

## DEVELOPING ACADEMIC INSTITUTION: NARRATIVE INQUIRY ON PROPOSING ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

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**Abstract:** Innovation in academic environment is the urgent thing that university must be done in this era. There are many innovative strategies that can be done in academic environment. One of the strategies is proposing new department that community needs in global era. This article will discuss about innovative strategy in proposing English Department based on local wisdom and strength of university. It is kind of research article that uses Narrative Inquiry. The researcher writes narratively and academically the strategy in proposing English Department. He tries to do need analysis by using observation and unstructured interview. Based on the observation and unstructured interview, the researcher creates academic Draft, then he presented the academic draft at International Conference on Linguistics, ELT, and Literature (ICOLEL). At last, he revised the academic draft for proposing English Department as Final Draft academically. This research article be useful for institution that will develop institution academically. This kind of article can be used as a model for academician in creating innovative way at academic environment.

**Keywords** – *Academic Institution, Narrative Inquiry, English Department*

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## INTRODUCTION

An academic institution is an organization that provides formal education and conducts research in a specific field of knowledge. These institutions may offer a variety of programs, including undergraduate and graduate degree programs, vocational training, and continuing education courses. Academic institutions can be public or private and can include universities, colleges, technical schools, and research institutions. They are

typically staffed by faculty members who specialize in different areas of study and are responsible for teaching, conducting research, and mentoring students. Academic institutions play a vital role in advancing knowledge and promoting critical thinking and intellectual growth in society.

Consequently it is important for the academic institution to propose new department that the community need. Academic institutions may propose a new department for several reasons, including:

1. Meeting student demand: If students express interest in a specific area of study, an academic institution may consider creating a new department to offer courses and programs in that field.
2. Keeping up with industry trends: Academic institutions may propose new departments to keep up with emerging trends in various industries. For example, as the demand for professionals in data science and artificial intelligence grows, more institutions are creating departments dedicated to these fields.
3. Advancing research: Creating a new department can provide an opportunity for faculty members to collaborate and conduct research in a specific area of study. This can lead to new discoveries and innovations that can benefit society.
4. Enhancing the institution's reputation: Offering a unique or specialized program through a new department can attract attention and improve the institution's reputation, leading to increased enrollment and funding.
5. Responding to societal needs: Academic institutions may propose new departments to address societal needs, such as health disparities or climate change. By creating a new department, the institution can train students to become professionals who can address these pressing issues.

In general, proposing a new department allows academic institutions to expand their offerings and provide students with a wider range of educational opportunities. Additionally, creating new departments can benefit society by advancing research and addressing pressing societal needs.

This article discusses about the step in proposing new department based on academic point of view.

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## **METHOD.**

This article uses Narrative inquiry. It is a research methodology that involves gathering and analyzing personal stories and experiences. It is a qualitative research approach that focuses on the meaning and interpretation of individuals' experiences, and how they make sense of the world around them. Narrative inquiry can involve gathering stories through interviews, observations, and documents, and can include both written and spoken narratives.

Narrative inquiry seeks to understand the unique perspectives of individuals and the ways in which they construct their identities and interpret their experiences. It is often used in fields such as psychology, sociology, education, and healthcare, as it can provide insight into the lived experiences of individuals and the impact of social and cultural contexts on those experiences.

The goal of narrative inquiry is to generate a rich and detailed account of individuals' experiences, rather than to test hypotheses or generalize findings to a larger population. It is a flexible approach that allows researchers to explore complex phenomena and understand the diversity of perspectives that exist within a particular context. Overall, narrative inquiry is a valuable research methodology for understanding the subjective experiences of individuals and the meaning they ascribe to those experiences.

This research discusses about the personal experience in proposing new department, that is English Education Department. This research was done during November 2021 to December 2022.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Findings**

There are some steps that the researcher did in proposing English Department. In this case, the researcher discussed based on the historical point of view. On November 2021, the researcher started to do first step by creating academic environment for the English lecturers at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto. He started to organize the International Conference for the English Education point of view. He gathered all the English lecturers and students to have this international conference.

Based on this first program, he can see that the English lecturers have good commitment in education, especially English. He can take the conclusion because during the program all lecturers were involved actively in the international conference.

After the program, on January 12, 2022, the researcher invited all the lecturers to discuss about proposing English Department. In this case, he was allowed to invite the lecturers because he was a head of Language Center at Institut Agama Islam Mojokerto. At that time, all the lecturers agreed to propose English Department. On January 21, 2022, the researcher proposed a distinguished concept about English Department at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto. The distinguished concept was about the combination between English Department and Pesantren. He tried to combine the skill of students at Pesantren and the skill of students at English Department.

On February 2022, all the lecturers helped each other to prepare the administrative document in proposing English Department. On March 2022, the researcher and team started to upload the document in proposing English Department.

On October 2022, BAN PT via website showed that Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto was eligible to have English Department. The last, on December 15, 2022, Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto received legal document of English Education Department from Ministry of Religious, Indonesia.

## Discussions

### Datum 1:

*On November 2021, the researcher started to do first step by creating academic environment for the English lecturers at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto. He started to organize the International Conference for the English Education point of view. He gathered all the English lecturers and students to have this international conference.*

Based on the datum above, we can see that the first step that the researcher was conducting International conference. This step is really important, because it has some beneficials:

1. It can create academic environment  
Academic environment is really needed because the English lecturers will create academic environment in English.
2. It can create commitment to get the same goal  
By doing the same program, namely International Conference, it can be as a media for unify the English lecturers.
3. It can be an input knowledge in creating distinguished English education Department  
The idea found at international conference can be formulated to be distinguished English education department at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto

**Datum 2:**

*After the program, on January 12, 2022, the researcher invited all the lecturers to discuss about proposing English Department. In this case, he was allowed to invite the lecturers because he was a head of Language Center at Institut Agama Islam Mojokerto. At that time, all the lecturers agreed to propose English Department.*

Based on datum 2, the researcher tried to make commitment among the lecturers to propose English Department. The step was really important because it can make sure that all the lecturers can involve actively in proposing English Education Department.

**Datum 3**

*On January 21, 2022, the researcher proposed a distinguished concept about English Department at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto. The distinguished concept was about the combination between English Department and Pesantren. He tried to combine the skill of students at Pesantren and the skill of students at English Department.*

It is kind of academic step to create the difference of English Education Department at Institut Agama Islam Uluwiyah Mojokerto with other universities. It is like a novelty in article. Consequently, this step is really important.

**Datum 4**

*On February 2022, all the lecturers helped each other to prepared the administrative document in proposing English Department.*

Because all the lecturers have got the input knowledge from the international conference and have discussed about the distinguished concept, it means that they have the same frequency. Therefore, they helped each other.

**CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTION**

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that there were some important points in proposing English Education Department, they are:

1. All the lecturers should have input knowledge
2. All the lecturers should have good commitment
3. All the lecturers should be able find the distinguished program of new department proposed, in this case is English Education Department
4. All the lecturers should help each other

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