



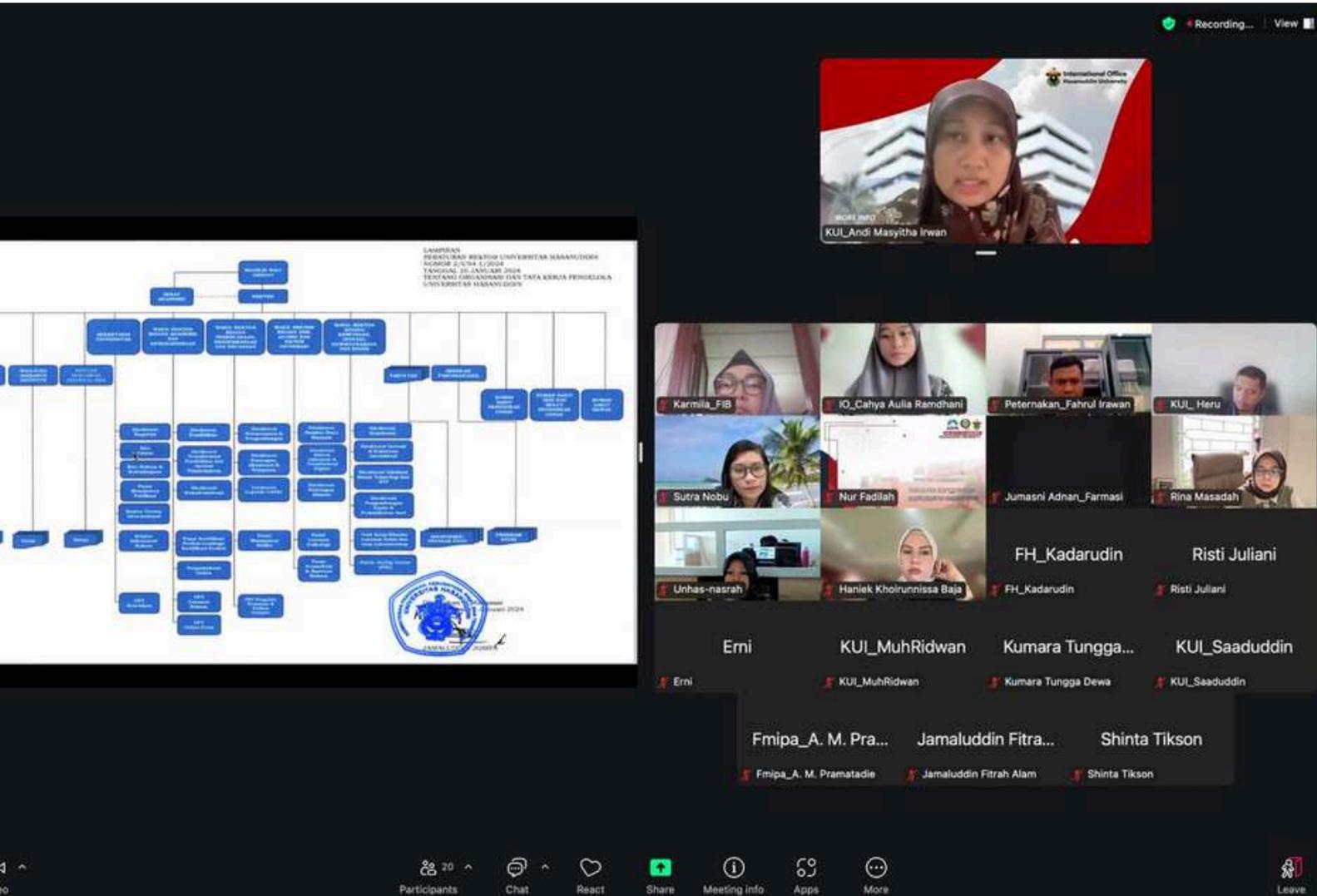
International Office
Hasanuddin University



WEEKLY NEWS

MARCH 10 - 15, 2025 ISSUE #117

IO UNHAS GEARS UP FOR 2025 WITH TASK FORCE COORDINATION MEETING



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) held a coordination meeting with the Task Force for Internationalization members on Wednesday, 12 March 2025, via Zoom. The meeting aimed to strengthen collaboration and foster a shared understanding between the IO and its Task Force members. As the university enters 2025, new members have joined the Task Force, making this meeting essential to ensure a smooth transition and alignment with IO's internationalization goals.

