

Abstract

Soft skills, as well as hard skills, are the skills that must be possessed by students of English Education Department (EED) Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY). Soft skills are considered as an important skill, since they can give advantages for students in the future. Moreover, it became the other points assessed by the lecturers at EED of UMY. Based on the curriculum EED of UMY there are thirty-two of soft skills, but most of the lecturers assess five soft skills; communication skill, critical thinking skill, creativity skill, teamwork skill and responsibility skill. Every lecturer had strategies to assess soft skills and some of the lecturers seem have problems to assess those soft skills. The purpose of this research was to discover the strategies used by the lecturers to assess students' soft skills and the problems faced by the lecturers in assessing students' soft skills at EED of UMY.

The qualitative research design adopted as the research methodology. It used descriptive qualitative. Total of lecturers who became participants of this research were four lecturers EED of UMY who had experiences in assessing students' soft skills and who have been teaching at EED of UMY for at least two years. The researcher had chosen the participants of this research by using purposive sampling. The research was conducted at EED of UMY. An interview was used to collect the data of this research and the researcher used in depth interview. In analyzing the data, member checking used by the researcher to get the validity of this research and the

The researcher used coding which consists of open coding, selective coding, and axial coding but this research focused in open coding.

As the result, the researcher found three strategies used by the lecturers to assess soft skills, using rubrics, conduct activities such as presentation, group discussion, classroom discussion, critical thinking project, consultation, group project, a textbook making, and creating simple dictionary, group work, teamwork outcome, self- discipline and punctuality in turning in the task with good result. The last strategy is observation including direct class observation, individual observation, and observation during presentation. In this research, there were six problems faced by lecturers at EED of UMY in assessing students' soft skills. They were too many students at EED of UMY, inactive student, assessing students' creativity, determining the students' original work or authenticity, processing before finishing the task, and to easy the challenge of scoring individual contribution in group work. However, not every participant had problems in assessing students' soft skills at EED of UMY.

Keywords: Soft skills, assessing students' soft skills, strategies in assessing students' soft skills