

Guidance and counseling in universities to support merdeka campus program

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Abstract: Humans need to improve competencies to adapt to the era of society 5.0. The inability of humans to adapt to the conditions of the times will cause problems in reducing the quality of life. To improve the quality of college graduates in society 5.0, the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia made an innovation known as the Merdeka Campus program in 2020. The Merdeka Campus Program provides opportunities for active college students to study outside the program for a maximum of three semesters. Guidance and Counseling in higher education are crucial in helping students participate in the Merdeka Campus program. This study aims to describe the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in higher education to support the Merdeka Campus program. This research uses a qualitative approach with a literature study method. The data used in this study are literature reviews related to the Merdeka campus program and the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in higher education. Data analysis techniques are data reduction, data display, and verification. The results of this study indicate that Guidance and Counseling in higher education have an essential role in helping students' readiness to participate in the Merdeka Campus program. Implementing Guidance and Counseling in higher education can support the effectiveness of the Merdeka Campus program.

Keywords: Guidance and Counseling; merdeka campus; university

Introduction

The development of the times has impacted changing the pattern of human life. As time goes by, technology is also progressing. Since the beginning of 2019, the world community has entered the era called society 5.0 (Gladden, 2019; Ellitan, 2020; Narvaez et al., 2021). The paradigm of society 5.0 has the concept of a super-intelligent society. In the era of society, 5.0 technology is not only used for business purposes but also to improve the quality of human life (Onday, 2019; Fukuda, 2020; Pereira et al., 2020). The technologies used in the era of society 5.0 are robot-based technology, artificial intelligence, and the internet of things (Holdroyd, 2022). This condition can reduce the quality of life if humans living in the era of society 5.0 cannot adapt to the conditions of the times (Nair et al., 2021; Konno & Schillaci, 2021).

Ideally, a country's education system should direct students to adapt to the era of society 5.0. Students who will be prepared to become graduates who can adapt to the life of the society 5.0 era need to be equipped with mastery of hard skills, such as digital basics, knowledge of data, and foreign languages. Students need to be equipped with mastery of soft skills, such as logical and creative problem-solving skills, analytical skills, fast learners, decision-makers, and stress resistance (Carrayannis & Morawska, 2022; Zengin et al., 2021). In creating quality college graduates in the era of society 5.0, Guidance and Counseling in Higher Education are needed. Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions have an essential and strategic role in helping students to achieve academic, career, and social success. Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions also have an essential role in the future of the learning process in tertiary institutions, especially in supporting the curriculum and programs provided by tertiary institutions. Psychological disorders and student problems in learning in tertiary institutions can be assisted by Guidance and Counseling services.

The effort made by the government of the Republic of Indonesia through the Ministry of Education and Culture to improve the quality of university graduates is to create a

Merdeka Campus program. The Merdeka Belajar-Merdeka Campus (MBKM) guidebook published by the Ministry of Education and Culture (2020) explains that the Merdeka Campus program aims to improve student competence. This MBKM goal encourages universities to produce graduates who can adapt to the era of society 5.0.

Implementing the Merdeka Campus program needs full support from various parties, especially universities, so the MBKM program can achieve its stated goals. Guidance and Counseling is an educational and psychological service in tertiary institutions that aims to help students succeed personally, academically, and in their careers (Prayitno & Amti, 2008). Guidance and Counseling have an essential role in supporting the Merdeka Campus program. Students can participate in Merdeka Campus programs in tertiary institutions, but they must choose the programs according to their potential. The implementation of "Guidance and Counseling services" in higher education can be done by implementing an assessment of students before participating in the Merdeka Campus program. The results of this assessment will be adjusted to the "Merdeka Campus program" provided. The result of the implementation of Guidance and Counseling services in supporting the Merdeka Campus program is that students can follow according to their potential. Previous research conducted by Ratnasari et al (2021) found that there is a role for the Guidance and Counseling strategy in supporting the Free Learning-Merdeka Campus (MBKM) curriculum. The role of the Guidance and Counseling strategy especially has implications for study placements according to student potential and student career planning.

