CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, definition of key terms and theoretical framework.

A. Background of the Study

State Islamic Institute (IAIN) of Palangka Raya is the only state islamic institute in Central Kalimantan. Since its founding in 1997 until 2012, IAIN Palangka Raya has had more than 4970 graduates from three departments; Tarbiyah, Syari'ah, and Dakwah that spread in various areas in Central Kalimantan province.[1]

As an institution that shelters under the Ministry of Religion, then the graduatesof IAIN Palangka Raya are expected to fulfill the vision of the Directorate of Islamic Religion which is beneficial to the community in accordance with the attitude, knowledge and competencies learned in Islamic College where they studied and give a significant contribution to the development and the application of religious science, technology, and culture of Islam.[2] In other words, the graduatesof IAIN Palangka Raya should not only be able to apply their skills while studying in college either a primary competence and additional competence, but also uphold Islamic values in daily life that make them useful for the benefits of other people.

English Education organized by the Decree of the General Director of IslamicInstitution Number DJ.II / 218/2002 July 11 2002 in order to meet the needs of the region on professional teachers on English education. Study Program Extension's permit was obtained on February 29, 2012 by the Decree of the General Director of Islamic Education Number 348 of 2012. On October, 18 2012, English Education' accreditation was ranked C

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[1]*Panitia Wisuda STAIN Palangka Raya, Buku Memori Wisuda STAIN Palangka Raya Tahun 2013. Palangka Raya: STAIN Press, p.5.*
[2]*Tim, Tentang Dipertais. (Online) (http:www.dipertais.net/tentang.asp. Accessed on April, 18 2013).*

with a value of 285 based on the Decree of the National Accreditation Board of Higher Education Number 032/BAN-PT/Ak-XV/S1/V/2012 on value and rating Accreditation Program in undergraduate program. Today, many graduates of English Education become English professional teachers in schools both public and private, interpreter or translator, and English instructors in course institutions and tutoring

Education as outlined in the teaching and learning process implemented in English Education Study Program has been oriented to the competencies required by the work field in the effort to address the percentage of unemployments among educators that continues to increase as a result of rapid population growth. Research of Muhammad et.al indicated that many graduates who have worked but not the least of who are received in different sectors of expertise of their study programs.[3] Whereas the successful implementation of education programs in universitiy is determined by two criteria. They are internal criterion that is measured through the success of students in following the process of education in educational institution and external criterion that is measured through the success of graduates in the work field.[4] Further Hidayah stated as follows:

"Internal success (*in-school success*) is associated with the success of the educational process and aimed to examine whether the process is according to the plan or not. The external success (*out-of school success*) is related to the success of the program suitability to the needs that exist in the work field and aimed to examine whether the graduates from an educational program can be accepted by the relevant work field or not."

[3]Muhammad et.al, *Kiprah Graduates PTAI Dalam Pembangunan Masyarakat*. 2007.
[4]Nur Achni Hidayah, *Studi Pelacakan Jejak Graduates (Tracer Study) Program Studi Sistem Informasi Fakultas Sains dan Teknologi (Studi Kasus: UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta)*. Jakarta. 2011. Snatika, Edisi 01, 2011, p: 1-5.

In connection with this, Soemantri et.al stated that higher education is demanded to produce graduates who are competitive and ready to take part in country development.[5] The same thing was also expressed by Muhson et.al who said that education should be oriented towards the competencies required by the work field because the percentage of unemployments among educated people continues to rise.[6] From this fact, it can be concluded that university has an obligation to prepare graduates to face the real work field by providing a range of skills that are relevant or appropriate to the demands of employments.

The relevance or appropriateness between the skills of graduates with jobs where theywill work is one of the perceptionitems in higher education accreditation which reads :

> "Graduate is one of the direct output of the educational process carried out by the college. The graduate should have academic competencies and soft skills as expressed by the quality objectives as well as evidenced by the performance of graduate in the community in accordance with his profession."[7]

Meanwhile Rhiza S. Sadjad assessed relevance as the most important component because it is a factor that determines the existence of the institution.[8] In addition, accreditation perception that is no less important is graduatesuser ratings or users towards the quality of graduates or graduates. Based on the description above, it is clear that the success of the graduates after completing education in English Education of IAIN Palangka Raya is the suitability between the skills and the job they get. The userperception of the graduate's quality is critical to be identified. Schomburg stated that an effective way to determine how

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[5]Somantri et.al, *Kajian Relevansi Lulusan Jurusan Pendidikan Geografi UNY Tahun 2005-2009*. Universitas Yogyakarta. 2010.

[6]Ali Muhson, et.al, *Analisis Relevansi Lulusan Perguruan Tinggi dengan Dunia Kerja*. Jurnal Economia, Volume 8, Number 1, April 2012. P: 45-52.

[7]Badan Akreditasi Nasional Perguruan Tinggi, *Naskah Akademik Akreditasi Institusi Perguruan Tinggi*. Jakarta. 2007. P: 12.

