

International Office
Hasanuddin University

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REDEFINING RESEARCH: UNHAS HOSTS GUEST LECTURE ON CREATIVE AND PARTICIPATORY METHODS



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) recently hosted an insightful guest lecture featuring Farah Akbar, B.Ed., M.A., Ph.D., a distinguished scholar from the University of Edinburgh, UK. Held on Wednesday, 15 April 2026, at the Arsjad Rasyid Lecture Theater, the event was officially opened by the Head of IO, Andi Masyitha Irwan, Ph.D. (known as Ms. Citha). The lecture drew an enthusiastic crowd of approximately 100 participants, including lecturers, researchers, and students from across the UNHAS academic community.

The core of the session focused on Creative and Participatory Methods, a field Dr. Farah noted may still be unfamiliar to many traditional researchers. She highlighted that art-based research utilizes diverse mediums—such as visual arts (drawing, collage, and video), performance arts (drama and music), and creative writing—not just for aesthetic purposes, but as rigorous tools for data collection and the dissemination of findings.

Dr. Farah further emphasized the importance of the participatory approach, challenging the traditional view of respondents as mere "objects" of study. She advocated for a shift in perspective where research is conducted "with people" rather than "on people." In this collaborative framework, participants are inseparable from the process, actively helping to define problems, collect and analyze data, and share the final results.

Moderated by Saaduddin, Ph.D. (IO Task Force), the event transitioned into a lively Q&A session. One participant raised concerns regarding the reliability of video data, suggesting it could be easily modified or manipulated. Dr. Farah offered a pragmatic response, advising researchers to "take the data as it is," emphasizing that the primary responsibility of the researcher is to treat the captured medium as authentic evidence of a specific moment or perspective, regardless of its production style.

The lecture concluded on a high note with the International Office presenting a token of appreciation to the speaker for her brilliant presentation. The event officially wrapped up with a group photo session, capturing the spirit of academic collaboration between UNHAS and the University of Edinburgh.





STRENGTHENING GLOBAL SYNERGY: UNHAS IO CONVENES INTERNATIONALIZATION TASK FORCE MEETING



As April 2026 unfolds, the International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) initiates a pivotal coordination meeting for the Task Force Team for Internationalization. Held on Tuesday, 14 April 2026, at the IO Meeting Room, the gathering brought together a dynamic mix of incumbent members and newcomers representing 18 faculties and schools. The primary objective was to align perspectives and synchronize the roles and functions of the team to ensure a unified approach toward the university's global ambitions.

The meeting was officially opened by the Head of IO, Andi Masyitha Irwan, Ph.D. (Ms. Citha), who outlined the team's responsibilities for the current year. She highlighted a strategic simplification of job descriptions and functions, aimed at increasing efficiency and clarity. Beyond administrative duties, Ms. Citha showcased a robust suite of supporting programs designed for UNHAS international students, including Pre-Arrival and Post-Arrival Orientations, the Geography Series (G-Series), the International Student Festival, and the immersive Host Family Program, which offers students a unique experience of Ramadan in local villages.

A significant new initiative introduced during the session was the "Best Practices" presentation series. Faculty-level representatives were invited to prepare comprehensive reports on their specific internationalization efforts to be presented before UNHAS leadership. This initiative aims to foster a culture of knowledge-sharing and healthy competition among faculties. The Faculty of Medicine has been selected to lead this series, with Prof. Rina Masadah tasked with preparing the inaugural presentation scheduled for this coming May.

The coordination meeting concluded on an optimistic note, fostering a sense of camaraderie among the task force members. With a clear roadmap and simplified functions, the IO expressed high hopes for the team's success throughout the remainder of 2026. The session solidified the university's commitment to enhancing its international profile through grassroots faculty engagement and dedicated student support services.