Only a little literature has examined the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions to support the Merdeka Campus program. Previous research has yet to explain the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in universities in supporting the Merdeka Campus program. Previous research conducted by Alamsyah & Bashori (2021) describes the career opportunities and challenges of the Islamic Education Guidance and Counseling study program in the era of a Merdeka campus. Furthermore, the research conducted by Rachman et al. (2022) describes the implementation of the Merdeka Campus program in the Guidance and Counseling Program; this is why writing on Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions in supporting the Merdeka Campus program is urgently studied.

Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions do not only serve mental health problems experienced by students. In general, Guidance and Counseling are the assistance the counselor provides to the client so that the client can live daily life effectively (Prayitno & Amti, 2008). One of the indicators that a person can live daily life effectively is making decisions wisely and precisely; this is also related to the preparation of students to participate in the Merdeka Campus program. Students must be wise in deciding to participate in the Merdeka Campus program. Implementing Guidance and Counseling in universities can help students participating in the Merdeka Campus program. One effort can be made to help students choose the right learning program and place to study outside the program to improve their self-competence through their talents, interests, ideals, and passions.

Method

This research uses a qualitative approach with a literature study method. Literature study is research on values, norms, and a social situation by utilizing literature. This research is carried out by tracing literature relevant to the phenomena and problems studied, so that accurate information can be found to describe the problem, describe theoretical concepts, and provide solutions to problems (Creswell, 2014). This study aims to describe the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in universities to support the Merdeka Campus program. The data used in this study are literature related to the implementation of Guidance and Counseling in higher education and literature related to implementing the Merdeka

Campus program in higher education. Regulations related to the conditions of "era society 5.0" and the strategic role of Guidance and Counseling in higher education must be analyzed in this study.

Furthermore, this literature study was supported by national and international scientific articles, books, and research reports. The data analysis technique used in this study refers to the qualitative data analysis formulated by Milles et al. (2014) data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. The central literature used in conducting this literature study is a copy of the document of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 3 of 2020 concerning National Higher Education Standards. The table below shows the important literature in this research.

Table 1. Main Literature in Research

No	Type of Literature	Author	Title	Year	Publisher/Journal Name
1	Article Journal	Hinnes & Fallace	Pedagogical Progressivism and Black Education: A Historiographical Review	2022	Review of Educational Research
2	Article Journal	Kivlighan et al	The Role of Mental Health Counseling in College Students' Academic Success: An Interrupted Time Series Analysis	2021	Journal of Counseling Psychology
3	Article Journal	Nanggalaupi & Suryadi	Merdeka Campus dalam Perspektif Pemikiran Ki Hajar Dewantara dan Paulo Freire serta Perdebatan Pemikiran Aliran Filsafat Pendidikan John Dewey Vs Robert M. Hutchins	2021	JISIP (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan)
4	Article Journal	Alamsyah & Bashori	Peluang dan Tantangan Pengembangan Karir Era Merdeka Campus	2021	JBKPI: Jurnal Bimbingan dan Konseling Pendidikan Islam
5	Guidebook	Direktorat Jenderal Pendidikan Tinggi	Buku Panduan Merdeka Campus-Merdeka Belajar (MBKM)	2020	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia
6	Copy of regulatory document	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia	National Higher Education Standards	2020	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia

7	Book	Prayitno & Amti	Dasar-dasar Bimbingan dan Konseling	2008	Rineka Cipta
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Results and Discussion

Merdeka Campus Program in Universities

Observing the conditions of the society 5.0 era, the Minister of Education and Culture innovated to improve the quality of Indonesian education, especially in universities. One of these innovations is the Merdeka Campus program. The Merdeka Campus program is by the mandate of Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Number 3 of 2020 Article 18. The regulation explains that students are allowed to take part in learning outside the study program with the same study program. The opportunity is given for one semester or the equivalent of 20-semester credit units (SKS) and a maximum of two semesters or the equivalent of 40 SKS to study in the same study program in different universities and study in different study programs in different universities. The requirements that must be met by students participating in the Merdeka Campus program are from an accredited study program and are registered with Pangkalan Data Pendidikan Tinggi (PDDikti).

