

# FACTORS AFFECTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN FACULTY OF ECONOMICS "X" UNIVERSITY

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## ABSTRACT

*Education is an important point for many countries, including Indonesia. People with high education in a country could make the country wealthier. Parents are usually aware that it is important for their children to be educated. If the children are well educated, they will increase the standard of living of their parents and their selves. Based on this phenomenon, research evaluated factors that influence student achievement and also evaluated the difference of achievement between students who are active in campus activities and are not active. A number of 329 questionnaires were distributed to Faculty of Economics, "X" University students using random sampling. The result shows that the students themselves as factor that could determine their achievement. The evaluation also found that the achievement of student who is active in campus activities is different with the achievement of student who is not active in campus activities.*

**Keywords:** education, achievement, parents, students

## ABSTRAK

*Pendidikan merupakan hal penting di berbagai negara di dunia, termasuk Indonesia. Jumlah masyarakat berpendidikan tinggi akan dapat memajukan negara yang bersangkutan. Para orang tua menyadari bahwa mendapatkan pendidikan yang baik merupakan hal penting bagi anak-anak mereka. Jika anak-anak mendapatkan pendidikan yang baik, mereka akan mampu meningkatkan standar hidup orang tua mereka, begitu juga dengan standar hidup mereka sendiri. Berdasarkan fenomena ini, penelitian mengevaluasi faktor-faktor yang memengaruhi prestasi belajar mahasiswa. Penelitian juga mengevaluasi perbedaan antara prestasi mahasiswa aktif tidak aktif dalam kegiatan kampus. Sejumlah 329 kuesioner disebarikan kepada mahasiswa fakultas ekonomi, Universitas "X" dengan menggunakan random sampling. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa hanya mahasiswa sebagai faktor yang dapat menentukan prestasi mereka. Evaluasi juga menemukan bahwa prestasi mahasiswa yang aktif di kegiatan kampus berbeda dengan mahasiswa yang tidak aktif.*

**Kata kunci:** pendidikan, prestasi, orang tua, mahasiswa

## INTRODUCTION

Education is an important point for many countries in the world, including Indonesia. A number of highly educated people will advance the country. Indonesia as a country emerging in middle class requires good quality education and good graduation achievement as well. So emerging in middle class is an opportunity for foreign investors to invest in Indonesia. Generally, foreign investors require highly educated employees with good achievement.

People in Indonesia realize that education is highly important for children in order to increase standard of living. Parents usually send their children to pursue higher education in the hope for a good education. Universities chosen by the children encouraged by parents can produce graduates with a good achievement, so it is easy to get a job or open their own business (entrepreneurship).

The rise or the high level of competition of universities in Indonesia, especially in big cities, eg. Jakarta, makes each university compete to produce graduate students with good achievement. Good achievement facilitates college graduates to work in the business world, so that the college would be famous. Famous universities will positively impact the survival of the college because many parents will enroll their children in those universities.

"X" University as one of private universities in Jakarta needs to pay attention to its graduate students and strive to produce students who graduate with good achievement. To produce graduation with good achievement, "X" University needs to pay attention to the factors of student achievement. This research aims to determine the factors that affect achievement of graduate students at the "X" University as well as whether there is a difference of student achievement between the students who actively participates in activities on campus and are not actively participating in activities on campus.

The factors that determine the success of the students are: the attitude of the student, and the physical health and readiness of the student to enter the world of college and their hopes after graduation to graduate (Ali, 1983). According to Biegel (2000), the presence of students in the classroom is an important part for achievement. With a presence in class, students could follow what is described by the lecturers and do the tasks given by lecturers as well. Chung (2004) stated there is a significant correlation between the presence of students in the regular class with success achievement. Twenty nine percent of students who works 30-39 hours per week and 39 hours as full-time employees would have a negative impact on their academic success (Fur and Elling in Watanabe & Jasinski, 2005). Working full time has a large negative impact on students' academic value, so that to obtain a bachelor degree is difficult (Astin in Watanabe & Jasinski, 2005). It occurs because the workload given takes time and is difficult to concentrate in completing the tasks.