BRIDGING THE INFORMATION GAP: UNHAS REFINES ITS GLOBAL IDENTITY IN TWO-DAY FGD



The International Office (IO) of Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) recently conducted a productive Focus Group Discussion (FGD) focused on designing and updating the International Student Guidebook and the official UNHAS Booklet. The two-day event took place from Thursday to Friday, 16–17 April 2026, at the Wajo Meeting Room, Novotel Grand Shayla, Makassar. The primary goal of the session was to ensure that the university's promotional and instructional materials reflect the most current developments and data.

The first day was dedicated to the International Student Guidebook, an essential resource provided to students before their arrival in Makassar. Recognizing that crucial new information must be integrated as the university evolves, participants meticulously reviewed every page of the existing edition. This rigorous revision process resulted in a finalized, "ready-to-use" guidebook that ensures international students are well-informed about the UNHAS environment and local situation long before they step onto campus.

On the second day, the focus shifted to the completion of the UNHAS Booklet. This document serves as a vital diplomatic tool for the UNHAS academic community when visiting partner institutions abroad. The booklet provides a comprehensive overview of the university's identity, highlighting progress in both academic and non-academic sectors. It also showcases the vibrant international student body and their various achievements, offering partners a clear picture of UNHAS's growth and global standing.

The FGD concluded with a sense of accomplishment, as the team finalized the core content of both publications. Any remaining minor details are slated for completion in the immediate future to ensure the files are ready for distribution. By updating these materials, the International Office continues to strengthen the university's communication strategy, fostering better preparation for incoming students and more professional engagements with international partners.





MTCRC FIKP UNHAS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS PARTICIPATE IN MARINE SURVEY EQUIPMENT TRAINING (MMSET) 2026 IN JAKARTA



Four master's students from the Marine Science Program, Faculty of Marine Science and Fisheries (FIKP), Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), who are recipients of the Korea-Indonesia MTCRC (Marine Technology Cooperation Research Center) scholarship, took part in the Marine Survey Equipment Training (MMSET) 2026 organized by the Korea-Indonesia Integrated Ocean Fisheries Technology Training Center (KIOTEC) on 13–16 April 2026 at the KIOTEC Office Ancol.

The four students are Syafriman Ali, Ainun Hazani Hamdillah, Tri Hardianesti, and Muhammad Luthfi Maradhy. This training was attended by 40 participants from various universities across Indonesia as part of KIOTEC's Official Development Assistance (ODA) program.

The training aims to develop participants' capacity and strengthen their technical competencies in oceanographic measurement and survey through a hands-on approach. Various marine instruments were introduced and used intensively, such as the Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP), Conductivity, Temperature, Depth (CTD), grab sampler, and sieve shaker.

Over the four days, participants engaged in a series of activities including classroom sessions, field practice, and data processing. FIKP UNHAS students were directly involved in field data collection using ADCP and CTD, familiarization with the CTD MIDAS device, as well as the data quality control process. Additionally, participants gained experience in sediment analysis and oceanographic data processing.

In the final phase, all participants prepared a mini project based on the survey data and presented their analysis results. This activity served as a platform to hone data interpretation skills and scientific communication.

The participation of MTCRC scholarship recipients from FIKP UNHAS in this event is expected to enhance their technical competencies and readiness to support research and the sustainable management of marine resources, while also strengthening UNHAS's contribution to the development of marine science at both national and international levels.





FKM UNHAS HOSTS INTERNATIONAL GUEST LECTURE ON DIET–MICROBIOME RESEARCH



The Faculty of Public Health (FKM), Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), successfully hosted an international guest lecture featuring Assoc. Prof. Andrew Holmes from the School of Life and Environmental Sciences, The University of Sydney, on Tuesday, 7 April 2026. The session took place at the Aula Prof. Dr. Ir. Fachruddin, Sekolah Pascasarjana UNHAS, and attended more than 150 participants, ranging from undergraduate to doctoral students, as well as researchers and academics in nutrition and public health.

Organised in conjunction with the 3rd International Conference on Nutrition and Public Health (ICNPH 2026), the lecture highlighted the growing importance of integrating microbiome science into nutrition research and public health strategies.

