



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 2015 - OCTOBER 2016

The United States – Indonesia Society

October Board Meeting

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# Galas

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## Dinner in Honor of President Joko Widodo

October 26, 2015

Event Co-Hosts:  
US Chamber of Commerce,  
US-ASEAN Business Council

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Remarks by **President Joko Widodo**  
President of the Republic of Indonesia

View the Video [here](#).



Appreciation and Concluding Remarks from  
**USINDO President David N. Merrill**

View the Video [here](#).

**USINDO 2016 Gala Dinner**  
April 1, 2016

Featured Speaker:  
**H.E. Jusuf Kalla**  
Vice President  
Republic of Indonesia

View the Video [here](#).



Welcoming Remarks from  
**Ambassador David N. Merrill**,  
USINDO President

View the Video [here](#).



Special Remarks  
**The Honorable Daniel R. Russel**,  
Assistant Secretary of State for  
East Asian and Pacific Affairs

View the Video [here](#).



Introduction of Featured Speaker  
**Ambassador J. Stapleton Roy**,  
U.S. Co-Chair, USINDO

View the Video [here](#).

# USINDO Special Events

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## Washington, D.C.

### Executive Round Table Discussion on Indonesia's Energy and Natural Resources Issues: The View from Parliament

Tuesday, October 27 2015

USINDO Conference Room

USINDO, in cooperation with the US-ASEAN Business Council, organized an off-the-record round table with the Vice Chair, Satya Yudha and members of Indonesia's Commission VII.





## Meeting with Indonesian Parliament Officials from the House of Representatives' Committee on House Administration

Wednesday, March 2 2016

USINDO Conference Room

USINDO met with Indonesian members of Parliament from the Committee on House Administration during the delegation's recent visit to Washington, D.C.

View the Photo Gallery [here](#).



## President Jokowi's Indonesia at the 18-month point: Progress, Challenges, Outlook

March 17, 2016

USINDO Conference Room

**Ambassador Robert O. Blake, Jr.**  
U.S. Embassy Jakarta

View the Photo Gallery [here](#).



# Open Forum Series

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USINDO's signature Open Forum Series has become the premier arena for USINDO to build public understanding of Indonesia and the United States. The discussions feature distinguished experts, academics, and policy makers, with the aim of providing timely and accurate information in the areas facing both nations, as well as to allow the public to directly interact with the speakers. This year, USINDO held a total of 16 Open Forums in Washington D.C. and Jakarta, centered around six defined themes: (1) 2016 U.S. Presidential Election Series; (2) Bilateral Relationship / Strategic Partnership Series; (3) Economy, Trade, and Business Series; (4) USINDO Scholars Series; (5) USINDO Campus Lecture Series; (6) Other Open Forums. The events held in the past 12 months are presented below:

## 2016 U.S. Presidential Election Series

The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election has been a great topic of interest not only in the U.S. but also in other countries, especially Indonesia. In response to this enthusiasm from the general public, USINDO has hosted Open Forums inviting experts from diverse fields to discuss their views on various aspects of the 2016 Election.

### Jakarta

#### 2016 U.S. Presidential Election: The Electoral Process and Candidates' Prospects

October 27, 2015

##### **Chas Anderson**

Former Executive Director,  
Minnesota House of  
Representatives,  
Co-Founder/Partner, MZA+CO

##### **Paul Rowland**

Former Country Director,  
National Democratic Institute (NDI),  
Independent Political Consultant



**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy and @america  
**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).



**USINDO Jakarta Round Table Breakfast  
Discussion on “The 2016 U.S. Elections  
and TPP: An Insider’s Look”**

January 12, 2016

**Nelson Cunningham**, President and  
Co-Founder of McLarty Associates

**Remarks by:**

**Ambassador James Keith**, Senior  
Director of McLarty Associates’ Asia  
Practice



**Event Co-host:** McLarty Associates and  
AMCHAM Indonesia

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).

**A Closer Look at the 2016 U.S. Presidential  
Election and Beyond**

February 3, 2016

**Casimir A. Yost**

Senior Fellow at the Institute for  
Study of Diplomacy,  
Georgetown University  
Adjunct Member, RAND Corporation



**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy and @america

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).

## Bilateral Relationship/Strategic Partnership Series

This series concentrates on the U.S.-Indonesia bilateral relationship and the Strategic Partnership, including the furtherance of its priorities in education, climate change and environment, security, trade and investment, energy, and democracy and civil society.

### Jakarta

#### Global Problems, Local Solutions: U.S.-Indonesia Perspectives on Developing Resilient Cities for Sustainable Life

March 4, 2016

**Arief Wismansyah**  
Mayor of Tangerang City

**Aniessa Delima Sari**  
Program Manager, Mercy Corps Indonesia

**Jim Nichols,**  
County Manager,  
Douglas County, Nevada

**Janet K. Regner,**  
Community Services Director,  
Coconino County, Arizona

**Bruce M. Applegate Jr.**  
Assistant to the City Manager,  
Oak Ridge City, Tennessee

**Tri Widayati**  
Head of Artificial Ecology Sub-directorate,  
Ministry of Environment and Forestry  
Republic of Indonesia

**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy, @america, and the Association of Indonesian Municipalities (APEKSI)

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).