However, poor sleep habits may contribute to the ability of students to reach the achievement (Buboltz, Brown, & Soper, 2001). Students who have poor sleep habits are difficult to focus in class because of sleepiness. Therefore, as in Chung (2004), there is a significant correlation between the presences of students in regular class with success achievement. Additionally, student's willingness to work hard would achieve the learning achievement (Noftle & Robins, 2007).

On the other hand, lecturer attitude to students, types of classroom control, curriculum content, lecturer adequacy in professional qualification and preparation, instructional contents and presentation, use of relevant teaching aids would have a positive impact on student achievement (Flowers, 1966; Burstall, 1970; Pidgeon, 1970). Lecturer who is friendly with students would make the students dare to ask in the class if they do not understand the lesson. Ability of lecturer in controlling the atmosphere in the classroom would make students understand the explanation given by the lecturer. Professional qualification of teachers in terms of mastering science taught would make students have accurate

knowledge of the discipline. Lecturer preparation to teach with a good presentation is important because the material taught can be explained well. If the student asks, the lecturer will be able to answer the question, so that the student could appreciate the lecturer. Additionally, relevant tools such as in-focus, video, loudspeakers functioning properly make the student eager to attend the class.

Type of university, the number of students in the classroom, discipline, interaction among students, the current value of the entrance exam, exam given would have an impact on the student achievement (Pidgeon, 1970; Ali, 1983). Environment and motivation give a very strong influence on academic achievement (Cronbach, 1969; Atkinson, 1978). While the condition of campus buildings, such as the condition of the lift and the classroom affect the student achievement (Edwards, 1991). If the conditions and the number of lift are inadequate, they would make the student late for class, so they will affect on the student achievement. Uncomfortable classrooms and nonworking AC make students feel the heat so the learning process cannot run properly. The number of students in the classroom also affects their achievement (Angrist & Lavy, 1999; Hoxby, 2000).

The number of children in the family also affects the student achievement (Hanushek, 1992). This condition may occur because there is no serenity to learn at home. Moreover, family income and parents education are also one of the factors that affect the learning process the student (Murnane, Maynard, & Ohls, 1981; Hanushek, 1992; Goldhaber & Brewer, 1997; Ehrenberg & Brewer, 1994; Ferguson & Ladd, 1996). This condition may occur because the family is not able to pay their children’s tuition, so the children should work to pay for the tuition. If parents education is not high, how they can educate their children.

The closeness of family with children is a major factor in determining children’s academic performance (Lee, Hamman, & Lee, 2007). This condition allows the children who have problems at school could talk to their parents. From the psychological side, children do not feel pressured when they face problems because there are solutions from the parents. This makes children concentrate to study well.

The involvement of parents in their children's education will encourage children to study more diligent so the performance is expected to be achieved (Halawah, 2006). Another factor that determines the success of students to reach the achievement is family background (Strauss, 1951; Lloyd & Pidgeon, 1961; Ali, 1983). When the parents are not harmonious and divorced; and students cannot face this situation, it will affect the learning process.

Hence, based on the theory, this research looks for the factors which can improve student performance of the Faculty of Economics (FE) in "X" University. Besides, this research looks for the difference of FE student achievement between students who actively participate in campus activities and students who do not actively participate in campus activities in "X" University as well. The research model is as follows.

