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# Workshop on the Writing of Scientific Articles and Grant Proposals for Lecturers to Increase Opportunities for Research Funding and the Publication of Scientific Work

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**Abstract**

A workshop was conducted on research grant proposals and community service to enhance the quality of research and publications by lecturers at Universitas Muhammadiyah Banjarmasin. The primary objective of this workshop is to provide novice lecturers with the opportunity to acquire grants and increase the number of national and international publications. Service Learning is implemented in this workshop through both online and offline workshops. During the offline workshop, participants were provided with explanations regarding strategies for obtaining research and community service grants. Online participants received assistance in the composition of reputable journal articles, which included the following steps: writing according to templates, submitting, and revising. Twenty individuals participated in this workshop. The workshop conclusion is the impact and benefits for lecturers at Universitas Muhammadiyah Banjarmasin, specifically the enhanced skill of all participants in the composition of journal articles and grant proposals. The results showed that five participants completed the standard NLR grant, and one completed the community service grant organized by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Research, and Technology (DGHERT).

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## INTRODUCTION

Universitas Muhammadiyah Banjarmasin (UMB) is a private institution founded in December 2015. UMB, a comparatively young college, has a wealth of resources, particularly lecturers who are primarily young and hold expert assistant functional positions. The opportunities for obtaining DGHERT grants in the form of research grants and community service are vast. Concurrently, lecturers have a significant opportunity to participate in international journals that Scopus and Sinta index by submitting scientific publications to national and international journals.

UMB is dedicated to the professional development of its lecturers and places a high value on their competence. It is imperative to cultivate a culture of writing and research in the field of research to enable lecturers to complete their critical ideas through competitive

grants and funding (Blegur & Tlonaen, 2022). On March 22, 2024, workshop activities were conducted on Campus 1, Jalan S. Parman, Banjarmasin Islamic Hospital Complex, to motivate and encourage lecturers in UMB. These activities included assistance in the preparation of research and community service grant proposals. The primary objective of this activity is to reach 74 individuals who are youthful lecturers or novice lecturers and hold the functional position of expert assistant. In the field of publications, UMB's Sinta score has been in the range of sixteen thousand for the past three years, and the average Sinta score of lecturers remains in the hundreds. Only two of the total lecturers have a Sinta score exceeding one thousand. It is anticipated that the number of publications and Sinta scores will increase due to the increased number of lecturers receiving external grant funding in the long term. Therefore, augmenting the number of publications and Sinta scores of UMB lecturers remains imperative. Sinta UMB data for 2015-2024 can be seen in the following Figure 1.

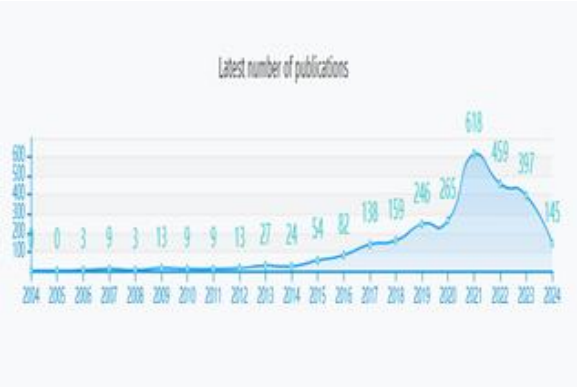


Figure 1 Number of sinta publications UMB
Source: data of Sinta

The data on the quantity of scientific publications of UMB lecturers from 2015-2021 has increased, as evidenced by Figure 1. Nevertheless, there was a substantial decline from 2021 to 2024. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decrease in publications was precipitated by a lack of motivation and support from various relevant stakeholders. In response to this issue, LPPM UMB conducted a workshop.

Lecturers play a critical role in the advancement of science and technology. One method lecturers can contribute is by authoring journal articles on research findings, which is one of the Tridharma obligations of lecturers (Fariastuti et al., 2023). In order to advance the discipline of science being pursued, quality journal articles can assist in disseminating the results of research and the thoughts of lecturers to a broader audience. Key Performance Indicator 5 (KPI 5) indicates that a university's evaluation is determined by the quantity of research and community service outputs (Tinggi, 2020). The criteria for scientific output must be globally indexed, such as Scopus and Sinta.

