

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **A. The Nature Interest**

##### **1. Definition of Interest**

Interest is a feeling towards something that creates a strong desire and encouragement to do it. According to Slameto (2010: 180), interest is a feeling of preference and appreciation of attachment to something or activity, without anyone ordering it. Interest is acceptance so that a relationship between oneself and something outside oneself can be in the form of people, objects, situations, activities, and another. This attraction can increase significantly if the relationship gets stronger and closer. In English, interest is often described using the term "interest" which means a feeling of wanting to pay attention and wonder about something, or "passion" which means passion or a strong sense or enthusiasm for an object (Sefrina, 2013: 27). According to Reber (1988) in Syah, (2008: 151) states that interest is not a well-known word in psychology because of its heavy dependence on other internal factors, such as concentration of attention, curiosity, motivation, and needs. However, interest for understood and used by people so far can affect the quality of one's achievements. According to Ahmadi and Supriyono (1991:79), the absence of a student's interest in a lesson can cause difficulties because there has never been a process in the brain. According to Hapudin (2021: 27), states that the interest that grows in students can encourage and move them to do something to achieve their goals.

According to Rahmat (2018:161), interest is a situation when someone pays attention to something accompanied by a desire to know, own, learn and prove. With someone's desire, it certainly increases their attention to something. Interest can continue to develop through a process that is experienced by a person. A person's interest can arise and increase his interest in a particular object or phenomenon, especially those that can

provide benefits for his own development. According to Winkel 2004 in Utami and Kusumawati (2017: 31), interest can be interpreted as an interest that comes from within each individual for through period of time in a matter or field of study or a particular subject and when learning about it creates feelings of joy.

According to Djamarah (2011: 150), interest is the awareness of each individual that an object (object or living thing), a problem or a situation with which he is attached. Interest is a psychological tendency that likes an object, not yet carrying out activities. Interest is a psychological potential that can be used to explore motivation. In general, according to Wexley and Yukl (1997) in Thahir (2021:40), motivation is an attempt to create a motive in someone for something, it can also be interpreted as a thing or situation that becomes a motive or desire in a person. Therefore, interest in each individual can vary even though they are in the same environment (Selrina, 2013:28).

## **2. Types of Interest**

According to Guilford (1956) in Nastiti and Laili (2020) explains the types of interest, as follows:

- a. Vocational interests related to fields of work, including:
  - 1) Professional Interest is an interest that is owned by someone in the field of science, the arts or fields related to the sector of social welfare.
  - 2) Commercial Interest, is an interest possessed by someone in the field of business (entrepreneurship), the sector of work dealing with buying and selling, work in the advertising sector, work related to accounting or secretarial fields, and etc.
  - 3) The interest one has in fields related to physical, mechanical, outdoor activities, and etc.
- b. Vocational interest is the desire to gain self-satisfaction by doing activities according to hobbies, for example someone feels satisfied when he returns from an adventure in the wild, someone feels happy when he can be entertained in a difficult situation that is being experienced,

someone feels valued when he gets praise or appreciation from work what he has done that requires high precision and etc.

### **3. Characteristics of Interest**

According to Slameto (2003) in the Directorate of Vocational Development of the General Directorate of Basic Education, Ministry of Education and Culture (2006: 8), the following are the characteristics of the interests that exist in each individual:

- a. At birth, a person is not interested in anything. However, the interest that arises in a person is the result of the formation of various factors in his environment. That is, when an individual is born, he does not bring or take an interest in his environment. As they develop, individual find many things that might interest them.
- b. Interest can be expressed in words that show that someone prefers something over another. That is, if someone is interested in a particular field or problem, they can express their interest in words about a particular subject that they are more passionate about.
- c. Someone interested in a certain thing, makes it happen through an activity, or participates in an activity or activities according to his interests.
- d. Interest has a motivational and feeling aspect. Every individual who has an interest in a certain thing certainly tends to be able to give greater attention to the thing he is interested in.

