IPB Silver College for the Elderly

Silver College was officially founded in IPB on Saturday (5/6). It is an institution for the elderly to take part in empowering communities and building the country for a second chance. For the IPB, the foundation of Silver College is to fulfill the Association of Retired Employees (P3) IPB and elderly residents of IPB.

Silver College itself is a special program introduced by the Foundation of Damandiri to assist the elderly so that they can give better contribution to families and communities. The word "silver" is ado

The official ceremony was marked by sticking a pin by the Vice Rector for Academic and Student Affairs Prof. Dr. IPB Yonny Koesmaryono to the Chairman of P3, Prof.Dr. IPB Sudarmadi, Coordinator of the Elderly-IPB Prof. Dr. Clara M Koesharto, Chairman of Agrianita IPB Mrs. Enny H Suhardiyanto, representatives of the Board of Professors IPB ... ..., and the Head of Human Resource Development Centre (P2SDM) IPB LPPM Dr. Pudji Mulyono.

Prof. Dr. Yonny welcomed and appreciated the establishment of Silver College in IPB. Through this institution, according to Prof. Dr. Yonny, the elderly who have the potential and capabilities can continuously improve to give more meaningful contribution for the second time.

The Committee Chairman, Prof. Clara said that the effort to found this Silver Club is aimed to make their potentials come out as well as to give the "second chance" to the elderly to serve and empower families and communities and build the country.

The official opening of Silver College became increasingly vibrant with the National Seminar on Elderly Opportunity to Work: "Healthy, Independent, Productive and Meaningful".
"I have the principle that the elderly should not depend on other people," said Mrs. Nurmah, a seminar participant, who was applauded by those present in the seminar. In her hometown, Tasikmalaya, she has a special foundation that takes care of the elderly and orphans. Currently, there are 700 elderly people under the management of her foundation.

The first session speaker was Dr. Ratnasari Azhari, Head of Research and Development Center for Welfare Family and Quality Improvement of Women, National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN), discussing Community-Based Programs of Elderly Family Development. Another speaker was Drs. Isep Sepriyan, Head of Sub-Directorate of Social Services under the Directorate of Social Services for the Elderly, Ministry of Social Affairs the Republic of Indonesia, presenting the topic "Strategic Policies and Planning in the Improvement of the Elderly’s Welfare".

The second session presented Prof. Dr. Tri Budi W. Rahardjo of the Aging Center, University of Indonesia (UI) with the theme of the discussion "The Importance of Health and Welfare Status of Elderly towards Active and Productive Elderly". Meanwhile, the Deputy of Family & Community Empowerment of the Damandiri Foundation, Dr. Rohadi Heryanto talked about "Workfare for the Elderly: Potential of the Nation which must be taken into account in Nation Building."

Dr. Rohadi mentioned some problems of the elderly, i.e. lack of awareness of the explosion of the elderly, wrong lifestyle, inadequate preparation for the elderly period, no empowering network of the elderly, lack of cultural support and focused empowerment.

At this occasion, the seminar participants were entertained with the dances of gambyong and cangkrik performed by the dancers of Sendratari Griya Pensia. This performance was very interesting because the dancers were senior people aged over 50 years; in fact even two of them were 72 and 78 years old (mtd)