The session began with a brief welcome by Dr. Andi Imam Arundhana Thahir, Head of the Department of Nutritional Science, FKM UNHAS, who greeted the speaker and participants while highlighting the increasing relevance of microbiome research in shaping the future direction of nutrition science.

During the session, Assoc. Prof. Holmes discussed how dietary patterns interact with the gut microbiome to influence health outcomes, emphasising that humans function as symbiotic systems in which microbial communities play a crucial role in metabolic regulation, immune function, and disease risk. He further framed this field as not merely the study of microbes, but as an effort to understand how diet shapes biological processes and long-term health outcomes.

Building on this perspective, Dr. Andi Imam Arundhana Thahir emphasised that such discussions reflect a critical shift towards integrating microbiome science into precision nutrition, where future public health strategies will increasingly depend on understanding diet–microbiome interactions to design more personalised and effective nutrition interventions.

The lecture also highlighted key challenges in microbiome research, including the fact that people can respond differently to the same diet and that it remains difficult to clearly define what a “healthy” microbiome looks like. It further pointed to the limitations of current approaches in capturing the full complexity of microbial communities. To address these challenges, more comprehensive approaches that integrate diet, microbiome, and human health data are needed to better predict outcomes and inform effective interventions. Importantly, the session underscored the relevance of microbiome-informed approaches for addressing major public health challenges, including obesity, metabolic disorders, and the ongoing nutrition transition.



The discussion also opened opportunities for future collaboration between UNHAS and international partners in advancing diet–microbiome research, particularly in the Indonesian context, where expanding studies in diverse settings such as Sulawesi can contribute to the development of more representative microbiome datasets from underexplored populations and strengthen the global evidence base.

This activity forms part of FKM UNHAS's broader efforts to engage in international collaboration and advance research in public health nutrition.





FACULTY OF NURSING UNHAS AND SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES KANAZAWA UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION STRENGTHENED THROUGH EXPANDED ACADEMIC EXCHANGE



Faculty of Nursing (FKep) Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) and the School of Health Sciences Kanazawa University have agreed to further enhance their academic collaboration, focusing on student exchange programs, visiting lectures, and joint research initiatives. The agreement was reached during a bilateral meeting held on Friday, 10 April 2026, at the Tsuruma Campus of Kanazawa University. The meeting aimed to evaluate the implementation of ongoing cooperation between the two institutions throughout 2025 and early 2026. The partnership itself has been established since 2014 and continues to grow in scope and impact.

In 2025, the collaboration successfully facilitated student exchanges, with two students from FKep UNHAS studying at Kanazawa University and two students from Kanazawa University participating in academic activities at FKep UNHAS. Building on this progress, both institutions agreed to continue the exchange program.In July 2026, two FKep UNHAS students are scheduled to depart for Kanazawa University, followed by the arrival of two Kanazawa University students to FKep UNHAS in March 2027. In addition to student mobility, both parties committed to strengthening collaborative research between faculty members and increasing the number of visiting lectures to enrich academic engagement.

FKep UNHAS delegation was represented by Syahrul, S.Kep.,Ns.,M.Kes.,PhD as the vice dean for academic and student and Masyitha Irwan, S.Kep.,Ns.,MAN, PhD as a lecturer. Meanwhile, the School of Health Sciences Kanazawa University delegation included Prof. Akiko Tsuda (Head of Nursing Department), Prof. Makoto Oe and Prof. Koji Tanaka (International Affairs Faculty) and Ruka Saito (Faculty member)

Also present at the meeting were Irma Iryanidar and Muhammad Abu, both alumni of the Master of Nursing Program at Fkep UNHAS who are currently pursuing doctoral studies at Kanazawa University. Additionally, Riki, a participant in the 2025 student exchange program from Kanazawa University, attended the session.

This renewed commitment highlights both institutions' dedication to advancing international academic collaboration and fostering global learning opportunities in the field of health sciences.





