WEEKLY NEWS

DECEMBER 2 - 7, 2024 - ISSUE #104

 internationaloffice@unhas.ac.id

 unhas.ac.id/intnews/

   [lo.unhas](https://www.instagram.com/lo.unhas)



EMPOWERING GLOBAL ASPIRANTS: IO UNHAS CONCLUDES DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST PREPARATION FOR IISMA CANDIDATES



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) successfully concluded its eight-week Duolingo English Test (DET) Preparation Program for candidates of the Indonesian International Student Mobility Awards (IISMA). The closing ceremony took place on Saturday, November 30, 2024, at 9 AM. at the IPTEKS Building, Tamalanrea Campus. This program aimed to equip students with the necessary English proficiency to achieve scores above the minimum DET requirements of their target universities, positioning them for success in the IISMA selection process.

Prior to the official closing, two current IISMA awardees Aisyiah Putri Haris studying in South Korea and Nina Ezliyana studying at National Taiwan University shared their experiences abroad. Their inspiring stories provided valuable insights and motivation for the aspiring candidates. The formal ceremony was led by Dr. Andi Masyitha Irwan (Head of IO), affectionately known as Ms. Citha. She was accompanied by key IO staff members, including Muhammad Ridwan, M.A. (IO Secretary), Dra. Harniaty (Head of Foreign and Immigration Affairs), Saaduddin, M.Sc. (IO Task Force for Immigration Affairs), Kumara Tungga Dewa, S.S. (Mobility Program Staff), Andi Afifah Fayyadhah, S.I.Kom, Erizal Zhafran Muyazzar Edison, S.I.Kom (Media Coverage Team), and Cahya Aulia Ramadhani, S.I.Kom (IO Intern).

In her closing remarks, Dr. Citha encouraged participants to remain focused on enhancing their English proficiency, emphasizing that securing scores well above the minimum DET requirement would significantly bolster their chances of acceptance. She also outlined the IO's continued support through subsequent initiatives such as the IISMA Camp and IISMA Interview Camp, designed to further refine students' applications and interview skills. Additionally, she highlighted the importance of staying updated via *Hello IO*, an Instagram Live series where IISMA alumni share their experiences and tips.

The event concluded with a photo session, marking the end of the DET preparation program and the beginning of an exciting journey for IISMA candidates. With strategic preparation steps in place, IO UNHAS reaffirms its commitment to supporting students in achieving international mobility and academic excellence.



EXPLORING THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF E-SPORTS: HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY HOSTS LECTURE WITH JAPANESE EXPERT



The Faculty of Public Health (FKM) at Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) held a General Lecture on E-Sports and Health Care on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. The event featured Professor Hideyuki Kanda, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D., Head of the Department of Public Health, School of Medicine at Okayama University, Japan, as the keynote speaker.

Conducted in a hybrid format, the lecture took place offline at the Prof. Nur Nasry Noor Room, K-225 FKM Unhas, and online via Zoom. Starting at 3PM Central Indonesia Time (CIT), the session attracted a wide audience eager to explore the intersection of e-sports and health care. Moderated by Basir, S.KM., M.Sc., from the Department of Environmental Health at FKM Unhas, the event included lively discussions and a dynamic Q&A session.

The session was officially opened by the Dean of FKM Unhas, Prof. Sukri Palutturi, SKM, M.Kes., M.Sc.PH., Ph.D., who welcomed participants and emphasized the importance of addressing contemporary health issues in today's digital era.

In his keynote presentation, Prof. Kanda delved into the physical and mental health effects of e-sports, noting their increasing relevance in a digitally connected world. On the physical side, he discussed the risks associated with prolonged screen time and sedentary lifestyles, including posture problems, muscle pain (especially in the back, neck, and hands), eye strain, headaches, and dry eyes. He also addressed the impact of irregular sleep patterns, blue light exposure, and unhealthy dietary habits on overall health.