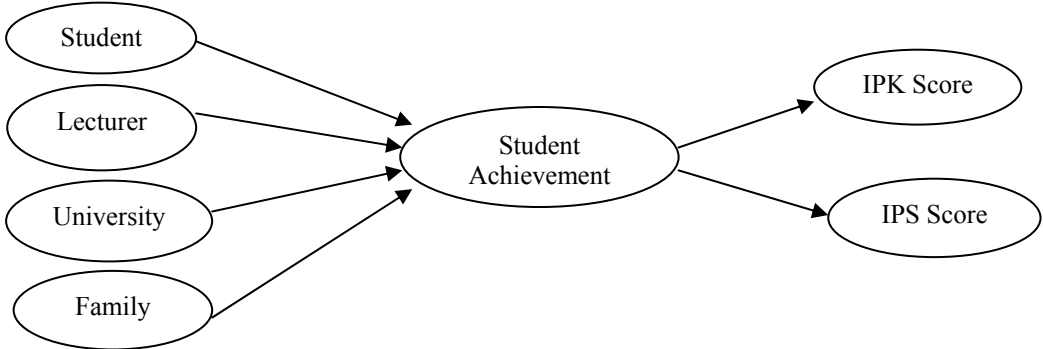


Figure 1 Research Model 1

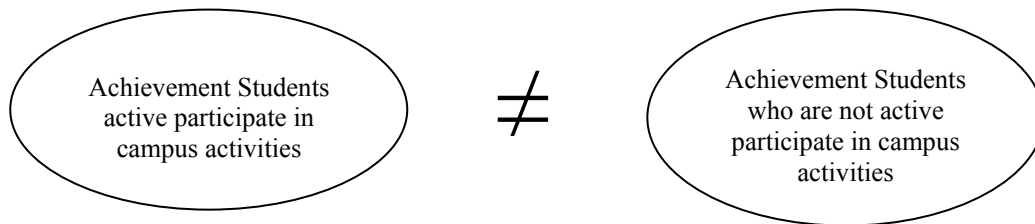


Figure 2 Research Model 2

## METHOD

This research used descriptive analysis by examining the factors that influence student achievement and the difference between active and not active student in campus activities. The indicators are described in Table 1.

Table 1 The Indicators that Affect Student Achievement

Variable	Indicator	Source
Student	1. Students who lack sleep, hard to concentrate in class.	(Buboltz et al., 2001)
	2. Students who often not study (skip) make it difficult to understand what has been taught by lecturers.	(Biegel, 2000)
	3. Students who are not healthy will be often not study and do not understand the cause of the courses be taught.	Fur and Elling
	4. Students have aspirations after graduating college.	(Watanabe & Jasinski, 2005)
	5. Students must have a strong motivation to get the best value.	
	6. Students will ask the professor if not understand being taught.	
	7. Students active in campus activities will face obstacles to attend college.	(Nofle & Robins, 2007)
	8. Students active in campus activities will be obtain the value of the low tuition.	
	9. Students who are active in campus activities will be take courses who little persemesternya.	
Lecturer	10. Lecturer with a friendly attitude with the student, then students are not afraid to ask.	
	11. Lecturers who teach master taught courses.	(Flowers, 1966);
	12. Lecturers who ready to teach will be give a good study.	(Pidgeon, 1970)
	13. Dosen using in-focus easier for the student to understand what is being taught.	
	14. Dosen using video easier for the student to understand what is being taught.	
	15. Lecturer using loudspeakers facilitate students to understand what is being taught.	
University	16. Nilai exams who distributed to the student, will trigger them to study harder.	
	17. Good university, generally have professional teaching staff.	
	18. University with a high degree of discipline who will be have an impact on the learning process.	(Pidgeon, 1970); (Cronbach, 1969);
	19. Campus environment who clean, do not smoke make the student learn better.	(Atkinson, 1978); (Edwards, 1991);
	20. The more the number the student in one class, the learning process will be disrupted.	(Angrist & Lavy, 1999);
	21. Building a good campus, elevators who sufficient and adequate number of classrooms who can make the student learn well.	(Hoxby, 2000)

Table 1 The Indicators that Affect Student Achievement (continued)

Variable	Indicator	Source
Family	22. Harmonious family atmosphere support the success of the study.	(Murnane et al., 1981); (Hanushek, 1992);
	23. The involvement of parents in their children's education will be encourage the student to learn more diligent so the performance is expected to be achieved.	(Goldhaber & Brewer, 1997); (Ehrenberg & Brewer, 1994);
	24. Family income is one of the success factors of the study.	(Ferguson & Ladd, 1996)
	25. Education of parents is one of the factors of success in the study.	(Lee et al., 2007) (Halawah, 2006) (Strauss, 1951); (Lloyd & Pidgeon, 1961); (Ali, 1983)

