



Congratulations to our graduates

Congratulations to the group who recently graduated with the Graduate Diploma of Spiritual Direction. We now have a cohort in the Master of Arts (Spiritual Direction) in progress.

Master of Arts (Christian Studies)

In collaboration with two Indonesian faculty members, we recently completed the first semester of the Master of Arts (Christian Studies). This is a professional development program for Indonesian Christian workers and most students are pastors, but not all. One is an evangelist with an interdenominational ministry, one is a church elder, and two have established a Christian school in a remote area. The first two units were Spiritual growth and Missions, because these are most useful for the program's purposes, that is to equip Christian workers for church leadership or other ministry organizations. It is designed for people in full-time ministry who will put aside regular time for study.

Covid19

Covid19 first created an annoying delay in implementing WU programs, but has pushed us along in offering online courses; we now do everything on Zoom, Whatsapp, and email. Covid19 has also given people more free time during the lockdown lifestyle.

Course in research ethics

We are running a course in ethics for research that involves human subjects, done in conjunction with Veritas College International of San Antonio, Texas. US institutions must have an Institutional Review Board (IRB) to oversee ethical approvals. Besides the basics of research ethics, the course covers the US law on research ethics and its specific procedures. The range of time zones is unusual; we can't use Zoom meetings unless someone wants to get online at about 4.00 a.m.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr. Daniel Ginting on being elected chairperson of the Indonesian Association of English Lecturers. Daniel is a member of the WU IRB.

Last semester, Ross was guest speaker in a webinar at Daniel's university. He has now invited Ross to join a new institute in an Indonesian university training Indonesia academics to write research articles in English, although its establishment will probably depend on a funding grant.

Guest speaker

Ross has also been asked to be guest speaker at another Indonesian university in its Global Learning Program. I don't yet know what I'll speak on, and I'm waiting for their suggestions on topics.

ACAS

You might know that the Australian Centre for Advanced Studies (ACAS) lost its accreditation and has appealed to the Tribunal. This most directly affects the WU graduate program in education, as its local recognition depends on ACAS accreditation. All up, the hearing produced about 2,500 pages of evidence. Although we cannot know for sure until the Tribunal announces its decision, ACAS has a very strong case and is expected to win.