## **Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers: Understanding the Contemporary Context of Pluralism and Diversity in the U.S. and Indonesia**

August 10, 2016

### **Prof. Azyumardi Azra**

Director of the Syarif Hidayatullah  
State Islamic University Graduate School

### **Imam Mohammed Magid**

Executive Director of the All Dulles  
Area (ADAMS) and Former President  
of the Islamic Society of North  
America (ISNA)

### **Prof. Muhammad Ali**

Associate Professor in Islamic Studies at the  
University of Carolina Riverside

### **Imam Plemon T. El-Amin**

Imam Emeritus of  
Atlanta Masjid of Al-Islam

### **Rev. Susan Hayward**

Director of Religion and Peacebuilding  
of the United States Institute of Peace



**View the Photo Gallery [here](#).**

## Economy, Trade & Business Series

This series covers a wide range of topics in the field of economics, trade, and business, including discussions on the most pressing current issues such as the role of expanded internet access in supporting economic growth, the development of the creative economy, and perspectives on the global financial architecture.

### Washington D.C.

#### Assessing President Jokowi's New Cabinet: Implications for Economic Reform and Governance

August 16, 2016

**Mr. Paul Rowland**

Independent Consultant, Advisor,  
Reformasi Weekly Review

Moderated by:

**Dr. Barbara Harvey**

USINDO Advisor



View the Photo Gallery [here](#).

### Jakarta

#### Supporting U.S. & Indonesia's Creative Economy and Innovation: The Importance of Intellectual Property Rights

November 4, 2015

**Ambassador Charles H. Rivkin**

Assistant Secretary of State for  
Economic and Business Affairs

**Ari Juliano Gema**

Deputy Chairman, Intellectual Property  
Rights (IPR) Facilitation and  
Regulation, Indonesian Creative  
Economy Agency (BEKRAF)

**Sheila Timothy**

Executive Director, Association of  
Indonesian Film Producers (APROFI)



**Ruben Hattari**

Director of Corporate Affairs, Microsoft Indonesia

**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy and @america

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).

**Global and Regional Economic and Financial Architecture: U.S.' and Indonesia's Perspectives**

December 8, 2015

**Jim Mullinax**

Counselor for Economic Affairs  
U.S. Embassy Jakarta

**Umar Juoro**

Chairman,  
Supervisory Board of  
Bank Indonesia

**Gustanto D. Surakusuma**

Assistant Deputy for America and  
Pacific Economic Cooperation,  
Coordinating Ministry for  
Economic Affairs,  
Republic of Indonesia

**Dr. David Nellor**

Adjunct Professor at the  
Lee KuanYew School for Public Policy,  
National University of Singapore (NUS)  
Former IMF Resident Representative in Indonesia



**Event Co-host:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).

## USINDO Scholars Series

This series presents renowned scholars from the U.S. and Indonesia who offer their views and insights regarding their areas of expertise in U.S. – Indonesia relations.

### Washington D.C.

#### **Disengaging Indonesian Jihadists: What Works**

July 20, 2016

##### **Dr. Julie Chernov Hwang**

Associate Professor, Chair of the  
Department of Political Science and  
International Relations, Goucher College

View the Photo Gallery [here](#).



### Jakarta

#### **2016 Trends and Forecast: Global and Southeast Asia's Strategic Environment**

February 2, 2016

##### **Casimir A. Yost**

Senior Fellow, Institute for Study of Diplomacy,  
Georgetown University  
Adjunct Member, RAND Corporation

**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy, The Habibie Center,  
Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI)

View the Photo Gallery [here](#).



#### **Garuda Hovering: What Directions for Indonesian Foreign Policy?**

March 16, 2016

##### **Prof. Donald E. Weatherbee**

Donald S. Russell Distinguished Professor Emeritus,  
University of South Carolina,  
USINDO Advisor

##### **Prof. Dewi Fortuna Anwar**

Deputy Head for Government  
Policy Support, Secretariat of the  
Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia





**Event Co-host:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia  
**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#)

## **The Role Universities and the Public & Private Sectors Can Play in Workforce Development in Indonesia and United States**

June 22, 2016

**H.E. Mr. Lutfi Rauf**  
Indonesian Ambassador to  
The Kingdom of Thailand

**Chancellor Gene Block**  
Chief Executive Officer of University of  
California, Los Angeles

**Prof. Ari Kuncoro**  
Dean of the Faculty of  
Economics and Business,  
University of Indonesia

**A. Lin Neumann**  
Managing Director of  
AmCham Indonesia

**Julia S. Gouw**  
Retiring President and  
Chief Operating Officer of  
East West Bancorp, Inc.

**Remarks by:**  
**Ambassador Robert O. Blake, Jr.**  
Former United States Ambassador to the  
Republic of Indonesia

**Event Co-host:** UCLA and @america  
**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#)



**The Hague's South China Sea Ruling:  
Legal and Political Implications**  
September 6, 2016

**Prof. Julian Ku**

Maurice A. Deane Distinguished  
Professor of Constitutional Law  
And the Faculty Director of  
International Programs at  
Hofstra University

**Ayodhia G.L. Kalake**

Deputy Assistant for Maritime Zone  
Delimitation for the Indonesia  
Coordinating Ministry for Maritime  
Affairs

**Aaron Jensen**

Deputy Political Counselor for  
External Affairs at the U.S.  
Embassy Jakarta



**Event Co-host:** The Habibie Center and U.S. Embassy  
**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#)

**USINDO Campus Lecture Series**

In addition to its signature Open Forum series, this year USINDO began expanding its reach to an audience of university students and faculty members in order to increase understanding and awareness of U.S. – Indonesia topics and issues among the younger generation.

**2016 U.S. Election: The Electoral Process and Candidates' Prospects**

February 2, 2016

**Casimir A. Yost**

Senior Fellow at the Institute for  
Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University  
Adjunct Member, RAND Corporation

**Event Co-host:** U.S. Embassy and President  
University  
**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).



## **A Contemporary Analysis of ‘*Bebas Aktif*’ in Indonesian Foreign Policy**

March 17, 2016

### **Prof. Donald E. Weatherbee**

Donald S. Russell Distinguished  
Professor Emeritus at the  
University of South Carolina,  
USINDO Advisor

### **Adriana Elisabeth, Ph.D.**

Director of Research Center for  
Politics, the Indonesian Institute  
of Sciences

### **Edy Prasetyono, Ph.D**

Head of International Relations  
Postgraduate Program and Executive Director of ASEAN Studies Center,  
Universitas Indonesia



**Event Co-host:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Social and Political Science Faculty of University of Indonesia

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).