Moderated by Muhammad Ridwan, M.A., the IO secretary, the meeting was led by Andi Masyitha Irwan, Ph.D., Head of IO, popularly known as Mrs. Citha. In her opening remarks, Mrs. Citha expressed her gratitude to all attendees for taking the time to join despite their busy schedules. She provided an overview of the IO's organizational structure and key flagship programs, including the International Cultural Program (ICP), International Students Festival (ISF), Geography Series, and others.

A highlight of the session was the introduction of IO's newest initiative, Host Family - Experiencing Ramadan Like Home for International Students, designed to create a warm and inclusive environment for international students during the holy month.

Following the presentation, the floor was opened for a question-and-answer session. Participants raised key concerns, including immigration issues and the roles and responsibilities of Task Force members at the faculty level. The meeting concluded with a collective hope for an in-person gathering in the future to further enhance collaboration.

This meeting marks an important step in ensuring effective coordination and support for the internationalization efforts of UNHAS in 2025.

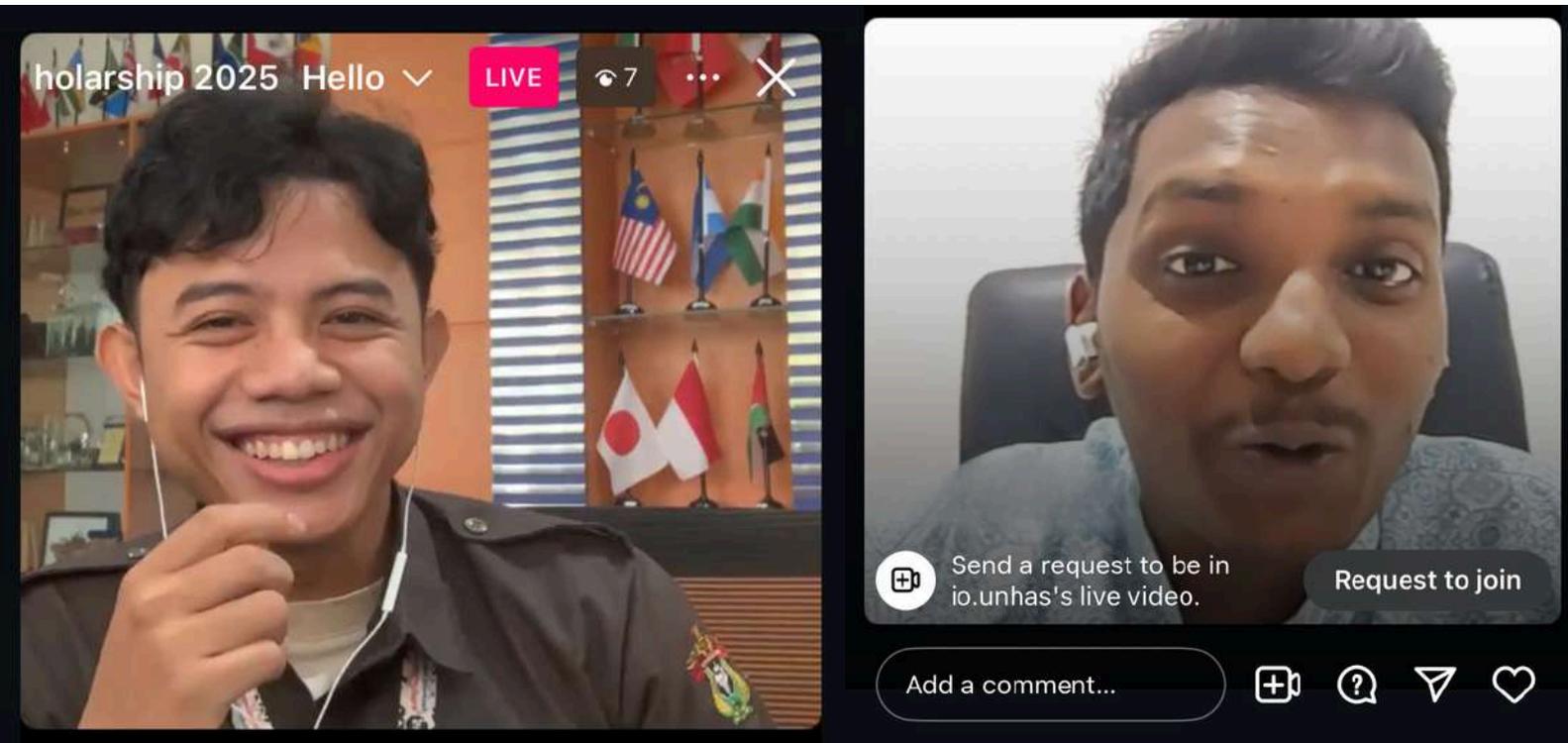
Pertemuan Tim Pokja Internasionalisasi

Makassar, 12 Maret 2025

The image shows a screenshot of a Zoom meeting. The main window displays a presentation slide with the title "Pertemuan Tim Pokja Internasionalisasi" and the date "Makassar, 12 Maret 2025". The slide also features a small portrait of KUI_Andi Masyitha Irwan. The meeting grid includes several participants, with names visible below their video feeds. The names listed are: KUI_MuhRidwan, KUI_Andi Masyitha Irwan, Karmila_FIB, IO_Cahya Aulia Ramdani, Peternakan_Fahrul Irawan, KUI_Heru, Sutra Nobu, Nur Fadilah, Jumasni Adnan_Farmasi, Rina Masadah, Unhas-nasrah, Haniek Khoirunnissa Baja, FH_Kadarudin, Risti Juliani, Emi, Kumara Tungga..., KUI_Saaduddin, Fmipa_A. M. Pra..., Jamaluddin Fitra..., and Shinta Tikson. A red box with the number "3" is located in the bottom right corner of the grid.