Lecturers are also required to compose scientific journals (Rafiek et al., 2022). Writing skills are a person's capacity to articulate ideas and concepts in writing. Lecturers must comprehensively understand written language to ensure that the information they convey is comprehensible and readily absorbed (Hamidah et al., 2020). The article's language and the writing format's appropriateness are critical considerations when lecturers require journal articles as a form of research and community service output.

The significance of the grant proposal writing workshop is rooted in the fact that not all lecturers possess the capacity to compose proposals. Concurrently, the composition of scientific articles for lecturers at UMB is predicated on the fact that not all lecturers possess the requisite skills to compose scientific articles in accordance with the standards of

accredited national and reputable international journals. Lecturers must comprehend the fundamental distinctions between academic writing and grant writing (Glowacki et al., 2020).

Furthermore, not all lecturers have submitted grant proposals via the Bima Kemendikbudristek page. Concurrently, not all lecturers have submitted articles through journal pages (Rafiek et al., 2022; Rafiek & Noortyani, 2023). This serves as the foundation for the significance of this workshop. There is an apprehension that the quality of writing by lecturers in submitting grant proposals and journal articles will be subpar if this workshop is not conducted. The lecturers' failure to adhere to the relevant writing regulations is the cause of the low quality of their writing.

Workshops on grant proposal writing were conducted previously by Murni et al. (2021) and Khamdevi (2022). Murni et al. (2021) have provided a workshop on the creation of research proposals to secure grants and how to register for Sinta and Google Scholar and create citations using the Mendeley application. The service results did not specify the number of individuals who received research and community service grants from the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Research (Murni et al., 2021). Khamdevi (2022) has conducted a workshop on preparing proposals for Novice Lecturer Research grants (NLR). Nevertheless, Khamdevi (2022) did not comprehensively explain the workshop results.

## METHODS

Service learning (SL) is implemented through online and offline workshops in this workshop. SL has the potential to enhance pedagogical practices in higher education institutions worldwide (Abenir & Ka, 2020). The SL experience can potentially enhance participants' attitudes and values towards the individuals they serve (Conner & Erickson, 2017).

Participants were provided with explanations regarding the strategies for obtaining research and community service grants during offline activities. The process of composing reputable journal articles was facilitated for online participants and included the following steps: writing based on templates, composing citations and bibliographies using Mendeley, submitting, and revising. Twenty individuals participated. The offline implementation occurred through a Zoom meeting on March 22, 2024, at Chalik Dahlan Hall, Jalan S. Parman Banjarmasin, and on April 25, 2024. The success indicator of this activity is the ability of novice lecturers who have never received a grant to complete the regular NLR grant in 2024, particularly those with expert assistant functional titles. The number of regular NLR grantees is used to evaluate the program's efficacy. The service framework for community service is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2 Service framework

Two lecturers in the online workshop received intensive support in composing journal articles from submission until approval. The team also provided support in developing revisions in accordance with the findings of the reviews and the feedback provided by the

intended journal reviewers. Lecturers who compose articles were instructed to adhere to the format or template appropriate for the destination journal. In addition, authors were instructed to extend reference journal articles, particularly those from accredited journals.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The workshop results are that five participants successfully completed the novice lecturer research grant, and one individual completed the community service grant organized by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Research, and Technology (DGHERT). Two participants obtained LOAs for publications in SINTA 4-indexed journals. Both grant schemes required outputs in the form of journal articles published in indexed periodicals of at least Sinta 6. The following Figure 3 illustrates that UMB's score remains significantly low, as indicated by the Ministry of Education and Culture's Sinta data in 2024.

| Score in Research | | | Score Cluster (2020 - 2022) Source By Sinta | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Code | Name | Weight | Value | Total |
| R1 | JUMLAH PENELITIAN HIBAH LUAR NEGERI | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| R2 | JUMLAH PENELITIAN HIBAH EKSTERNAL | 50 | 25 | 1.250 |
| R3 | JUMLAH PENELITIAN INTERNAL INSTITUSI | 40 | 54 | 2.160 |
| R4 | JUMLAH RUPIAH PENELITIAN (JUTA RUPIAH) | 0,05 | 696,18 | 34,809 |
| *Total Score Research* | | | | 3.444,81 |
| *Total Score Research Ternormal* | | | | 0,61 |
| *Total Score Research Ternormal (15%)* | | | | 0,09 |