## **Other Open Forums**

### **Washington, D.C.**

#### **Education and the Prevention of Radicalism and Extremism in Indonesia**

April 29, 2016

### **Ms. Fauziah Fauzan**

Director,  
Diniyyah Putri

### **Imam Shamsi Ali**

Director,  
Jamaica Muslim Center

### **Event Co-host:**

Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia

**View the Photo Gallery** [here](#).



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Jakarta**

#### **Race to the White House: View from Three Weeks Out**

October 2016

**Dr. Molly E. Reynolds**

Fellow in Governance Studies at  
The Brookings Institution

**Ms. Rajini Vaidyanathan**

BBC NEWS correspondent in North America

**Nico Harjanto**

Political Analyst  
Non-active Chairman and Founder of the  
Populi Center Institute

#### **U.S. Presidential Election Series: Take Away and What to Expect in the New Administration**

November 2016

# Education Programs and Grants

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## Legislative Partnership Program

After its first successful Legislative Partnership Program launched in 2014, USINDO in cooperation with the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Republik Indonesia* – DPR RI) and the Foreign Affairs Committee and House Democracy Partnership of the U.S. House of Representatives are currently preparing for the second LPP that will be held from November 13-18, 2016.

The LPP consists of a one-week study program with concentrated exposure to U.S. Congressional practices for professional staff and committee management, comprehensive policy research, and multi stakeholder engagement. The focus of the second LPP is on substantive issues of the Committee on Finance, National Development Planning, Banking, Trade, and Industry.

A distinguished selection panel from USINDO, the International Republican Institute, and the U.S. Embassy Jakarta selected the following eight delegates to participate in the second LPP:

1. Achmad Sani Alhusain  
Researcher,  
Centre for Research of the Expert Body, DPR RI
2. Agustinus Apelabi  
Head of Meeting Secretariat Subdivision,  
Commission XI on Finance, National Development Planning Board, Banking and  
Non-Bank Financial Institutions Affairs
3. Laksmi Harundani  
Legislative Drafter,  
Secretariat General, DPR RI
4. Sahat A.F. Silalahi  
Researcher,  
Centre for Research of the Expert Body, DPR RI
5. Venti Eka  
Researcher,  
Centre for Research of the Expert Body, DPR RI

6. Inti N. Suradi  
Expert Staff for Fraksi Nasdem,  
Commission XI on Finance, National Development Planning Board, Banking and  
Non-Bank Financial Institutions Affairs
7. M. Rihan Handaulah  
Expert Staff to the Hon. Ecky Awal Mucharam (PKS),  
Commission XI on Finance, National Development Planning Board, Banking and  
Non-Bank Financial Institutions Affairs
8. Rian Pradipta  
Expert Staff to the Hon. Satya Yudha  
Commission VII on Energy and Environment

The Legislative Partnership Program aims to improve capacity of parliamentary staffers and deepen legislative-to-legislative contacts as part of the U.S. - Indonesia Strategic Partnership. The participants of this program will learn practical knowledge directly from experienced U.S. practitioners about U.S. Congressional committee functioning, the role of professional staff and staff management, the use of support systems, legislative drafting, government and non-government legislative oversight, and how the U.S. system engages stakeholders for inclusive policy-making.



**USINDO Legislative Partnership Program participants meeting with  
Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC), Edward Royce (R-CA)**

The selected participants of this program are permanent staff or experts of DPR RI who play a strategic role in their current position, and who have more than 5 years of government or parliament-related work experience.

USINDO maintains cooperation with the secretariat of DPR RI and the U.S. Embassy Jakarta in Indonesia, while also collaborating with the Office of House Foreign Affairs Committee, the House Democracy Partnership and the U.S. Congress, and the Embassy of Indonesia in Washington D.C. to ensure the success of this program.

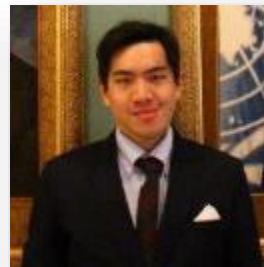


## Edward E. Masters Fellowship Program

The Edward E. Masters Program funds the graduate level education and manages the placement of top ranked officials from the Indonesian government at leading universities in the United States. The program has placed 18 junior diplomats and one mid-career diplomat at top U.S. graduate programs in international affairs and international law.

### Edward E. Masters Fellows 2016

In 2016, the Ed Masters Review Committee selected two exceptional candidates to receive the prestigious Edward E. Masters Fellowship award. Both students have since arrived in the U.S. and started studies at their respective schools. Ms. Mashita I. Kamilia, is currently pursuing her LL.M. at Columbia Law School, and Mr. Vladimir I. Randy Kasasih is currently pursuing his Master's degree at Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).



**Mashita I. Kamilia** – Columbia Law School (LLM)

**Vladimir Ignatius Randy Kasasih** – Johns Hopkins – SAIS

### Edward E. Masters Fellows 2017

The selection for the 2017 batch of Edward E. Masters Fellows took place starting in early 2016. The Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommended two applicants to be considered for this prestigious fellowship. The selection committee came to the conclusion that both candidates still needed to develop themselves and their applications further in order to be prepared for intensive graduate study in the U.S.