POLISAS MALAYSIA AND HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION THROUGH INSTITUTIONAL VISIT



Makassar, April 2–4, 2026 — Politeknik Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah conducted an institutional visit to Hasanuddin University as part of efforts to strengthen international academic collaboration in vocational education, agricultural technology, and human resource development.

The POLISAS delegation, led by Mohd Safarim, was formally welcomed by university leaders and representatives from the Directorate of Partnerships, the Faculty of Vocational Studies, the Faculty of Agriculture, and the Faculty of Agricultural Technology (FATETA). The main meeting, held at the Vice Rector IV's Conference Room, served as a strategic forum to explore potential collaboration in education, research, curriculum development, and student and staff mobility programs.

Representatives from the Faculty of Vocational Studies emphasized that international collaboration plays a crucial role in enhancing the global competitiveness of vocational education. Partnerships with institutions such as POLISAS are expected to foster innovation, facilitate knowledge exchange, and strengthen the alignment between academic programs and industry needs.

Beyond formal discussions, the visit featured a series of academic and field activities. The POLISAS delegation visited the Food Science and Technology Program at FATETA, where they toured key laboratories, including the Food Microbiology and Biotechnology Laboratory, the Food Analysis and Quality Control Laboratory, and the Sensory Testing Laboratory. During the visit, the delegation received comprehensive briefings on learning facilities, research initiatives, and innovations developed by faculty members and students.

On April 4, 2026, the delegation continued their visit to the UNHAS Teaching Industry, where they observed production processes and research-based downstream products, such as chocolate and coconut oil developed by the academic community. This visit provided practical insights into how university research is translated into industry applications.
As part of cultural exchange, the Faculty of Vocational Studies also introduced traditional Makassar culinary specialties to the POLISAS delegation. This activity served as an experiential learning opportunity while promoting cross-cultural understanding within the framework of international collaboration.

Throughout the visit, both institutions discussed concrete collaboration initiatives, including inbound and outbound student exchanges, joint research projects, and the development of collaborative academic programs. Both parties expressed a strong commitment to formalizing these initiatives into sustainable partnerships that contribute to the advancement of higher education in Indonesia and Malaysia. This visit marks a significant step in expanding UNHAS's global network and reinforces the internationalization agendas of both institutions through strategic, innovative, and future-oriented collaboration.









FACULTY OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES HOSTS INTERNATIONAL GUEST LECTURE AND VOCATIONAL WORKSHOP 2026, STRENGTHENING GLOBAL COLLABORATION IN FISHERIES AND MARINE SCIENCES



The Faculty of Vocational Studies (VOKASI) at Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) successfully organised the International Guest Lecture and Vocational Workshop 2026, on 14 April 2026 bringing together global and national experts in fisheries and marine sciences. The event was held in a hybrid format at the Faculty's Scientific Meeting Hall, attracting approximately 250 participants from universities and institutions across Indonesia.

The programme was jointly hosted by the Marine Aquaculture Study Program and the Aquaculture Technology and Fisheries Post-Harvest Study Program, reflecting the Faculty's commitment to advancing applied sciences through international engagement. The event featured distinguished speakers from Dalian Ocean University, the Indonesian Digital Leadership Association, Pattimura University, and UNHAS. As keynote speaker, Zheng Peng delivered a presentation titled "Research on the Development of Standardized Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture", emphasising the critical role of standardised management systems in enhancing efficiency and sustainability within the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

The workshop also presented a diverse range of invited speakers addressing contemporary issues and innovations, including Li Bingyu who discussed marine microbial resources and their applications in aquaculture innovation, He Xin who explored early warning and forecasting technologies in shellfish aquaculture, Grace Heny Mardjianto who highlighted the role of digital leadership in shaping Indonesia's talent strategy in the era of artificial intelligence, Endang Jamal who presented research on seasonal water quality dynamics and seaweed growth in Ambon Bay, and Dian Novita Sari who shared insights on transcriptomics for aquaculture acceleration, particularly in fish nutrition studies.