## **B. Merdeka Belajar-Kampus Merdeka (MBKM)**

### **1. Definition of Independent Campus**

Independent Campus is a program designed by the Minister of Education and Culture and is part of the Independent learning program. The Independent Campus is part of the Independent learning program. Independent learning in Campus is freedom and autonomy for educational institutions (Widyastuti, 2022:173). Educational institutions are given freedom and convenience in various bureaucratization. Thus, educational

institutions can focus on producing more qualified and competent human resources.

Independent learning focuses on students or students, in this case students are the center. Educators as facilitators not teachers because, the main focus to be developed is humans as human subjects. Humans experience development every time so that humans try to develop themselves by doing positive things. Efforts made to build themselves up with positive things can be a potential for educators to focus their learning on developing these positive abilities (Hapudin, 2021: 147). Humanizing humans with all their potential is the goal so that humans can achieve self-actualization, understanding self and self-realization and the optimal learning person. Rogers in Hapudin (2021: 155), says that there are four important things in the learning process that humanize humans, including:

- a. Motivation to study. The motivation to learn is due to human curiosity about the world around them.
- b. Learning is meaningful. Someone who does an activity will always have considerations in deciding whether the activity he is doing is meaningful or not.
- c. Learn without threats; learning without punishment, students will be free to experiment until they find something new for themselves.
- d. Study for a change. Because the world continues to change, progress and develop, students must learn to deal with changing situations and conditions.

The independent Campus program is part of the independent learning program which has been designed since 2020 and began with changes at the elementary to high school levels. The independent campus Program wants to realize one of the visions and missions of President Joko Widodo in developing and improving the quality of human resources for the progress of the nation. It is hoped that with this program, various tertiary institutions in Indonesia will be able to produce human resources who are ready to face

social, cultural, and dynamic changes in the world of work and can compete according to the needs of the times.

## **2. Purpose of MBKM**

The independent campus program was created due to the increasing need for human resources at the time. The purpose of implementing the independent campus program is to produce quality human resources. Through this program, students are expected to be able to implement the knowledge they have acquired. According to Nadiem Makarim, the goal of an independent campus is to improve the ability of graduates, both soft skills and hard skills, so that they are more prepared and relevant to the needs of the times, preparing graduates to become future leaders of the nation who are superior and have personality.

The goal is that the theory that has been obtained while studying on campus can be implemented in real action in the eight programs that have been designed. According to Widyastuti (2022: 175), not just theory, but the theory that is contextualized in the real world, real soft skill competencies for these people that cannot be trained in the campus environment. The independent campus Program recognizes that students are expected to take part in one of the eight programs that have been designed according to their talents, interests, and abilities.

Based on the explanation above, the MBKM program aims to expand networks and learning experiences outside study programs and tertiary institutions, opportunities to learn directly from competent actors in their fields to gain knowledge and apply skills in the world of work, the work environment, or society.

## **3. Benefit of Independent Campus**

The benefits of the independent campus currently, the Independent Campus Certified Internship program (MSIB) implemented by the Ministry of Education and Culture and Research and Technology is currently being intensified by every campus throughout Indonesia. The benefit of the MBKM program is that working directly at a company as an apprentice will

provide learning experiences both in terms of technical and non-technical abilities. Providing professional relationships or networks is one of the supporting factors for career success. By expanding relationships or networking, the more information and opportunities you will get. Through networking, you can find connections in the industry you want, make your CV more attractive, and training to manage your time as much as possible. Good time management will affect performance and productivity at work and assist in meeting assigned task deadlines so that they will be more accustomed to adapting to the work environment.