“E-sports can lead to significant physical health issues such as eye strain and posture problems, while mental health challenges like addiction disorders are becoming alarmingly prevalent in the e-sports community,” Prof. Kanda explained. He highlighted the psychological pressures faced by professional gamers, including gaming addiction and burnout caused by the competitive nature of the industry.

The lecture also aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3: *Good Health and Well-Being*, by raising awareness about maintaining a healthy balance in digital activities. It also contributed to SDG 4: *Quality Education* by fostering discussions on modern health challenges and promoting international academic collaboration.

By hosting a health expert from Japan, FKM Unhas reinforced its commitment to high-quality education and internationalization. Prof. Kanda inspired students with insights on pursuing advanced studies in public health, particularly at Okayama University. He invited attendees to connect with him via email or Line for guidance on applying to master's and doctoral programs at the university.

The event concluded with an inspiring message from Prof. Kanda, encouraging students to embrace global academic opportunities. This initiative not only enriched participants' understanding of e-sports' health impacts but also highlighted FKM Unhas's dedication to addressing global challenges and strengthening international partnerships.





FINAL REFLECTION: STUVO IO LANGUAGE CLASS BATCH III CONCLUDES WITH SUCCESS



On November 29, 2024, Ramsis Hall hosted the conclusion of the Stuvo IO Language Class Batch III. From 8 to 9 PM, participants celebrated the culmination of months of intensive language learning. The event included a Focus Group Discussion (FGD), reflections on teamwork, and aspirations for future programs.

The FGD, led by program coordinator Muhammad Aflahal, encouraged participants to reflect on the curriculum, share feedback, and discuss applying language skills in real-life situations. Aflahal emphasized, "This discussion ensures the material is not only understood but also practical."

The organizing team Wada'a Gaizhani, Muhammad Naufal, and Achmad Azan Albar played a vital role in ensuring the event's success. Gaizhani praised the participants' enthusiasm, expressing hope that the knowledge gained would prove valuable.

Participants commended the program's engaging and inclusive approach, suggesting more practical sessions and similar initiatives in the future. The event concluded with a group photo, celebrating the collaborative spirit fostered throughout the program.

EXPLORING SOUTH SULAWESI: HEFEI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' FIELD TRIP TO RAMMANG-RAMMANG KARST



Thirteen students from Hefei University of Technology, Anhui, China, participated in a *field trip* on Saturday, November 30, 2024, to Rammang-Rammang, a tourism destination in Maros Regency, South Sulawesi. The field trip, designed as an outdoor learning activity to enhance knowledge and experience, marked the end of their semester-long stay in Indonesia before returning to their home country.

The students traveled on a Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) bus, accompanied by several lecturers, including Dr. Munira Hasjim, S.S., M.Hum (Head of the Department of Indonesian Literature, Faculty of Cultural Sciences (FIB), Prof. Dr. AB Takko, M.Hum, Prof. Dr. Nurhayati, M.Hum, Dr. M. Dahlan Abubakar, M.Hum, Dr. Indarwati, S.S., M.Hum, Rismayanti, S.S., M.Hum (Secretary of the Department of Indonesian Literature), Syahwan Alfianto Amir, S.S., M.Hum, and Al Hafsi, S.S., M.Hum. This visit aimed to introduce the students to one of South Sulawesi's natural attractions.

During the visit, the students crafted handicrafts by recycling plastic waste into decorative items, which were then gifted to Iwan Dento, a Kalpataru Award (award given to the environmental activists) recipient and host of the group at his gallery in Rammang-Rammang. In return, Iwan presented the students with locally produced bags as souvenirs. Dr. Munira Hasjim explained that this *field trip* aimed to broaden the students' knowledge and experience of Indonesian culture and tourism, particularly in South Sulawesi. The students were also assigned to create a video documenting their journey, as they had done during previous visits to Bantimurung and Leang-Leang in Maros a few months earlier. "What they see and experience will serve as material for class discussions to improve their Indonesian language skills," said Dr. Munira Hasjim to the media.