The population was FE students "X" University. The students were the class of 2010, 2011, and 2012 because they have entered into semesters 8, 6, and 4. So that the they had experienced a minimal learning process of four semesters. The number of students was as much as 1855. Based on the existing population, it would be sampled using Slovin formula as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2} \quad (1)$$

Description:

n = sample size

N= population size

e = Concessions inaccuracy because sampling error can be tolerated, eg 5% or 10%.

The number of sample:

$$n = \frac{1855}{1 + (1855 \times 5\%^2)}$$

$n = 328,9 = 329$  students.

Total samples were 329 respondents. Samples were taken with simple random probability sampling. This method was conducted by randomizing the student class of 2010, 2011, and 2012. The number of student class of 2010 was as many as 495 people, class of 2011 was 657 people, and class of 2012 was 703 people. Furthermore, research shuffled the students of 2010, the result of the scramble obtained the number of students 83 people, for the class of 2011 earned the number of students as many as 107 people and the forces in 2012 as the number of students obtained 139 people. Furthermore, research distributed questionnaire in class attended by students of class 2010, 2011, and 2012 in July to August 2014. Data were analyzed using multiple regression analysis and different test. Multiple regression analysis was used to determine the factors that influence student achievement in University "X". While different test was used to determine whether there was a different in student achievement if they were active in campus activities.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Test results of indicators in this study were shown by reliability and validity test. Reliability test used Cronbach's alpha, while the validity test used Pearson correlation. From the reliability test (see Table 2), it can be said that all the variables studied are reliable because the value of Cronbach Alpha above 0.60 (Sunyoto, 2007).

Table 2 Reliability Test

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Cronbach's Alpha</i>	<i>N of Items</i>
<b>Student</b>	.684	9
<b>Lecturer</b>	.718	7
<b>University</b>	.679	5
<b>Family</b>	.601	4

The validity test results showed that all indicators can form the existing variable, as shown by the validity of significant value (Table 3). Results of data collected then seen the characteristics of respondents in Table 4.

Table 3 Validity Test

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Family</b>
X1	.471**			
X2	.563**			
X3	.585**			
X4	.431**			
X5	.430**			
X6	.477**			
X7	.617**			
X8	.608**			
X9	.578**			
X10		.429**		
X11		.625**		
X12		.630**		
X13		.686**		
X14		.636**		
X15		.630**		
X16		.621**		
X17			.694**	
X18			.724**	
X19			.660**	
X20			.604**	
X21			.658**	
X22				.473**
X23				.538**
X24				.562**
X25				.547**

Table 4 Characteristics of Respondents

Number.	Characteristics of Respondents	Total	%
1.	Gender:		
	Man	155	47.1
	Woman	174	52.9
2.	Force:		
	2010	24	7.3
	2011	68	20.7
	2012	237	72
3.	IPK Score		
	2.00– 2.75	87	26.4
	2.76 – 3.5	179	54.4
	3.51 – 4.00	63	19.1
4.	KHS Score		
	0.00 – 1.29	5	1.5
	1.30 – 1.49	6	1.8
	1.50 – 1.99	18	5.5
	2.00 – 2.59	64	19.5
	2.60 – 3.59	205	62.3
	3.60 – 4.00	31	9.4
5.	Student who participate the organization		
	Yes	199	60.5
	No	130	39.5

Table 4 shows that respondents are more women than men, drawn most of class 2012. The number of respondents who fetched by highest IPK is from 2.76 – 3.5, while for KHS IPS values are drawn from 2.60 – 3.59. The FE students active in organization were 199 respondents. Table 4 shows overall FE students are relatively active in the organization activities. Although they are active, but the GPA or IPS they are not too low.