The event was chaired by Dian Novita Sari and officially opened by the Dean of the VOKASI, Muh. Restu, who in his remarks underscored the importance of synergy between academia, industry, and international partners in developing adaptive and globally competitive vocational education. Participants, including students and professionals, actively engaged in discussions covering aquaculture innovation, fisheries resource management, and the integration of digital technologies in marine sectors, with the interactive sessions reflecting strong enthusiasm and highlighting the relevance of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing contemporary challenges. Through this initiative, VOKASI reaffirmed its commitment to fostering globally oriented, collaborative learning environments, with the International Guest Lecture and Vocational Workshop 2026 serving as a strategic platform to strengthen academic networks and promote the advancement of sustainable aquaculture science and technology.



THE HEAD OF THE JAPANESE CONSULAR OFFICE ATTENDS A TALKSHOW AT THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY



The Faculty of Dentistry (FKG), Hasanuddin University (UNHAS), once again presented an international academic forum through a talk show on the maritime history between Indonesia and Japan. The event, held on Saturday, 18 April 2026, at the Molar Room, carried the theme *"Rethinking Japan's Isolation: Indonesian Traces in Dejima–Batavia Maritime Trade 1641–1854."* This program was a collaborative effort between FDHU, Japan Corner UNHAS, and the Indonesian Alumni Association from Japan (Persada). Starting at 09:00 WITA, the event drew enthusiastic participation from students across various faculties including faculty of dentistry and faculty of cultural studies.

In his opening remarks, the Dean of FKG UNHAS, Irfan Sugianto, drg., M.Med.Ed., Ph.D., Sp.RKG, emphasized the importance of broadening students' perspectives through interdisciplinary studies and global historical insights. He also expressed his appreciation for the presence of the Head of the Japanese Consular Office in Makassar, Dr. Ohashi Koichi, M.P.A., as well as the keynote speaker, Meta Sekar Puji Astuti, S.S., M.A., Ph.D., who is widely recognized for her work in Japanese studies and international relations. He noted that contributions from scholars like Dr. Meta play a significant role in enriching the understanding of international dynamics. On the same occasion, Dr. Ohashi Koichi highlighted the long-standing historical ties between Japan and Indonesia. He stressed that a deep understanding of these historical roots is essential for strengthening future cooperation. The long-established bilateral relationship is expected to continue evolving into a mutually beneficial strategic partnership.

During the main session, Meta Sekar Puji Astuti revisited the concept of *sakoku*, or Japan's isolation policy, which is often narrowly interpreted as complete seclusion from the outside world. She explained that, in reality, Japan maintained limited external interactions through the port of Dejima in Nagasaki, particularly with the Dutch, who operated from Batavia under the VOC. This channel served as a crucial link for the continued exchange of goods and knowledge. Batavia, as the VOC's trading hub in the archipelago, played a significant role in distributing commodities to Japan. Products such as spices and other natural resources became part of a trade network that supported Japan's needs at the time. This indicates that Indonesia had an indirect yet important contribution to Japan's economic dynamics during that period. Interestingly, the discussion extended beyond economic and political history to include aspects of popular culture and health. The speaker connected the historical narrative to the *Shogun* series, which portrays the story of William Adams as an entry point to understanding Japan's interactions with the outside world.

Additionally, a bioarchaeological approach to Japanese culinary history was introduced to examine the impact of dietary patterns on public health, particularly oral health. The sugar trade route from Java to Japan, known as the "Sugar Road," was highlighted as having influenced changes in public health patterns, supported by various scientific findings.

The discussion was dynamic and engaging, moderated by drg. Nisrina Ekayani Nasrun, Ph.D., a doctoral graduate from Japan. The Q&A session became one of the most interactive segments, with active participation from students of both the Faculty of Dentistry and the Faculty of Cultural Sciences. The event concluded at 11:00 Central Indonesia Time in a lively academic atmosphere, underscoring the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in understanding history and its relevance to contemporary life.