The Chinese students, who had studied the Indonesian language for two years at Hefei University of Technology, will return to their home country in the first week of December 2024. Some of them plan to visit Malaysia, Thailand, and Singapore before heading back to China. Throughout their semester-long stay at Hasanuddin University, the students participated in various activities, including the university's 68th Anniversary Commemoration on September 7, 2024, and the *Fun Walk* event on September 8, 2024.

The students, each given an Indonesian name by their home university before arriving in Indonesia, are as follows: Li Zexi (Markus), Wang Chenxu (Melisa), Guo Xinji (Amanda), Li Jingjing (Junita), Qian Mengyuan (Selvi), Zhou Yujun (Septy), Guo Xutong (Qilla), Ye Panting (Santi), Zhao Na (Nabila), Dai Xiang (Anggi), Wang Man (Pamela), Li Xiaohang (Rafa), and Zhon Runlin (Linda).

They were taught the *Indonesian Language Proficiency* course by faculty members including Dr. Indriati Lewa, M.Hum, Dra. Haryeni, M.Hum, Dra. St. Nursa'adah, M.Hum, Dra. Muslimat, M.Hum, A. Merling, S.S., M.Hum, and Syahwan Alfianto Amir, S.S., M.Hum.

Following the recycling activity, the students, accompanied by their lecturers and staff from the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, used three motorized boats to visit Berua Village, a central spot within the Rammang-Rammang karst tourism area. They walked across a wooden bridge stretching hundreds of meters over fishpond embankments, leading to a structure atop karst rocks in an elevated area.

While rain poured over the Rammang-Rammang Karst area, the group took shelter in a local resident's structure, where they also enjoyed fresh coconut water. According to Iwan Dento, the Rammang-Rammang Karst area spans 400 hectares. He has been actively involved in conservation efforts since 2007 and has been intensely engaged at Dermaga II Rammang-Rammang since 2017. After spending about an hour in Berua Village, the group returned to Iwan Dento's Gallery at Dermaga II via the same motorized boats. At approximately 3:00 PM WITA, they departed from the world's second-largest karst tourism area after China.





CULTURAL DISCOVERY: KNB SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES EXPLORE MAKASSAR'S LANDMARKS



The Language Services (LS) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) organized a field trip for awardees of *Kemitraan Negara Berkembang* (KNB) or Partnership of Developing Countries Scholarship on Saturday, November 30, 2024. The trip explored cultural and historical landmarks around Makassar, including Fort Rotterdam, *Balla Lompoa* (The Great House) in Sungguminasa, Gowa Regency, and the Port of *Paotere*. This initiative aimed to introduce the rich cultural heritage and tourism attractions of Makassar and its surroundings.

The trip was led by Dr. Herawaty Abbas, Head of LS, and Dr. Inriati Lewa, Secretary of LS, who guided the participants through the historical and cultural narratives of each destination. Seven KNB awardees from various countries joined the trip: Aseel Mohammed Abdullah Mubarak Flehan from Yemen, Tlotlo Semakaleng from Botswana, Abdul Qayyom, Jalal Rahman, and Amir Hussain from Pakistan, and Kumar Apurvakant Gautam from India. These students were immersed in the history and significance of Makassar and Gowa's iconic sites.

Dr. Herawaty expressed her hopes that the trip would deepen the participants' understanding of Makassar's culture and create a sense of belonging. "We aim for these awardees to feel at home and truly enjoy their time in Makassar," she said. The field trip also served as an opportunity for the students to bond and experience the welcoming spirit of South Sulawesi, further enriching their educational journey at UNHAS.