To answer the problems, the research used regression and different test. Regression analysis was used to determine the influence of factors that exists for student achievement to determine differences in student while active and inactive against achievement then used a different test.

## Regression Analysis

Table 5 Model Summary<sup>b</sup>

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.143 <sup>a</sup>	.021	.008	1.38966

a. Predictors: (Constant), mahasiswa, dosen, universitas, keluarga

b. Dependent Variable: Prestasi

From the table above, the value of R Square is 21%. It means variable performance can be explained by student, faculty, university, and family by 21% and the remaining 79% is explained by other variables outside the model.

Table 6 ANOVA<sup>b</sup>

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	13.147	4	3.287	1.702	.149 <sup>a</sup>
	Residual	625.692	324	1.931		
	Total	638.839	328			

a. Predictors: (Constant), student, lecturer, university, family

b. Dependent Variable: achievement

ANOVA results above show a significance value of 0.149 above 0.05. This shows that the simultaneous variables: students, faculty, university, and the family have no effect on student achievement.

Table 7 Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	6.602	.077		86.170	.000
	Student	-.175	.080	-.125	-2.183	.030
	Lecturer	-.069	.092	-.050	-.755	.451
	University	.159	.098	.114	1.621	.106
	Family	-.012	.093	-.009	-.128	.899

a. Dependent Variable: Prestasi

From the coefficient table above, it can be said there is a partial influence on student achievement student, but the faculty, the university, and the family have no effect on student achievement.

## Difference Test

Table 8 Group Statistics

	Organization	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Achievement	Yes	199	6.7136	1.27262	.09021
	No	130	6.3769	1.65312	.14499



Tabel 9 Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances				t-test for Equality of Means			95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	Lower	Upper
Achievement	Equal variances assumed	14.268	.000	2.081	327	.038	.33664	.16181	.01833	.65496
	Equal variances not assumed			1.971	226.137	.050	.33664	.17076	.00015	.67314

For two-independent sample t-test, seen from the results of hypothesis Lavene's Test to determine whether the assumption of equal variance is both met or not met with the hypothesis: Ho:  $\sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2$  to Hi:  $\sigma_1^2 \neq \sigma_2^2$  where  $\sigma_1^2 =$  variance group 1 dan  $\sigma_2^2 =$  variance group 2. From the *Levene's Test* result obtained that p-value = 0,00 is smaller than  $\alpha = 0,05$ , so Ho:  $\sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2$  is rejected. In other words, assuming the variance is not great (equal variances not assumed). Because the results of *Lavene' test* show the second assumption variance is not as great; it is necessary to use t-test results of two independent sample assuming unequal variances both for the hypothesis Ho:  $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2$  to Hi:  $\mu_1 < \mu_2$  that give the value t = 1.971 degree of freedom 226.137 and p-value (2-tailed) = 0.050. It can be concluded that the means of student active in organization have lower achievement than students who are not active in organization.

On the model summary table above, the value of R Square by 21% means a variable achievement can be explained by students, faculty, university, and family. The remaining 79% is explained by other variables outside the model. Another variable that could have influence is social environment of the students.

The results showed the presence of the effect of self respective student to student achievement. This is due to student themselves decide whether they want to quickly pass by best value or not. For students by high motivation for achievement is certainly not will be skip study, study hard, tried hard to understand what is described by the lecturer.

However, lecturers, university and family have no effect on student achievement. It happens all the back to the students concerned. Any professional lecturers who teach, students who do not care or do not have the motivation to excel still no effect. As well as any facilities provided by the university and harmonious as any family, not necessarily make student intend to excel. Furthermore, there are differences in achievement between the students who are actively involved in campus activities that do not active participate by campus activities. This means that students who are actively involved by campus activities different achievement who did not participate. For students who active participated campus activities achievement will be go down because the time spent to go study and learn a limited.

## CONCLUSION

The results showed that there is an influence of student to student achievement. However, lecturers, university, and family have no effect on student achievement. Moreover, there are differences in achievement between the students who are actively involved in campus activities than they who do not actively participate in campus activities.

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