HELLO IO: FROM INDIA TO INDONESIA – A KNB SCHOLAR’S EXPERIENCE AT UNHAS



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) hosted a HELLO IO live Instagram session featuring Kumar Apurvakant Gautam, a recipient of the *Kemitraan Negara Berkembang* (KNB) Scholarship from India, currently studying at the Faculty of Public Health.

During the session, Kumar shared how the scholarship provided him with an incredible opportunity to expand his knowledge, both academic and cultural. He expressed gratitude for the unexpected chance to study in Indonesia, highlighting how his experience in Makassar has been enriching and transformative. Beyond academics, he emphasized the importance of adapting to new cultural environments, which has played a significant role in his personal growth.

Kumar also spoke about the meaningful connections he has built at UNHAS, including friendships with fellow students, relationships with faculty members, and interactions with the local community. He acknowledged that studying abroad has given him invaluable insights and perspectives, broadening his worldview in ways he never anticipated.

As advice for students aspiring to pursue similar opportunities, Kumar stressed the importance of leadership, adaptability, and a strong willingness to learn. He encouraged them to step out of their comfort zones, embrace challenges, and cultivate these essential qualities to thrive in an international academic environment.



GEOGRAPHY SERIES TANZANIA: EXPLORING CULTURE AND GEOGRAPHY WITH SAID SADALLAH SAID



On Thursday, 13 March 2025, the Geography Series event featuring Tanzania was successfully held at the Ballroom Science Building, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MIPA). The event, which took place from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, aimed to introduce various aspects of geography, culture, and life from a particular country, with Said Sadallah Said, a graduate student in Chemistry from Tanzania, as the main speaker.