Referring to the Merdeka Belajar-Merdeka Campus guidebook (2020). Students can participate in eight learning activities: internships/work practices; student exchanges; teaching assistance in academic units; humanitarian projects; research; entrepreneurial activities; independent studies/projects; and building actual thematic work villages/campuses. Students can participate in these Merdeka Campus programs to increase competence and broaden their horizons to become college graduates who can adapt to the times.

The Merdeka Campus program comes from the thoughts of Ki Hajar Dewantara and Paulo Freire, who emphasize that education is basically to liberate students to develop themselves optimally (Nanggalaupi & Suryadi, 2021). In addition, the principle of the Merdeka Campus program also comes from the educational philosophy of humanism and the educational philosophy of progressivism. The philosophy of humanism in education allows students to choose what things to learn and how to learn them. (Casalini, 2021; Ueda, 2021; Popovych et al., 2021).); this is implemented in the Merdeka Campus program. College students in the Merdeka campus program can choose learning activities outside their study program according to their talents, interests, ideals, and passions. The "Merdeka Campus" program also comes from the philosophy of progressivism which emphasizes that the educational process leads to the current situation and aims to prepare students to adapt according to the conditions of the times (Hines & Fallace, 2022). College students can participate in the Merdeka Campus program to increase competence and broaden their horizons so that, in the future, they can become qualified graduates and adapt to the conditions of the times. The literature used in this section can be seen in the following table.

Table 2. Literature discussion of the Merdeka Campus Program in universities

No	Type of Literature	Author	Title	Year	Publisher/Journal Name
1	Copy of regulatory document	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia	National Higher Education Standards	2020	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia
2	Guidebook	Direktorat	Buku Panduan	2020	Ministry of

		Jenderal Pendidikan Tinggi	Merdeka Kampus- Merdeka Belajar (MBKM)		Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia
3	Article Journal	Nanggalaupi & Suryadi	Merdeka Kampus dalam Perspektif Pemikiran Ki Hajar Dewantara dan Paulo Freire serta Perdebatan Pemikiran Aliran Filsafat Pendidikan John Dewey Vs Robert M. Hutchins	2021	JISIP (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan)
4	Article Journal	Casalini	Renaissance Humanism and Formative Education: A Philosophy of Education Deeply Rooted in History. Educazione	2021	Giornale Di Pedagogia Critica
5	Article Journal	Hinnes & Fallace	Pedagogical Progressivism and Black Education: A Historiographical Review	2022	Review of Educational Research

Guidance and Counseling in Universities

Guidance and Counseling can be implemented in schools, communities, industrial and organizational environments, and universities (Prayitno & Amti, 2008; Hicks et al., 2021; Kivlighan et al., 2021). Especially in universities, Guidance and Counseling are carried out by the Unit Pelaksana Teknis (UPT) Bimbingan dan Konseling in universities or the like. In the Unit Pelaksana Teknis (UPT) Bimbingan dan Konseling in universities, some counselors will provide professional Guidance and Counseling services to students to meet their needs and overcome their academic and non-academic problems.

College students can obtain Guidance and Counseling services by registering with the UPT Bimbingan dan Konseling in universities. Students will obtain forms and services that suit their needs and problems (Winkel & Sri, 2004; Prayitno & Amti, 2008). In addition, academic advisory lecturers, study program heads, deans, and other related parties can transfer students who need guidance and counseling services to UPT Bimbingan dan Konseling to get further services.