FROM INDONESIA TO QATAR: UNHAS DENTISTRY STUDENT'S INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH JOURNEY



Muhammad Imran Taufiq, a seventh-semester student from the Faculty of Dentistry (FKG), Universitas Hasanuddin (UNHAS), proudly represented Indonesia at the International Dental Research Program (IDRP) Qatar 2024, held from November 16 to 24, 2024. As the sole Indonesian participant, Muhammad collaborated with top international students on a groundbreaking research project at the College of Oral Medicine, Qatar University, and gained practical insights through clinical observations at Hamad Dental Center.

In addition to academic pursuits, Muhammad attended the esteemed International Association Dental Research (IADR) Symposium, where he gained cutting-edge knowledge from global dental experts. His experience extended beyond the laboratory and lecture halls, as he participated in vibrant social programs that highlighted Qatar's rich cultural heritage and warm hospitality.

Muhammad expressed deep gratitude to the International Association of Dental Students (IADS) and Qatar University for hosting this transformative program, which blended academic excellence with meaningful cultural exchange. Reflecting on his journey, he noted how the program fostered both professional growth and a deeper appreciation of global diversity.





ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN PSYCHIATRY: INTERNATIONAL INSIGHTS FROM PROF. HIDEHIKO TAKAHASHI



From December 2 to 4, 2024, the Department of Psychiatry at the Faculty of Medicine (FK), Hasanuddin University UNHAS), hosted a guest lecture titled "Data-driven and Hypothesis Testing Psychiatric Research using Artificial Intelligence." The lecture was delivered by Prof. Hidehiko Takahashi, MD, Ph.D., an esteemed expert in psychiatry. Prof. Takahashi currently serves as the Director of the Center of Brain Integration Research at Tokyo Medical and Dental University and as the Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the same institution. His illustrious career includes roles as an Associate Professor at Kyoto University and a Visiting Associate at the California Institute of Technology, with profound expertise in clinical and molecular neuroimaging.

The event attracted enthusiastic participants both in-person and online, eager to learn how artificial intelligence is revolutionizing diagnostics and research in psychiatry. Following the lecture, Prof. Takahashi visited the Rehabilitation Unit of the Regional Special Hospital (RSKD) Dadi to observe the care and therapy programs provided to patients.

Accompanied by the Head of the Department of Psychiatry at FK Unhas, Dr. Sonny Teddy Lisal, Sp.K.J., Prof. dr. A. Jayalangkara Tanra, Ph.D., Sp.K.J., Subsp.B.P.(K), and Dr. A. Suheyra Syauki, M.Kes., Sp.K.J., Prof. Takahashi met with the Dean of FK Unhas, represented by the Vice Dean for Publications, Community Service, and International Affairs, Prof. Dr. dr. Rina Masadah, Sp PA (K), M.Phil, DFM, as well as the Vice Rector for Academic and Student Affairs, Prof. drg. Muhammad Ruslin, M.Kes., Ph.D., Sp.BM(K). Discussions focused on exploring collaborative opportunities in mental health research and care between UNHAS and Tokyo Medical and Dental University.



REVIEW AND INSIGHTS: SUMMARY REPORT OF HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY'S INTERNATIONAL OFFICE



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University hosted a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on the Summary Report of IO on Friday, December 6, 2024. The discussion began at 9:00 AM Makassar time in the IO Meeting Room and was officially opened by the Head of IO, Andi Masyitha Irwan, Ph.D. The session brought together the entire IO team, including Muhammad Ridwan, M.A. (IO Secretary), Saaduddin, M.Sc., Khaeruddin, Ph.D., and Haniek Khoirunnissa, M.Sc. (IO Task Forces). Also present were Dra. Harniaty (Head of Foreign Affairs), IO administrative staff, including Nasrah, M.Hum., Kumara Tungga Dewa, S.S., Risti Juliani, Andi Afifah Fayyadhah, S.I.Kom., Erizal Zhafran Muyazzar Edison, S.I.kom., and Cahya Ramadani, S.I.Kom. (IO Intern).