#### **4. The Policy of Independent Campus**

In general, according to Widyastuti (2022: 175), there are four policies from the Independent Campus program, including:

- a. Freedom to open new study programs (prodi) and free campus partnerships with third parties that are world class.
- b. Relieve of re-accreditation has been so complicated and took the time of lecturers and rectors that they don't focus on their students.
- c. Ease for State Universities (PTN) to upgrade to become PTN legal entities (BH) therefore that they have the flexibility to collaborate.
- d. Efforts to free student credits, namely three out of eight semesters, are taken from outside the Study Program, including through internships, research and community service.

The new policy of the independent campus program in the scope of ease of opening new study programs aims to give autonomy to higher education institutions to develop science according to current needs. In the process of re-accreditation, the independent campus program provides convenience. Thus lecturers can focus on the obligation to educate and assist students in learning. Other comfort objective to develop each tertiary institution along with its various faculties and study programs so that an Independent campus is created that is truly liberating.

## **5. Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) program**

Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) Program is a new policy issued by the Minister of Education and Culture, namely Nadiem Makarim. The background of this policy is realizing that the times are increasingly rapid and technological sophistication cannot be allowed to go unpunished. The COVID-19 pandemic has required all teaching and learning activities to switch to distance knowledge that has an impact on the development of education in Indonesia to further develop learning activities that were previously only centered in the classroom into learning that can be done anywhere by utilizing technological sophistication.

Basically, this program aims to provide opportunities for every student to develop their potential by participating in various programs outside the study program they have chosen. Prof. Dr. S. Nasution. M.A. in Moh. Yamin (2012:14), said that the future of the nation lies in the creative hands of the younger generation. With the programs in the independent learning independent campus, it is hoped that it can increase the creativity of the younger generation in building the Indonesian nation. The creativity of the younger generation can be channeled through the knowledge they already have during the learning process in class which is then implemented in the community.

In addition, this policy aims to improve the quality of human resources in Indonesia. The hope is that after graduating and becoming a scholar, every graduate is ready to work armed with the knowledge they have and the potential that has been developed outside of the chosen study program. The following are the programs offered in the independent learning independent campus curriculum:

- a. Internship or Industrial Practice is a program that can be followed by any student who has a desire or interest in matters related to industry. This activity is carried out in a company, non-profit foundation, multilateral organization, government institution or start-up company. Of course, this

activity needs to be guided by a lecturer or teacher. Thus internship activities can have an impact on students who choose this program.

- b. The Village Project is one of the programs in this new policy because we know that in Indonesia there are still many villages that have not developed properly. The government through the Ministry of Rural Affairs and Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration (PDRT) disbursed village funds of 1 billion per village to a total of 78 thousand villages in Indonesia (Freedom Learning Guide Pocket Book 3, 2020:23) these large funds have not been used optimally for community careers villages that lack understanding regarding development planning capabilities. Thus, the project in the village went wrong. One program with the aim of students who choose this program can help villages in Indonesia to develop more. The presence of students for six to twelve months is of course to have an impact on villages that are still lagging behind. In general, the presence of students to develop villages can be done by assisting village communities in planning programs needed by each village. Activities that can provide information to village communities in order to build villages and students monitor and evaluate activities that have been carried out or are ongoing. Students in carrying out this project are of course accompanied by lecturers who already have expertise in the field concerned.
- c. Student exchanges are carried out by taking classes or semesters at foreign and domestic universities. In addition, grades and credits are taken at foreign universities to be equalized by each university. This program wants to provide opportunities for students to develop soft skills and hard skills at other universities.
- d. Research or Research is a program that wants to provide opportunities for students who have an interest in the field of research. This program wants to emphasize or invite students to develop critical thinking through research or research. This activity is one of the programs, because in general, in Indonesia there is still a shortage of researchers who develop



something that will have an impact on society. So this activity is an opportunity to acquire new and qualified human resources. This activity is short-term, which is around 1 semester-1 year. In addition, this program is also supervised by teachers or lecturers in accordance with their fields and various related parties such as laboratories or other research institutions.