Table 2. Literature Discussion of Guidance and Counseling in Universities

No	Type of Literature	Author	Title	Year	Publisher/Journal Name
1	Book	Prayitno & Amti	Dasar-dasar Bimbingan dan Konseling	2008	Rineka Cipta
2	Article Journal	Hicks et al	Dietary and Behavior Changes Following	2021	Work Journal

3	Book	Winkel & Sri	RDN-led Corporate Wellness Counseling: A Secondary Analysis Bimbingan dan Konseling di Institusi Pendidikan	2004	Media Abadi
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Analysis of the Implementation of Guidance and Counseling in Supporting the Merdeka Campus Program

Students need to prepare themselves before participating in the Merdeka Campus program. The lack of preparation for students participating in the Merdeka Campus program will cause problems and difficulties for students. Students become constrained to undergo the Merdeka Campus program they participate in; even programs that should be able to increase competence and insight do not cause benefits for students. Guidance and Counseling in universities play a crucial role in helping students prepare to participate in the Merdeka Campus program.

College counselors can assess students before participating in the Merdeka Campus program. Assessments carried out by counselors on students who will take part in the Merdeka Campus program are implemented in placement and distribution services. Placement and channeling services in Guidance and Counseling strive for counselees to obtain appropriate placement and channeling in study groups, training programs, learning programs, internships, and curricular activities (Firdausi, 2021). The application of placement and channeling services can provide an overview to students about learning programs and the right place to study to take part in the Merdeka campus program. Merdeka Campus programs that students can participate in outside the study program must be adjusted to the potential possessed by students.

The application of guidance and counseling services helps students make wise decisions in meeting their needs and problems (Milot et al., 2018). Individuals who receive guidance and counseling services also have the potential to make decisions in choosing the Merdeka Campus program to be followed independently. Counselors can help students choose the learning program and the place to study. Through Guidance and Counseling services, students will be ready to participate in Merdeka Campus learning programs that follow their talents, interests, aspirations, and passions. Utilizing the potential within individuals makes the Merdeka Campus program more effective so that the program results can improve student competence and insight to become superior Indonesian human resources.

The novelty of this research is new literature examining the role of the Guidance and Counseling strategy in tertiary institutions supporting the Merdeka Campus program. So far, more literature still needs to be explaining the urgency of Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions in supporting the Merdeka Campus program. This study's findings describe the role of the Guidance and Counseling strategy in tertiary institutions in supporting the Merdeka Campus program. Determining the choices made by the Merdeka Campus program, students must consider what program to choose. Participating in guidance and counseling services in higher education can help students choose the right type of "Campus Merdeka program" according to their potential.

Conclusions and Suggestions

The Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia has made innovations in the Indonesian education system since 2020 for universities known as the Merdeka campus program. The Merdeka Campus program provides an opportunity for students who are actively enrolled in universities to study outside the study program for a

minimum of one semester and a maximum of three semesters. The purpose of the Merdeka Campus program is for students to increase competence and insight so that in the future, they can become college graduates who can adapt to changing times, especially in the current era of society 5.0.

Guidance and Counseling in tertiary institutions have a central role in supporting the Merdeka Campus program. Students who will participate in the Merdeka Campus program must be prepared and able to choose the Merdeka Campus learning program they will follow. College counselors can assess students who will participate in the Merdeka Campus program so that students can find out the Merdeka Campus learning program and places to study outside the program according to their talents and interests, goals, and passions. Counselors can help students decide how to choose the Merdeka Campus learning program they will take. The guidance provided by the counselor will support the effective implementation of the Merdeka Campus program in higher education.

Suggestions for further research are to develop a model of Guidance and Counseling services in tertiary institutions in support of the Merdeka Campus program. In addition, subsequent research can develop an instrument for assessing student self-placement in choosing a Merdeka Campus program. This student placement assessment instrument is adapted to the types of Merdeka Campus programs and student self-potential.

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