

Gajah Mada Award, Forum for Appreciation and Inspiration

Monday, 14 December 2015 WIB, By: Marwati



Student Executive Board of Universitas Gadjah Mada gave appreciation to the students, deans, and institutions of UGM through *Gajah Mada Award*. On the awarding night, Saturday (12/11), at Grha Sabha Pramana, were announced 12 nomination categories, among them was The Best Dean Award that was given to the Dean of Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Dr. Erwan Agus Purwanto, and the most inspiring student Alwan Hafizh. This occasion, according to the head of BEM KM UGM, Satria Triputra Wisnumurti, became a form of appreciation for individual or group with excellence achievement. "Besides, the hope is this award could inspire other students to do so," he added.

Meanwhile, Rector of UGM, Prof. Ir. Dwikorita Karnawati, M.Sc.,Ph.D in her remarks, mentioned how important it is the involvement of students in organizations and non-academic activities, because by being involved in those activities, students could gain more values such as leadership that could be used at work level. She also joked about students that are so involved in their organization that forget their main obligation. "Getting involved in an organization is necessary, but don't make it an excuse for long period of study," she said. That is why, she added, UGM is developing a curriculum that could integrate academic and non-academic activities so that it could balance each other out. "We will develop a curriculum that will credit non-academic activities, so it could help credit requirements for students to graduate."

Also part of the awarding night was a talk show, inviting lecturer I Made Andi Arsana and film

director Livi Zheng. Arsana is an inspiring engineering lecturer and Zheng is an Indonesian actress, film director and producer who goes international with her masterpiece “Brush with Danger” which was nominated for the Oscars. They both told story of their life, including their failures and how they tried to get back on their feet. By sharing this experience, they are trying to support students to keep fighting for what they want in life. (Adelily)

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