[8]Riza S. Sadjad, *Paradigma Baru Pendidikan Tinggi untuk Menciptakan Sumber Daya Manusia Unggulan*. Makassar. 2002.

much the relevance of expertise of graduates with their career is to make contact with the graduates or tracer study. He stated as follows:

> *"Tracer study is beneficial to provide important information for the development of higher education and as a tool to evaluate the relevance of higher education to the work field. It can provide useful input for facultyand administrators to increase performance and as an input for parents to monitor their children's education."*[9]

Tracer study of the graduates is one of the empirical study that is expected to provide information for evaluating educational outcomes at English Education of IAIN Palangkaraya. This information is used for further development in ensuring the quality of education. By this tracer study,it is expected that English Education of IAIN Palangkaraya can gain information about deficiency indications of the study program implementation and provide the basic planning for the future. That is why the information of graduates (career, status, income) is needed, as well as infromation about the relevant knowledge and skills (the relationship between knowledge and expertise with the needs of work, scope of work, professional position). The graduatesare also expected to provide an perception of condition and provision of learning process they experienced related with the work they face.

B. Problems of the Study

1. What is the users'perception on theintegrity (ethics and morals) of English Education graduates?

2. What is the users'perception on theprofessionalism of English Educationgraduates?

3. What is the users'perception on theEnglish language of English Educationgraduates?

4. What is the users'perception on theuse of information technology of English Educationgraduates?

5. What is the users'perception on thecommunication of English Education graduates?

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[9]Harald Schomburg, *Handbook for Graduate Tracer Study*. Moenchebergstrasse Kassel, Germany: Wissenschaftliches Zentrum fur Berufs-und Hochschulforschung, Universitat Kassel. 2003.

6. What is the users'perception on theteamwork of English Education graduates?

7. What is the users'perception on the personal development of English Education graduates?

C. Objectives of the Study

This study aims to identify:

1. The users'perception on theintegrity (ethics and morals) of English Education graduates

2. The users'perception on theprofessionalism of English Education graduates

3. The users'perception on theEnglish language of English Education graduates

4. The users'perception on theuse of information technology of English Education graduates

5. The users'perception on thecommunication of English Education graduates

6. The users'perception on theteamwork of English Education graduates

7. The users'perception on thepersonal development of English Education graduates

D. Significance of the Study

Documents of tracer study can be useful for users and managers of IAIN Palangka Raya. Forgraduates users, the results of this study are expected to be useful to be one of the considerations to use the graduatesof English Education in their institutions. For administrators, this study is expected to be useful for determining the strategy and orientation of education, improving the technical concept and implementation of education and teaching activity so that the graduates will be increasingly better in the capacity of intellect, skills, character and personality. Results of this tracer study is also expected to be used as consideration in the development of the quality of learning process, learning evaluation, and the development of education management. With the continuous improvement against these

aspects, teaching and learning process at English Education are hopefully efficient, effective, and productive to enhance the competitiveness of its graduates.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Performance

There are different views on what performance is. It can be regardedas simply the record of outcomes achieved. On an individual basis, it isa record of a person's accomplishments. Kane argues that performanceis something that the person leaves behind and that existsapart from the purpose.[10] Bernadin *et al* are concerned that performanceshould be defined as the outcomes of work because theyprovide the strongest linkage to the strategic goals of the organization,customer satisfaction, and economic contributions.[11]

2. Graduate

Oxford defines graduate as person with a university degree and person who has completed their school studies.[12]

3. Perception

Perception is the sorting out, interpretation, analysis, an integration of stimuli carried out by the sense organs and brain.[13] Perception occurs when we integrate, organize, and interpret sensory information in a way that is meaningful.[14] Perception is more than a passive process of absorbing and decoding incoming sensations. It is related to sensory signals on personal experiences of reality. By shaping experience,

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[10]J.S. Kane, *The conceptualisation and representation of total performance effectiveness,Human Resource Management Review*, Summer, 1996, p.45

[11]Bernadin, et al, *Performance appraisal design, development and implementation*, in (eds) G R Ferris, S D Rosen, and D J Barnum, *Handbook of Human Resource Management*, Blackwell, Cambridge: Mass, 1995

[12]Oxford, *Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, Fourth Edition

[13]Robert S. Feldman, *Understanding Psychology*, McGraw Hill Companies, 2011, p.99

[14]Don H. Hockenbury and Sandra E. Hockenbury, *Psychology Sixth Edition*, Worth Publishers, 2013, p.88

perceptions influence thoughts, feelings and actions. But before something can be perceived, it must be sensed.[15]

F. **Theoretical Framework**

Chapter I	:	Introduction, it consists of background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, definition of key terms, and theoretical framework.
Chapter II	:	Review of related literature, it consists of previous study, related theories, and profile of English Education Study Progam.
Chapter III	:	Research method, it consists of research design, population and sample, research instrument, data collection procedure and data analysis.
Chapter IV	:	Result of the study, it consists of description of the data and result of data analysis and discussion.
Chapter V	:	Closing, it consists of conclusion and suggestion.

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[15]Douglas A. Bernstein and Peggy W.Nash, Essentials of Psychology, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008, p.86