### *Ministry of Law and Human Rights*

In 2015, with the help of USINDO, The Loyola University Chicago School of Law and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights successfully sent the first batch of Indonesian students to do a one-year graduate law (LLM) program in the Rule of Law for Development (PROLAW) at Loyola's campus in Rome, Italy. The program educates students from

developing countries on how to be effective rule of law advisors in both domestic and cross-border legal reform initiatives.

In light of this success, in 2016, the Ministry of Law and Human Rights has decided to extend this cooperation with the Loyola University Chicago and nominated two ministry officials to receive this scholarship. The two officials are:

1. Ms. Lina Widyastuti, S.H., M.H.
2. Mr. M. Manzila Falah, S.H.

Both officials have since departed to Rome to attend their studies and are expected to graduate by mid-2017. Under this new agreement, the Ministry of Law and Human Rights has agreed to cover the tuition fee for one student and the room and board fees for both students, while the Loyola University Chicago has agreed to cover the tuition fee for one student.

As in previous years, USINDO has played a role in facilitating the negotiations between the two institutions in order to ensure that the selection and departure process of the candidates run smoothly.



## The U.S. – Indonesia Joint Council on Higher Education Partnership

This year marks five years of the U.S.-Indonesia Joint Council on Higher Education Partnership (“Joint Council”) working to increase U.S. and Indonesian higher educational ties. During the past five years, the Joint Council has become known as the lead organization for connecting U.S. and Indonesian universities on a wide range of partnerships including student exchange, faculty exchange, and joint research. The Joint Council remains the only non-governmental organization recognized by both presidents in the U.S. - Indonesia Comprehensive Partnership.

Since 2011, the Joint Council has:

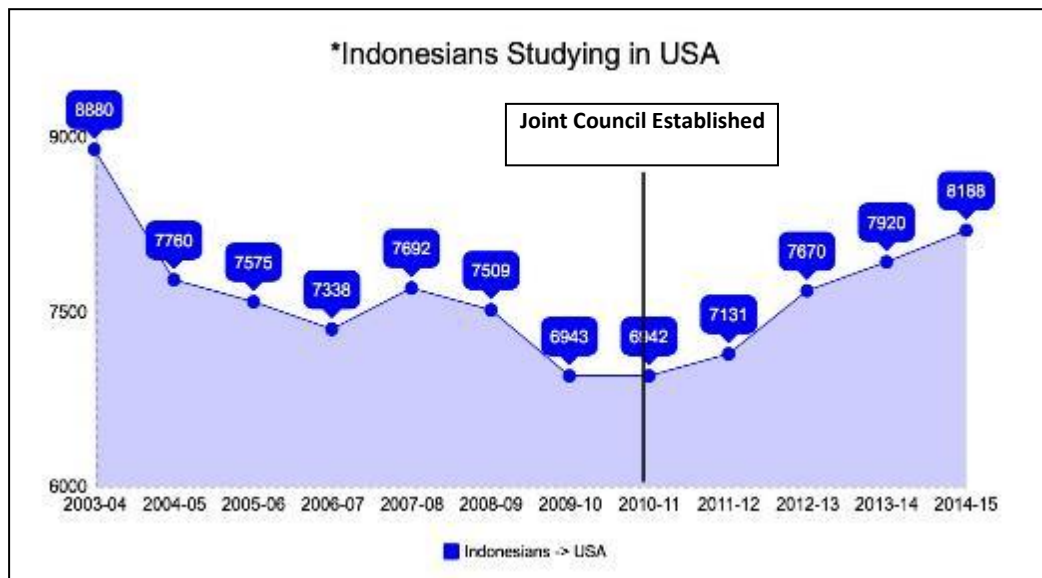
- **Sent over 1,000** Indonesian and American students to each other’s respective countries for study.
- **Leveraged over \$34 million** in scholarships and grants to support student exchange.
- **Established 10 university partnerships** between American and Indonesian universities and institutions.
- **More than doubled** the number of Indonesian Government scholarship recipients (LPDP scholars) studying in the United States annually through the creation of the Indonesian Graduate Student Scholarship Fund.

When the Joint Council was established in 2010, enrollment of Indonesian students at American universities was at an historic low and the number of Americans studying in Indonesia was flat (see Figures 1 & 2).

Today, the number of Indonesians studying in the United States is the highest level in ten years and the number of Americans studying in Indonesia is higher than at any point in the past 25 years.

**Figure 1: Indonesians Studying in the U.S.**

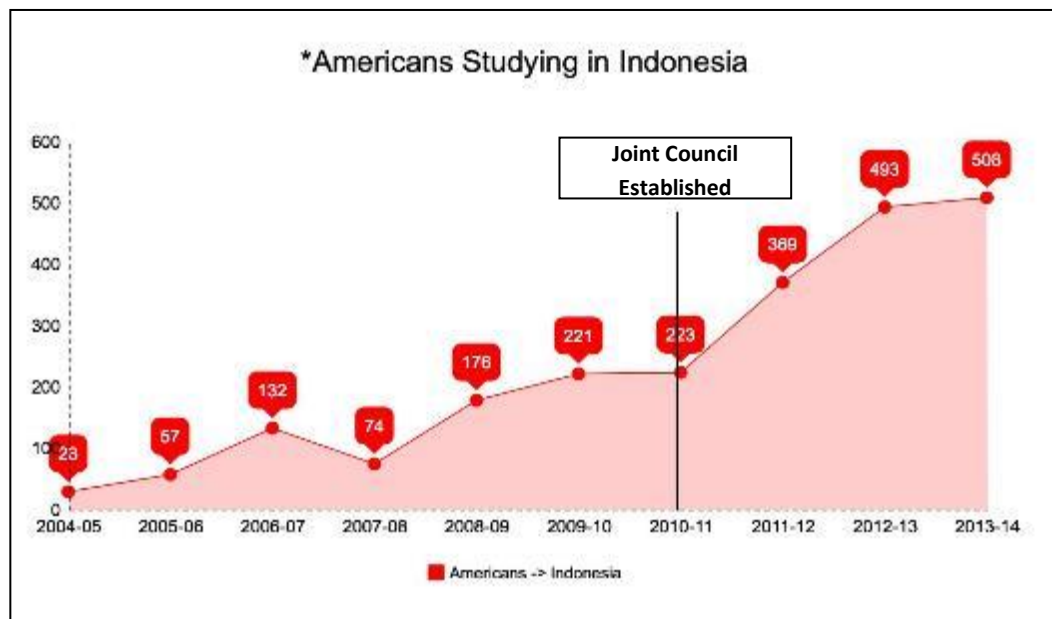
(source: *Open Doors Report 2015*, Institute of International Education)