Geography Series is an initiative designed to provide participants with in-depth insights into specific countries, presented by students who are natives of those countries. In this session, Said Sadallah Said shared knowledge about the geography, culture, and challenges faced by Tanzania, and how these aspects are interconnected with the country's social and economic development.

The event was moderated by Muh. Naufal, who skillfully guided the discussion, creating an interactive atmosphere that allowed participants to better understand the various topics presented. In his opening remarks, Mr. Saaduddin, M.Sc., emphasized the importance of studying geography as a way to better understand the diversity of cultures and environments around the world.

Over the course of two hours, Said Sadallah Said took the participants on a journey through the cultural and geographical richness of Tanzania. Despite his background in Chemistry, Said was able to provide an in-depth explanation of Tanzania's geography, society, and culture, as well as offer a unique perspective on environmental challenges such as climate change and natural resource management in Tanzania.

The event saw a high level of enthusiasm from the participants, with numerous questions and discussions emerging throughout the session. Attendees not only gained insights into the geography of Tanzania but also learned how geography plays a crucial role in shaping social and economic life in any country.

With the success of this event, Geography Series hopes to continue introducing the world's diversity through the perspectives of students from those countries, further promoting a deeper understanding of the connections between geography, culture, and global challenges.







ENSURING HEALTH & COMMUNITY: IO HOSTS HEALTH INSURANCE INFO SESSION AND IFTAR GATHERING



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) held an informative session on Health Insurance for International Students on Friday, 14 March 2025, at the Ballroom Science Building, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MIPA). The session featured Mr. Jaidin Abdullah, S.Ag, a representative from *Asuransi Syariah Keluarga Indonesia (ASYKI)* Health Insurance, who explained the benefits and coverage provided to international students. In her remarks, Andi Masyitha Irwan, Ph.D., Head of IO, emphasized the importance of having health insurance, stating that while no one wishes to fall ill, being insured ensures access to proper medical treatment when needed. She urged students to seek medical care as soon as they experience symptoms rather than waiting until their condition worsens, which could complicate emergency responses.

Moderated by Muhammad Ridwan, M.A., the IO Secretary, the session saw full participation from UNHAS international students. The discussion covered key aspects of health coverage, addressing students' concerns and clarifying procedures for medical assistance. The event also highlighted UNHAS's commitment to student welfare, ensuring that international students feel supported during their stay.

Following the session, in the spirit of Ramadan, the IO hosted an iftar gathering for international students. Several esteemed guests, including representatives from the Directorate of Asset Utilization, the Directorate of Academic and Student Affairs, Task Force for Internalization members, Indonesian International Student Mobility Awards (IISMA) alumni, and IO Student Volunteers, also joined the event. The gathering fostered a sense of community among students and officials, concluding with a group photo session to commemorate the occasion.





RETURN PROGRAM HELPS IISMA AWARDEES TRANSITION BACK TO UNHAS



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) recently hosted the Re-Entry Education and Resources Transitioning (RETURN) Program for the 2024 Indonesian International Student Mobility Award (IISMA) Awardees. Held on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at Meeting Room A, 4th Floor, Rectorate Building, the program aimed to facilitate the smooth reintegration of students after their semester abroad. The RETURN Program provided a structured platform for awardees to reflect on their experiences, adjust back to campus life, and set new academic and professional goals.

The event featured three key sessions designed to support the students' transition. The Awardees' Self-Reflection session, led by Muhammad Ridwan, M.A., and Saaduddin, Ph.D., encouraged students to process their international experiences and identify personal growth. The How to Adapt Smoothly session, facilitated by Khaeruddin, Ph.D., and Haniek Khoirunnissa Baja, M.Sc., provided practical guidance on readjusting to academic and social life at UNHAS. Finally, Elvita Bellani, M.Sc., led the Short- and Long-Term Goals session, helping students strategize their next steps based on their global learning experiences.