- e. Entrepreneurship is a program that can have an impact on Indonesia's economic development. This is based on the Global Entrepreneurship Index (GEI), (2018) states that the percentage of entrepreneurs in Indonesia is only 21% or is ranked 94th out of 137 countries surveyed. In addition, according to *riset IDN Research Institute* (2019) states that 69.1% of millennial in Indonesia have an interest in entrepreneurship. Based on the survey, the Minister of Education and Culture wants to develop entrepreneurial abilities, especially the millennial generation, who are currently students. This activity is of course still supervised by lecturers and teachers and related institutions. The main objective of this program is to deal with the problem of resulting unemployment and intellectual unemployment. This means that unemployment comes from undergraduates. In this program, students are expected to be able to carry out their entrepreneurial projects under the supervision of lecturers or instructors in accordance with their fields. Students are also assessed with various aspects of assessment in order to achieve graduate achievements from projects that are being carried out. Of course, this program will also be equated with the credits earned by students. Thus, this program is not burdensome for students and students feel helped by this program because they can hone their skills directly.
- f. Independent Study or Project is a program that wants to assist students in realizing the dream of great work. This means that this program wants to invite students who have innovative interests or ideas so that they can be realized nationally and internationally. This program can also be done with other students by taking a particular social topic. So universities

have a responsibility to assist their students who take this program. Some of the responsibilities that universities are required to give to students include: providing supervisors in accordance with the field of projects proposed by students as well as conducting ongoing guidance, facilitating the formation of project implementation groups or teams consisting of various students across study programs and across faculties and organizing evaluation and assessment that have been equated according to the applicable credits.

- g. The Humanitarian Project is a program in this policy. In the Independent Learning Guide Pocket Book 3 (2020: 46), it states that based on a report from UNOCHA which was published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, the global humanitarian crisis that occurred in various parts of the world throughout 2017 was one of the worst after World War II. Nearly 140 million people have been affected by the crisis or have doubled compared to 10 years ago. This program wants to invite and make students as high upholders of human values. This program certainly has an impact on students to further increase their sensitivity to humanitarian problems that are around them or in their closest scope. This program is of course supervised and guided by lecturers or instructors in accordance with their fields. In addition, for this program to be implemented properly, contributions from third parties are needed. The responsibilities of third parties include ensuring that humanitarian activities carried out by students are in accordance with policies and agreements with universities and employment contracts, providing student rights when carrying out humanitarian activities for example by health insurance or accident insurance and others, carrying out monitoring and evaluation with lecturers and related parties and provide grades that have been adjusted to credits to students who choose this program.
- h. Teaching in schools is a program from the Ministry of Education and Culture that will be facilitated. This program is motivated by the

awareness that the number of educators in Indonesia is deficient because there are still many children who cannot go to school. In addition, there are still many educators who do not want to teach or work in schools that are in remote locations. This program is certainly very relevant to tertiary institutions that have teaching faculties. By channeling teacher training students who have an interest in teaching, both students and third parties (schools) will feel the impact. Students can develop their teaching skills and implement the knowledge they have acquired while studying on campus.

## **6. The Obstacles or Barriers of Independent Campus**

Implementing the independent campus program there are still several obstacles or obstacles encountered. The most fundamental obstacle is the mindset between the government and the people. According to Widyastuti (2022: 188), the public has the view that the Independent Campus program is only a program that is run for five years or a program designed only to spend the Minister's budget. In this case, the community in question is the people involved either directly or indirectly, for example, lecturers, students, parents, and others. If the community views it this way, it will be very difficult for this program to develop. However, not all people share this view, there are still people who think that this program is a highly anticipated program to improve the quality of education in Indonesia.

In response to this, the Minister of Education and Culture issued a new policy regarding Independent Learning on an Independent Campus. This policy aims to enable future generations to obtain quality education (Hatta, 2016:25). To support this change in the world of education, one way to do this is to increase public trust by proving that new policies in the world of education can last a long time and develop. Apart from that, another method used to develop this policy was aimed at lecturers by facilitating the requirements for promotion. According to Widyastuti (2022: 189) when teaching lecturers are often faced with various conditions, the distribution of courses is still strictly based on study programs, or even based on whether

the lecturer can or cannot. Just getting promoted, can be much more difficult than the publication. All activities carried out must also have an SK and immediately.