\*In November 2016, *The Open Doors Report* will be released and we anticipate even higher numbers of Americans and Indonesians studying in each other's respective countries during the current academic year.

**Figure 2: Americans Studying in Indonesia**

(Source: *Open Doors Report 2015*, Institute of International Education)



These accomplishments are the result of the efforts by the U.S-Indonesia Joint Council, AMINEF Fulbright, U.S. State Department, RISTEK-DIKTI, the Indonesian Education

Endowment Fund (LPDP), foundations and corporations, and U.S. and Indonesian universities.

### Student Exchange

In terms of the Joint Council's efforts alone, the past five years have demonstrated the value of our approach in establishing student pipelines between universities to increase student exchange. Since 2011, the Joint Council has helped over **1,000 Americans and Indonesians** study in each other's respective countries through its university partnerships.

**Figure 3: Joint Council-Facilitated Student Exchange: 2011-16**

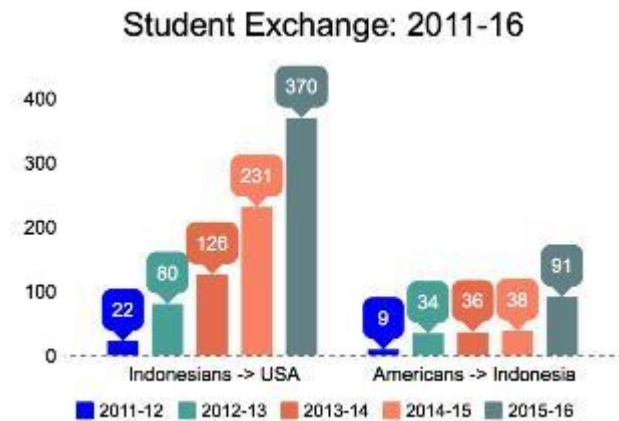


Each year, the Joint Council has increased the number of students studying in the United States and Indonesia compared with previous years (see figure 4 on next page). This largely has been accomplished through the formal partnerships the Joint Council established between American and Indonesian universities that help facilitate the increase flow of students.

For example, over 40% of the 1000+ student exchanges that took place since 2011 occurred in the past year alone – demonstrating the strength of the Joint Council's efforts in building university partnerships and initiatives to send higher numbers of Indonesian graduate students to study in the United States. Additionally, more of the US university partners are establishing short-term study abroad options for Americans to visit Indonesia.

We anticipate that through these partnerships and other Joint Council-led initiatives, such as the Indonesian Graduate Scholarship Fund, even greater numbers of American and Indonesians will study in each other's countries in the years to come.

**Figure 4: Joint Council's Annual Student Exchange Statistics**



## Partnerships

The Joint Council has established the following **ten partnerships** between U.S. and Indonesian universities, primarily in the science and technology fields.

- **Texas A&M University & Institut Teknologi Bandung:**  
Chemical engineering, petroleum engineering, and earth sciences
- **Rutgers University & Banda Islands' Hatta-Syahrir College of Fisheries:** Marine science and cultural preservation
- **Rutgers University & Universitas Airlangga:** Family and community health
- **Northern Arizona University & University of Mataram:**  
Forestry management
- **University of Maryland & Bappenas:**  
Public policy and staff training
- **University of Missouri & Indonesian Press Association:**  
Investigative journalism
- **University of Missouri & Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB):**  
Plant/crop sciences and Agroforestry
- **University of Hawaii Manoa & Universitas Islam Indonesia:**  
Urban and regional planning
- **University of Illinois & Indonesian Education Endowment Fund:**  
Increase the number of Indonesian graduate students at Illinois



– **University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) & Indonesian Education Endowment Fund:**

Increase the number of Indonesian graduate students at UCLA

Since the last USINDO Board Meeting in May 2016, these partnerships have been actively engaged in the following:

- **University of Maryland College Park** conducted a one-week intensive training on innovation in public policy for **16 senior KEMLU officials** in Washington, DC in June 2016. In November 2016, Maryland will train an additional **25 Bappenas officials** on scholarship management during a two-week intensive training on the Maryland campus and provide another executive training program for 15+ senior KEMLU officials.
- **Rutgers University** made its fourth visit to the Banda Islands to strengthen its partnership in cultural preservation and marine science. In June, Ambassador Blake joined the Rutgers team in the Banda Islands to engage stakeholders involved in its UNESCO World Heritage nomination process being led by the Rutgers University Center for Heritage and Cultural Preservation.



From left to right: Joella Van Donkersgoed (Rutgers University researcher), U.S. Ambassador Robert Blake, Niruban Balachandran (World Bank and Rutgers alumnus), Rector of Hatta-Syahrir College of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, and Dr. Eric Garfunkel (Rutgers University Vice President). Taken June 2016 in front of the Banda Island's Computer Lab donated by Rutgers University and the World Bank.