Representing the Head of IO, Muhammad Ridwan, M.A., emphasized the significance of the RETURN Program in helping students reconnect with their home university. He highlighted that beyond academic reintegration, the program fosters a renewed sense of belonging to UNHAS, ensuring that awardees continue to contribute positively to their campus community. The event concluded with a group photo session, marking the students' official re-entry into their academic journey at UNHAS





PROF. HIRAISHI NORIKO'S THIRD VISIT TO UNHAS: A PUBLIC LECTURE ON JAPANESE ONOMATOPOEIA



The Department of Japanese Literature at Faculty of Cultural Sciences (FIB) Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) once again hosted a public lecture featuring Prof. Hiraishi Noriko from the University of Tsukuba, Japan on Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at Mattulada Hall, FIB . She is a lecturer and researcher specializing in Comparative Literature. Currently, she is conducting research on comics and the consumption of Japanese culture among young people in Asia.

On this occasion, the lecture focused on onomatopoeia in comics worldwide. The session, themed "Japanese Onomatopoeia and Global Manga," explored Japanese onomatopoeia in literature and language, its translation, and the challenges of adapting it in comics across different cultures. The lecture was met with great enthusiasm from students who filled the Mattulada Hall at the Faculty of Cultural Sciences. Students actively engaged in the discussion, asking various questions in both Japanese and English.

This marks Prof. Hiraishi's third visit to UNHAS, following her previous visits in 2016 and 2017. She is also scheduled to return later this year as a speaker at the 7th International Conference on Japanese Studies and Language Education (ICJSLE), where the Department of Japanese Literature at UNHAS, in collaboration with the Association of Japanese Language Education Studies (ASPBII) for South and West Sulawesi, serves as the organizing committee.

The Department of Japanese Literature at UNHAS remains committed to organizing public lectures and webinars featuring international speakers, particularly from Japan. These initiatives not only provide valuable learning opportunities for students but also contribute to the university's efforts in enhancing its Key Performance Indicators (IKU) for inbound foreign lecturers.



ADVANCING NATURAL PHARMACEUTICALS: FACULTY OF PHARMACY HOSTS AMINO UP GUEST LECTURE



The Faculty of Pharmacy at Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) hosted a guest lecture on "Innovations in Natural Product-Based Pharmaceuticals: Challenges and Opportunities" on Monday, 10 March 2025, from 09:00 to 11:00 WITA. The lecture featured Ms. Koto Sekino, Director of the Business Development Division at Amino Up Co., Ltd., as the keynote speaker.

Ms. Koto Sekino introduced various groundbreaking innovations from Amino Up, a Sapporo-based company specializing in the development of standardized natural ingredient-based pharmaceuticals. She highlighted the company's approach to integrating preclinical and clinical trials to ensure the efficacy and safety of its products. Additionally, she shared research findings that support the effectiveness of Amino Up's nutraceutical and natural product formulations.

One of the key innovations discussed was Oligonol, an extract from lychee fruit recognized for its exceptionally high polyphenol content and powerful antioxidant properties. Supported by numerous scientific studies, Oligonol has emerged as a leading nutraceutical innovation.

Beyond introducing superior products, Ms. Koto Sekino also addressed the challenges in developing natural ingredient-based pharmaceuticals, including issues related to standardization, efficacy, and regulatory compliance. She emphasized the vast potential for research and collaboration between academia and the pharmaceutical industry to develop natural-based medications with minimal side effects.

UNHAS has established a partnership with Amino Up Co., Ltd., making this guest lecture a significant opportunity for researchers and students to expand their knowledge and explore potential collaborations in natural pharmaceutical development.

The event received an enthusiastic response from participants, particularly lecturers and students interested in natural pharmaceutical research. It is hoped that this initiative will lead to further innovations and strengthen partnerships between UNHAS and global pharmaceutical companies like Amino Up.



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE SUPER TEAM

SUMBANGAN BAJA
MUHAMMAD RIDWAN
NASRAH
KUMARA TUNGGU DEWA
HANIEK KHOIRUNNISSA BAJA

ANDI MASYITHA IRWAN
ABIGAIL MARY MOORE
CAHYA AULIA RAMDHANI A. R
KHAERUDDIN
SAADUDDIN
ERIZAL ZHAFRAN M EDISON