Ms. Haniek facilitated the discussion, outlining the systematic approach required for compiling the IO's summary report. During her presentation, she shared an exemplary report published by another university, which could serve as an inspiration for the IO team. The presentation provided valuable insights into structuring a comprehensive and professional report, emphasizing clarity and effectiveness in conveying information.

The discussion also focused on distributing responsibilities among IO staff to ensure timely and efficient completion of the report. The content was designed to include key sections, such as a foreword, a glance at the IO's facts and figures, highlights of significant IO achievements, and profiles of key activities undertaken throughout the year. Each staff member was assigned specific tasks based on their areas of expertise and involvement in the IO's operations.

This collaborative effort underscores the IO's commitment to producing a high-quality report that reflects its achievements and contributions. By drawing inspiration from external examples and leveraging the strengths of its diverse team, the IO aims to present a comprehensive and impactful summary report that showcases its pivotal role in advancing internationalization at Hasanuddin University.



DOCTORAL STUDENTS FROM HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY VISIT INDONESIAN EMBASSY IN QATAR DURING ICPHAMS-2024



The Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Public Health (FKM) at Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) recently visited the Indonesian Embassy in Doha, Qatar, as part of the activities surrounding the International Conference on Public Health and Medical Science (ICPHAMS-2024).

The delegation included 42 doctoral students from across Indonesia and four professors: Prof. Sukri Palutturi, Prof. Aminuddin Syam, Prof. Anwar Mallongi, and Prof. Syamsiar. This historic visit marked the first time the FKM Doctoral Program engaged directly with the Indonesian Embassy in Qatar.

During the meeting on November 21, 2024, Prof. Sukri, who also serves as the Dean of FKM UNHAS, expressed deep gratitude for the embassy's warm reception. In his remarks, he appreciated the opportunity to foster meaningful dialogue and thanked the embassy staff for their hospitality. The event was attended by the Second Secretary of the Indonesian Embassy in Qatar, Ivan Rismi Polontalo.

The Indonesian Ambassador to Qatar, Ridwan Hassan, delivered an inspiring address that highlighted Qatar's advancements in education and health. He emphasized the country's commitment to quality education through initiatives like Education City, a hub hosting internationally renowned universities. Similarly, Qatar's healthcare sector has made significant strides, with investments in specialized facilities such as the Sports Hospital and the Hospital for Mothers and Children. Ambassador Hassan underscored Qatar's openness to international collaboration as a driving force behind its remarkable progress. "Qatar is a country open to international collaboration, which is one reason for its remarkable progress. This development is supported by effective regulations and policies," the ambassador stated.

The session included a robust discussion between the students and Ambassador Hassan. Students posed questions on critical health topics, such as maternal and child health, stunting, and infectious disease prevention, which the ambassador addressed comprehensively. He noted that Qatar, as a wealthy nation, allocates substantial resources to healthcare, enabling the country to achieve high standards in this sector. "Health issues in Qatar are well managed, but we continuously strive to improve quality further," he added.

Students also inquired about budget allocation policies, legal frameworks for public health measures, and the rights and responsibilities of Qatari citizens and foreign residents. The ambassador provided insights into these topics and elaborated on opportunities for Indonesian students, including pathways for postdoctoral education in Qatar.

The lively discussions offered participants valuable insights into Qatar's health policies and the potential for enhanced international collaboration in education, health, and research. The student delegates expressed their optimism for stronger ties between Indonesia and Qatar, particularly in advancing public health and educational opportunities.



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE SUPER TEAM

SUMBANGAN BAJA
MUHAMMAD RIDWAN
NASRAH
KUMARA TUNGGU DEWA
HANIEK KHOIRUNNISSA BAJA

ANDI MASYITHA IRWAN
ABIGAIL MARY MOORE
ANDI AFIFAH FAYYADHAH
KHAERUDDIN
SAADUDDIN
ERIZAL ZHAFRAN M EDISON