Ambassador Blake, Rutgers University officials, Indonesian students and faculty at Hatta-Syahrir College of Fisheries and Marine Science in June 2016.

- **University of California Los Angeles** signed an agreement with the Indonesian Education Endowment Fund to enroll more graduate students at UCLA. The Joint Council helped draft the MOU with UCLA and organized the June visit to Jakarta by UCLA Chancellor Gene Block, including an alumni reception held at the US Ambassador's Residence (see photo below).



The Joint Council organized a UCLA alumni reception with Ambassador Robert Blake and UCLA Chancellor Gene Block. Photo taken on June 23, 2016 at the US Ambassador's Residence.

- **University of Missouri Columbia** hired a full time staff member in Jakarta to promote the Journalism School and increase applications to the university. The Joint Council established ties between Missouri and the Tanoto Foundation in June 2016 and facilitated initial discussions for Missouri to conduct journalism training for the Foundation.

## Indonesian Graduate Scholarship Support Fund

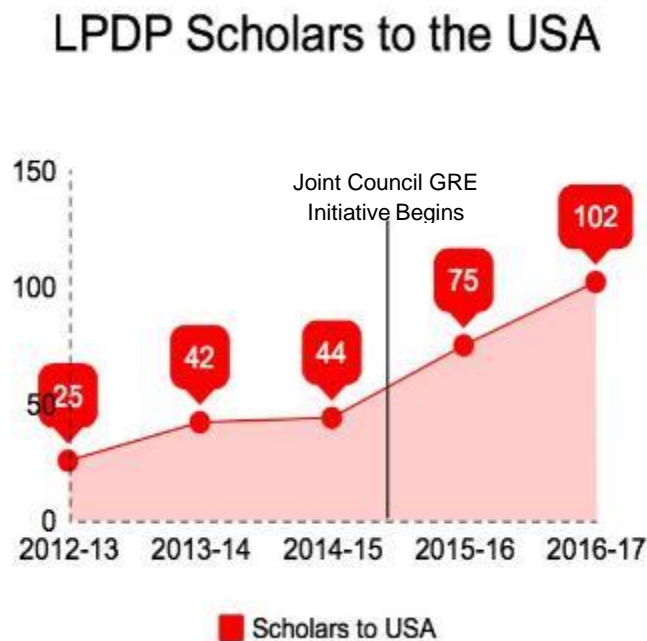
In 2012, the Indonesian Government established a \$1.4 billion scholarship fund to send Indonesians abroad for graduate study. This fund, known as the Indonesian Education Endowment Fund (LPDP), has sent thousands of Indonesians abroad for graduate study but very few have matriculated at American universities. The vast majority has chosen to study in Australia, Japan, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

Between 2012-2014, only 111 LPDP scholarship recipients matriculated at U.S. universities. In response to such low enrollment numbers, the Joint Council established focus groups with Indonesian students and learned that the cost of taking the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) was a major constraint that prevented funded scholars from even applying to US universities.

In 2014-2015, the Joint Council established the Indonesian Graduate Application Support Fund ("The Fund") to provide free GRE and GMAT test vouchers, and free GRE test preparation courses, to LPDP scholars interested in studying in the United States. To date the Joint Council has **distributed over 300 GRE and GMAT test vouchers** to LPDP Scholars applying to US universities and provided two 8-week GRE test preparation course to 24 LPDP scholars.

The Fund has been extremely successful and **more than doubled** the number of LPDP scholars studying in the United States (see figure 5)

**Figure 5: LPDP Scholars at U.S. Universities**



Contributions to the Fund came from the following nine U.S. universities in addition to support from the Ancora Foundation:

- Harvard University
- Rutgers University
- University of Arizona
- University of California San Diego
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Illinois Chicago
- University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- University of Iowa
- University of Washington

The Joint Council will continue to fundraise from U.S. universities and foundations to continue the very successful Indonesian Graduate Scholarship Support Fund for the upcoming year to provide both graduate test vouchers and test preparation.

## Leadership of the Joint Council

Peter McPherson, Chairman  
President, Association of Public & Land-grant Universities (APLU)

David Merrill, Vice Chairman  
President, U.S.-Indonesia Society (USINDO)

Bernie Burrola, Executive Director

### Executive Committee:

#### **Higher Education Associations**

American Association of Community  
Colleges

Association of American Universities

Association of Public Land Grant  
Universities

East-West Center

Institute of International Education

NAFSA: Association of International  
Educators

World Learning

#### **Indonesian Corporations and Foundations**

Ancora Foundation

Sampoerna Foundation

Freeport Indonesia

#### **U.S. Foundations**

Caterpillar Foundation

Chevron University Partnership Program

ExxonMobil Foundation

## Sumitro Fellows Program

USINDO received a total of 15 applications (7 Americans and 8 Indonesians) for the 2016 Sumitro Fellows Program. The Sumitro Fellows Review Committee met in March 2016 and selected the following as the 2016 Sumitro Fellows.

### **Moch Faisal Karim (Indonesian)**



Moch Faisal Karim is a PhD Candidate of Politics and International Studies (PaIS), at University of Warwick. His research interests include the role of emerging powers in global governance with a special focus on human rights, trade, and climate change governance as well as International Relations in the Asia Pacific. Prior to this, he worked as an expert staffer for Indonesia's House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and a lecturer in International Relations at Bina Nusantara University, Jakarta. From 2012-2013, he was one of ASEAN-Canada Research Partnership's Junior Fellows within the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, Rajaratnam School of International Studies (NTS-RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. Faisal completed his master's degree at the University of Nottingham and his bachelor's degree in International Relations at University of Indonesia. Faisal is currently an LPDP scholarship recipient at University of Warwick.

