

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter presents introduction of the study. In the introduction, the points of background, statement and limitation of the problem are discussed. In addition, research questions, research objectives, outline and significances of the study are also presented in this chapter.

Background of the study

Having a good academic achievement is an expectation for most students in any education processes. Students will feel proud if they can achieve something that can make them or other people proud of them. In the academic process at university, Grade Point Average (GPA) is one of the criteria for students to be considered whether having good achievements or not. In this case, GPA becomes such a standard for students. In addition, GPA also usually becomes the standard or requirements for fresh graduate to apply for a job. This researcher's opinion is in line with Regier (2011) who stated that students who are academically successful or with high levels of education have more chance to be employed.

In Indonesian context, GPA is also set as one of requirements to be hired or employed by companies. According to Ibitisam (2016), the minimum GPA required in Indonesia is 2.75. It means that if there is a fresh graduate who has GPA less than that, they cannot be accepted as an employer in the company. Besides that, GPA usually becomes one of several things that must be written in

the Curriculum Vitae (CV). In short, the researcher of this study considers how important GPA for fresh graduate in applying for a job is.

In recent years, there are many studies discussing organization and its correlation toward students' academic achievements. According to Kuh, Kinzie, Buckley, Bridge, and Hayek (2006), engagement in extracurricular activities helps students to develop their skills which are needed to be successful in the college environment. Additionally, students' organization as an extracurricular activity can provide an outlet for students to explore various interests outside of the classroom allowing students to develop their talents further. Then, it can be assumed that students' organization has role to develop their ability and achievement. As mentioned by Pritchard and Wilson (2007) joining students' organizations in college can help students to have good self-development and achievement.

In English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, there is a student organization named English Department Students Association (EDSA). All students of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta are the members of this organization, but only some of them can become the board member. This organization usually opens a recruitment to get new board member every year. Based on the researcher's experiences joining this organization as a board member since the first semester until sixth semester, the researcher knows that there are many board members of EDSA who get scholarship both nationally and internationally or do paper presentation in some universities in Indonesia and abroad. Besides, the researcher also knows that some of them have very high GPA score and become

the best student of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. This phenomenon has raised a question whether or not students' good achievements have correlation with their involvement in EDSA as a board member. Hence, the researcher was interested in conducting a research to know possible correlation between students' involvement in English Department Students' Association and Students' academic achievement in English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

Statement and Limitation of Problem

Students' organization is a part of student activities in University. Every university has their students' organization. Students' organizations give contributions to the university or department especially to students. Generally, students' organization has many agendas that can give benefits to their university, their department and the students themselves. EDSA as a students' organization of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta is also believed to have roles in improving students' quality. Therefore, the researcher has conducted the correlation between the students' involvement in EDSA Board and students' academic achievements at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

In addition, EDSA is expected to become a medium for its board members to develop themselves in managing an organization and studying at the same time. In other words, EDSA is expected to contribute positively to the students' academic life. However, the research about the correlation between the students' involvement in EDSA and students' academic achievements has not been conducted in English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah

Yogyakarta. Therefore, the researcher did a research about The Correlation between the students' involvement in EDSA Board and Student's' Academic Achievements at English Education Department of Universitas Muhamadiyah Yogyakarta.

In this research, the researcher focused finding out the correlation between the students' involvement in EDSA Board and the students' academic achievement. The students' involvement means the students' activeness in EDSA as a board member and the benefits they have got from joining EDSA Board. The students in this research mean the EED of UMY students who have experience as a board member in EDSA of UMY and have got GPA.

Research Questions

The research questions being investigated in this study are:

1. How is the students' involvement in EDSA Board?
2. How is the academic achievement of the students who join EDSA Board?
3. What is the correlation between the students' involvement in EDSA Board and the academic achievement of the students who join EDSA Board?

Research Objectives

This research is intended:

1. To find out the students' involvement in EDSA Board
2. To find out the academic achievement of the students who join EDSA Board
3. To find out the correlation between students' involvement in EDSA Board and the academic achievement of the students who join EDSA Board

Significance of the Study

This research aims to give benefits to teachers, students, and next researchers.

Teachers. By knowing the correlation between students' involvement in EDSA and students' academic achievements in EED of UMY, the teachers at EED of UMY can suggest the students to consider joining that organization.

Students. The students will know the correlation of joining students' organization board and their academic achievement. Since there is a positive correlation between them, hopefully students will join and participate in students' organization.

Next researchers. This study gives some information to the next researchers who are interested in conducting a research in the same field. The result of this study gives information on students' involvement in an organization and students' academic achievements as well as the correlation between these two variables. This study can be used as a reference to conduct further research.