## **7. The advantages and disadvantages of Independent Campus**

According to Widyastuti (2022:193), the ongoing independent campus program has several advantages and disadvantages. The advantages of the independent campus program are that this program is a place for students to deepen the studies they are taking, making the world of lectures more flexible and helping students prepare themselves to be in the world of work. The weaknesses of this program are that the independent campus is considered immature in terms of preparation and implementation, education and teaching have not been well planned, and the preparation of human resources has been structure. In this case there is a difference, in ideapers.com. This stated that the procedures for implementing education and teaching in independent learning have not yet discussed efforts to improve the quality of education which are considered problematic, UU No. 12 of 2012 states that education in Indonesia is trying to improve the learning system to create a learning atmosphere that allows students to develop their full potential maximal.

## **8. Student participation of MBKM program**

Student participation means the participation of students in activities that are realized based on their physical and psychological behavior. According to Tjokrowinoto in Suryobroto (1997:278), Participation is a person's mental and emotional involvement in a group situation that encourages them to develop their thoughts and feelings to create responsible goals. The campus becomes the development of students' thinking and mental abilities, as well as expanding the vision and learning space according to the interests and abilities of each students. It is this spirit that animates independent learning independent campus. This far, there has been no bridge between the needs of the world of work and higher education, both of which operate distinctly. Higher education with the application of

the Tri Dharma while the world of work is oriented towards economic productivity. Here the MBKM policy has its role to establish relationships and linkages between higher education and the needs of the world of work. But less than the initial results, the authors note that student participation in the MBKM program is still low. One of the factors that hindered students from participating in the program was that student organizations on campus did not generate new ideas to attract students' interest in the MBKM program. The way of thought of students that is rooted in the higher education system makes them comfortable with existing learning, making it suitable for future professional life. In fact, by participating in this program, we believe our graduates are ready to face professional life and create jobs independently and face the future.

### **C. Previous Study**

In general, the independent campus which is implemented in various tertiary institutions has been widely studied by various tertiary institutions. However, the authors found several studies related to the independent campus including:

1. The research conducted by Muhammad Rusli Baharuddin (2021) regarding the conditions of the MBKM Curriculum. Stated that Cokroaminoto Palopo University had implemented the MBKM program in accordance with the recommendations of the Minister of Education and Culture. This research is a literature study that focuses on the MBKM Study Program model. The results of this study are the study program curriculum development model by adapting the MBKM policy which includes planning, learning processes, assessment and evaluation of learning. The MBKM Curriculum Adaptation is carried out by developing study program curricula and activity programs based on independent campus learning. The development results are then followed up through collaboration with partners and implementing programs.

2. Based on research conducted by Fitrah and Sukmawati (2021), it aims to find out the perceptions of Biology Education students towards Freedom to Learn on the independent campus. The method used is a valid questionnaire and then distributed to 100 respondents. Biology, University of Cokroaminoto, Palopo) many do not know about the independent learning independent campus (MBKM) program because the majority of respondents have never participated in socialization activities related to the independent learning independent campus (MBKM) program. Even so, they agree with the independent learning program that every student can take part in.

Research conducted by Muhammad Rusli Baharuddin (2021) lies in the method used where the research is a literature study while this research used a descriptive quantitative research method which is used to determine student interest on independent learning independent campus program. In addition, in the research conducted by Fitrah and Sukmawati (2021), the difference lies in the research variables and data collection techniques. The research variable used by Fitrah and Sukmawati is perception while the variable in this study is interest. The sampling technique used by Fitrah and Sukmawati is using *total sampling* while the researcher conducted by the authors used *random sampling*.