### **Alysson Akiko Oakley (American)**



Alysson Akiko Oakley is a doctoral candidate at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), where she focuses on comparative politics and the political economy of Southeast Asia. Her doctoral research includes clientelism as well as informal networks and institutions in Indonesia. She has been an adjunct professor in the Department of Government at Georgetown University since 2011, and since 2009 has authored reports on political and civil rights for five Southeast Asian countries for the annual publication Freedom in the World. Previously, she served as a senior adviser at the International Republican Institute and program director at the U.S.-Indonesia Society. She received a master's degree in International Relations from SAIS (2009) and a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Brown University (2003).



## Summer Studies Program

As it enters its 21<sup>st</sup> year, the USINDO Summer Studies Program continues to provide opportunities to young Americans to study Indonesian language and culture through in-country language training and cultural immersion. The 2016 program was made possible by a \$40,000 grant (\$23,621 in 2016 and \$16,739 carried over from 2015) from the Freeman Foundation, Allene Masters, in honor of Edward Masters' highest priority of sending more Americans to Indonesia, and \$34,000 of matching funds provided directly by USINDO.

After conducting an extensive outreach program to distribute the call for applications to more than 50 universities and student organizations across the U.S. this year, we received a record number of applications compared to previous years. Twelve students were admitted into the program, bringing the total number of the Summer Studies alumni to 226.



The 2016 USINDO Summer Studies Program was held from May 27 to August 3, 2016 in Yogyakarta, followed by a post-program event in Jakarta and Depok. The program began with a three-day orientation in Yogyakarta before the students moved in with their host families.



USINDO has developed several innovative changes to raise the quality of this excellent program to an even higher level than before. This year, USINDO decided to partner with the Indonesian Language and Culture Intensive Course (ILCIC) at Sanata Dharma University as the new language instruction provider for the program's language courses. This change was made in response to the valuable feedback from the participants of the 2014 and 2015 Summer Studies Program, and USINDO's own review. ILCIC was chosen because of its extensive experience in hosting similar programs in the past, flexible curriculum, lively campus atmosphere, as well as its commitment to enhancing the quality of its language instruction throughout the course of the program.

USINDO also incorporated several new elements to the 2016 Summer Studies Program, including a more intensive and impactful internship component whereby students had the option of choosing their places of internship; an optional research project component for intermediate level students seeking a more academic conduit for practicing and expressing their Indonesian language abilities; improved evaluation and assessment of the 2016 Summer Studies Program through an additional post-program evaluation event held in Jakarta; and encouraging students to create short video stories showcasing their experiences during the Summer Studies Program to improve outreach for future Summer Studies programs.



As in the previous years, the students also attended special lectures with the following topics: good governance, interfaith relations, democracy and local monarchy, and information and technology in the creative industry. Through this component, students had the opportunity to meet and discuss topics with Hamengkubuwono X, the Sultan and the Governor of the Special Region of Yogyakarta. They also had the chance to participate in several cultural workshops, field trips, and to develop networks with local universities and organizations, which was intended to motivate them to pursue potential future research and work engagement in Indonesia.

The 2016 Summer Studies Program concluded with a two-day post-program event in Jakarta and Depok, organized by USINDO in cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and Information of the Republic of Indonesia. This program completed the students' understanding about Indonesia and the students' overall experience within the Summer Studies Program. All of the expenses related to accommodations, meals, and transport during this two-day program was covered by the Ministry of Communications and Information of the Republic of Indonesia.

## **ACYPL – YSEALI Professional Fellows Program, Spring and Fall 2016**

USINDO in cooperation with the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) and U.S. Embassy Jakarta announced the development of the ACYPL – YSEALI Professional Fellows Program for Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. The Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) is President Obama's signature program intended to strengthen leadership development and networking in ASEAN, deepen engagement with young leaders on key regional and global challenges, and strengthen people-to-people ties between the United States and young Southeast Asian leaders. The Professional Fellows Program (PFP) focuses on legislative processes and governance for young political and policy leaders from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States.

Selected participants attend an orientation program in Washington D.C. and participate in a four-week intensive fellowship in local offices with day-to-day mentoring and guidance from a local leader and/or ACYPL alumnus with the goal of strengthening their understanding of American governance, politics, and the legislative process. At the conclusion of the program, all participants go to Washington D.C. for a 3-day Professional Fellows Congress where they share their experiences with other international fellows from around the world.

Earlier this year, USINDO along with a selection panel consisting of representatives from USINDO, ACYPL, and U.S. Embassy Jakarta nominated three delegates for the 2016 Spring PFP, which was held from April 23 – June 4, 2016. The selected applicants were:

1. Ms. Lalola Easter Kaban  
Researcher, Indonesia Corruption Watch
2. Ms. Maria Agatha Rina Widiastuti  
Aide to Head of DPRD Yogyakarta
3. Mr. Gema Mayang Satria Sedyadi  
Junior Researcher, The SMERU Research Institute

USINDO is currently preparing to send three delegates for the 2016 Fall PFP. The program will be held from October 8 – November 18, 2016. The delegates were selected by a panel consisting of representatives from USINDO, ACYPL, and U.S. Embassy Jakarta. The selected applicants are:

1. Mr. Erasmus Todo  
Researcher and Litigation Supporter, Institute for Criminal Justice Reform
2. Mr. Purnomo S. Pringgodigdo  
Coordinator of the Legal, Human Resources, Organization and Supervision  
Division, Surabaya General Election Commission
3. Ms. Suwarti N. Kamondo  
Director of Economic Development Project, Sikola Mombine (Women School)

As an in-country partner organization of ACYPL, USINDO is responsible for disseminating program information to prospective individuals and institutions in Indonesia, as well as working closely with both ACYPL and the U.S. Embassy Jakarta in the selection process, participants' visa application, pre-departure orientation and hosting the American mentors during their visits to Indonesia.