Figure 3 Score in research
Source: data of SINTA

The workshop commenced with an explanation of the research grant programs offered by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Research, and Technology (DGHERT). Research funding schemes encompass fundamental research, applied research, and foreign cooperation in 2024. Community-based empowerment (CBE), entrepreneurship-based empowerment (EBE), and area-based empowerment (ABE) are schemes that are included in community service programs (Puspaputri et al., 2024). Based on the DRTPM guidance, there are five research priorities: green economy, blue economy, digital economy, tourism, and health independence.

Lecturers at UMB have significant opportunities and possibilities to complete the novice lecturer research grant scheme (NLR) in accordance with the current schemes. A few lecturers expressed interest in attempting to submit a proposal. Participants enthusiastically engaged in the discussion session and inquired about the process of uploading proposals to BIMA Kemendikbudristek, as illustrated in Figure 4.

Figure 4 Material explanation about research grant proposal writing

The speakers also offered strategies for securing the grant, including the creation of a concise and captivating title, the adherence to the available format or template in the proposal, and the inclusion of mandatory outcomes in the form of Sinta-indexed journal articles (preferably between 1-4) or Scopus-indexed journals. The speaker also underscored the importance of adhering to the limit established by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Research, and Technology (DGHERT) concerning the number of proposal characters. The writer should read an example of a model proposal that has already received NLR grant funding and have the proposal reviewed by peers who have experience passing routine NLR grants before sending it. Additionally, several other critical factors must be taken into account. This activity is illustrated in Figure 5.

Figure 5 Question-and-answer session

Lecturers must also be vigilant regarding the proposed budget plan (PBP) to avoid exceeding the designated limit and composing proposals. The standard input costs of Permen Number 049 of 2023 and the standard output costs of Permen Number 113 of 2023 are used by lecturers to compile a budget as reference material. For instance, the standard cost of meal consumption per person per time in the South Kalimantan region is a maximum of fifty-one thousand rupiahs, while the maximum limit for refreshments is seventeen thousand rupiahs (Kementerian Keuangan, 2023).

During the second session, participants were provided with strategies and advice for obtaining community service grants. The community service grant scheme has been effectively completed by only one individual at UMB thus far, as the selection process is more rigorous than that of the novice lecturer grant. Lecturers who had previously received community service grants delivered the material directly. The speaker underscored the importance of community service activities' outcomes through community service journal articles that Scopus or Sinta indexes. The higher the index of the intended journal is, the better the quality of the outputs is. Two lecturers were successfully accepted to publish their articles in Sinta 4-indexed journals due to the article writing assistance.

Figure 6 Photos with participants

The assistance in the composition of journal articles as the mandatory output of research and community service grants is provided through online Zoom meetings. This mentoring

activity was conducted twice, specifically in April and August. The initial activity involved training on selecting indexed journals, examining writing formats, submitting procedures, and reviewing in OJS if revisions are required. Various writing strategies are required to enhance the quality of scientific articles (Sudirman et al., 2023). The second stage of the online session provided a more comprehensive discussion of the strategies for writing scientific journals. Figure 7 illustrates the initial session.

Figure 7 Online assistance

This service yielded two participants who completed the novice lecturer research grant and one individual who completed the community service grant administered by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology (MECRT). This indicates that the workshop was effectively executed.

## CONCLUSION

This workshop activity is highly beneficial for lecturers at Universitas Muhammadiyah Banjarmasin to enhance their capacity to compose journal articles and grant proposals. By participating in this workshop, lecturers can enhance the quality of their research and community service and increase the number of their publications in national and international journals. Lecturers who have completed the research and community service grants funded by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Research, and Technology (DGHERT) serve as evidence of their success.

This workshop benefits UMB lecturers by enhancing their capacity to compose scientific articles and grant proposals. Therefore, it must be scheduled at the beginning of each year prior to the submission of a grant proposal.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

JH and HA designed and prepared a training on grant proposal writing and scientific article writing for lecturers. JH conducted face-to-face training, and MR provided online article writing assistance. HA carried out monitoring and evaluation. JH and MR prepared and published the report.

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