During the 2015-2016 period, USINDO had the pleasure of hosting three YSEALI PFP American Mentors from the 2015 Spring and Fall programs during their visits to Indonesia. The three American mentors, as listed below, met with renowned Indonesian leaders and professionals to network and exchange knowledge in their respective areas of expertise.

1. **Ms. Chas Anderson**, Former Executive Director, Minnesota House of Representatives and Co-Founder/Partner, MZA+Co
2. **Mr. Steve Gershone**, Principal Aide to the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners in Minneapolis, Minnesota
3. **Mr. Matthew Summy**, Vice President, External and Government Affairs of Comcast,

USINDO is also preparing to host an American mentor from the 2016 Spring PFP, Mrs. Allison Ladd, Chief of Staff of the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) during her visit to Jakarta, Indonesia this November.

## Aceh Laboratory School

### **Aceh Laboratory School Ranked as Top School for Social Sciences in Banda Aceh**

The UNSYIAH Lab School, which opened its doors on July 27, 2007, was established as a collaboration between USINDO, Syiah Kuala University, and the Sampoerna Foundation, to be a model community school, educating students from the areas severely damaged by the 2004 earthquake and tsunami. USINDO raised a large share of the funds for the school's construction and provided technical assistance to its development. The school also serves as a laboratory school, providing university students in UNSYIAH's College of Education and Teaching (FKIP) opportunities for pre-service practice teaching under the supervision of master teachers.

In 2011, the school gained accreditation, meeting the highest standards for high schools.

The School assists in rebuilding Aceh's educational infrastructure, providing a means of developing future generations of teachers and a replicable example, thus implementing improvement in the Province's school system. It also meets core educational objectives that were outlined by Kuntoro Mangkusubroto, head of the Aceh reconstruction agency (Badan Rehabilitasi dan Rekonstruksi, or BRR) and his staff, who see USINDO and UNSYIAH as leading the way. Finally, it offered a highly visible, unique corporate opportunity to have a long-term impact on the reconstruction of Aceh as well as a significant influence on education in Aceh, Sumatra, and Indonesia as a whole.

The entire senior class has passed their national exams—an achievement every year since the school began graduating students six years ago, including this year (2016). The Lab School also was the top ranked school in Banda Aceh in social sciences and the second rank in the hard sciences. The school clearly is maintaining what was envisioned by its founders.



*Students at the Aceh Lab School  
Graduation, 2012*

# New Initiative:

## Indonesia - U.S. Council on Religion and Pluralism



On October 26, 2015, President Obama and President Joko Widodo issued a joint statement endorsing a U.S. – Indonesian civil society initiative that would promote pluralism and tolerance. In response to this and as part of USINDO’s mission to enhance public engagement to deepen the U.S.-Indonesia Strategic Partnership in all fields, USINDO has been working on the establishment of an Indonesia-U.S. Council on Religion and Pluralism.

The Founding and Roadmap Conference of the Indonesia – U.S. Council on Religion and Pluralism was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from August 10-11, 2016. The conference convened a select group of committed non-government leaders from the religious, academic, media, and civil society sectors from Indonesia and the United States. Government and donor representatives attended as observers or commenters.

The conference launched the Indonesia- U.S. Council on Religion and Pluralism. Council members shared their expectations of what they expected the Council to achieve, including developing a comprehensive understanding of the current state of interfaith relations in each country.

The Council defined and adopted three priority areas for its work:

1. Increasing religious understanding, mutual respect, and collaboration;
2. Identifying and fostering positive civic and religious education models that promote analytical thinking and respect; and
3. Empowering civil society to deter violent extremism.

To develop actionable programs, it established three Working Groups to lead Council work on each of the priority areas, and appointed Indonesian and US-Co-chairs and members for each Group. Each Working Group explored a range of possible programs and activities, and selected three to four actionable program ideas for the Council to carry out, after program refinement by the Working Groups. These programs ranged from conducting seminars and outreach programs aimed at increasing religious understanding, developing interreligious homestay experiences for teachers and youth, and issuing calls for evidence-based research on the factors in deterring violent extremism that need to be better understood before programs with a justifiable prospect for success can be launched.

To drive the Council's day to day work program, it established a nine-person Executive Committee (EC), which operates under oversight of the full Council membership. The EC consists of US and Indonesian Co-Chairs, the Co-Chairs of each of the three Working Groups, and the President of USINDO. Ms. Yenny Wahid is the Indonesian Co-Chair and Imam Jihad Turk is the US Co-Chair.

Under the direction of the Executive Committee, the Council members will reconvene in their respective Working Groups to further discuss the initial ideas from the launch meeting and advance them to a more formulated and prioritized set of recommended programs.

As mentioned at the Council's founding meeting, all Council programs depend on the availability of funds. Funding decisions by donors usually depend upon prior review of concrete program proposals. The next step will therefore be preparing proposals for endorsed Council initiatives. The Council also will seek opportunities for general funding



from donors who endorse the concept and goals of the Council. Such general support will be very helpful as it directly enhances the Council's capacity to write proposals for the individual initiatives.

Through its offices in both countries, USINDO has successfully cooperated with parties in the U.S. and Indonesia to help establish the Council through the Founding and Roadmap Conference. As of this writing (early October), USINDO and the Working Group members are meeting (a) to concentrate the central themes for action by each Working Group and make sure they are integrated across groups, and (b) to develop concrete concept papers with the objectives, elements, time frame, and possible funding sources for each proposed activity. USINDO is committed to seek to ensure that the Council is clear sighted, oriented toward concrete results in both countries, and is an independent bi-national NGO initiative, while complementary and interactive with the two governments.

*-- End of President's Report --*

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