

Interview by Jemma Purdey and David Lowe with Roosmalawati, Jakarta, 24 April 2014
PhD, Demography, ANU, 1980s

[00:00:13]	Roos grew up and did her schooling in Jakarta but her parents were from South Sulawesi and she was born in Makassar. After finishing high school she went to Gaja Mada University (UGM), in 1969, but finished her degree in Jakarta at University of Indonesia (UI) because UGM closed the anthropology program. After graduating she worked as an assistant researcher at UI until 1976 when she became a lecturer at Hasanuddin University (Unhas) in Makassar. At UI taught social research methodology, at first as assistant lecturer to a Dutch professor.	Family background; childhood; education background; early career
[00:03:53]	After leaving Makassar went back to Jakarta and worked in the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) because it gave her the opportunity to travel around Indonesia doing research. Could also teach at UI at the same time. LIPI was collaborating with the Australian National University (Terry Hull and Lauren Corner) and Lauren suggested Roos apply for an Australian scholarship. She was accepted to do a MA leading to a PhD. This was confirmed at a seminar where she presented her research proposal to Prof Caldwell and others.	Early career development; previous Australia connections; research collaboration; scholarship opportunity
[00:07:28]	The university had a leader program, which helped Roos with learning English because her leader was the wife of the English ambassador to Australia. The connections made through the LIPI-ANU collaboration helped with developing the research proposal and carrying out the PhD.	Studying in Australia; English language instruction; collaboration
[00:10:41]	Roos's daughter was two when Roos went to Australia. Roos went alone at first and her husband and daughter joined her after six months. Her daughter went to a creche, Roos or her husband worked there one day a week to reduce the childcare fees. They made friends and found a community through the creche and got involved in activities like Halloween and read-a-thons.	Family in Australia; Children; Community network in Canberra
[00:14:56]	Has kept in touch with some of the families, helped when some friends' daughter studied in Indonesia and Roos's daughter contacted them when she studied in Australia.	Ongoing connections with Australia
[00:17:01]	Roos's husband helped as a tutor in Bahasa Indonesia in the Department of Asian Studies. He	Living in Australia; work experiences of

	wasn't allowed to work but was a good mechanic so he bought old cars, fixed them up in their garage, got them registered and sold them to students. In Indonesia we was an agricultural mechanic. AIDAB provided activities for scholarship students' spouses but they were aimed at women, assuming scholarship students were all men.	family; scholarship experience
[00:22:16]	The AIDAB allowance was enough because they had university housing, child support payments and childcare rebate. AIDAB also paid Roos to give training for Australian diplomats going to Indonesia and she used the money to travel. The Indonesian scholars did activities together, sold saté at public events and raised money for group trips e.g. to the Snowy Mountains. Roos was also involved in the All Australia Indonesian Scholars Association (HPPIA).	Living in Australia; work experience in Australia; Indonesian community in Canberra; networks
[00:26:56]	The HPPIA lobbied the Indonesian Ambassador for lessons for the Indonesian children and weekly sessions were started where the children did activities in Bahasa Indonesia, maths and the Pancasila etc. Roos did the cooking at home but Pak Supomo's wife had a restaurant and gave them food when Roos was too busy to cook. Roos's husband helped friends with odd jobs and fixed their cars.	Indonesian community in Canberra; connections with Embassy; Family life
[00:30:44]	The children's classes stopped when the ambassador changed. Peter Nicholls was the AIDAB representative, he had an office at ANU. He helped the Indonesian scholars, especially with travel to conferences within Australia. Roos went to Alice Springs, presented a paper there.	Scholarship experience; professional development
[00:33:28]	At first DFAT treated them like diplomats, met them at the airport, took them to their home-stay and helped them find long-term accommodation. The university housing for PhD students was good.	Scholarship experience; Support from AIDAB
[00:36:24]	Studying in English was a challenge because and she had to work hard. International students now have better English, it's easier for them to pick it up. Roos liked watching <i>Mother and Son</i> on television, and <i>Playschool</i> with her daughter.	Studying in Australia; challenges; Australian popular culture
[00:38:53]	Roos would read to her daughter every night, they bought secondhand books. Her daughter started school in Canberra and went to after-school care. Roos had to work long hours at uni, especially in the last year of her doctorate because the computers were only available before 6.00am and after 6.00pm. Sometimes she would bring her	Living with family in Australia; friendships

	daughter and put her to bed at uni. [Story about how Roos daughter got lost one day because she went to a neighbour without her parents knowing.]	
[00:44:39]	Roos did field work in Indonesia for six months. Her husband stayed in Canberra but her daughter came with her and stayed in Medan with family. [Discussion about difficulties balancing demands of the PhD and her daughter's needs.]	Returning to Indonesia; fieldwork; family
[00:48:49]	[Stories about her daughter fitting in to school in Indonesia.]	Returning to Indonesia; challenges for family
[00:53:56]	Roos worked at LIPI when she got back from Australia and applied for research funding from different places. Did a six-week summer course at the East-West Centre in Hawaii as well as other activities. In 2000, almost ten years after being in Australia she was appointed to the Ministry of Research and Technology where she met researchers from other disciplines. She became a coordinator of research activities in indifferent parts of Indonesia and policy development until she retired.	Returning to Indonesia; international network; collaboration; leadership
[00:57:58]	Lectured at UI during this time as well. There was tension between the ministry and research. The minister had been her neighbour in Canberra. Roos was also on the joint selection panel for AusAID. It was unpaid and took about four weeks every year but she was happy to do it because of her time in Australia. The Australians on the panel were paid.	Career development; Post scholarship Australia connections; alumni network
[01:03:45]	At the ministry she was involved in determining research priorities and selection of projects for funding. At LIPI she as involved in research and getting funding from organisations like the WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA.	Research collaboration; international networks; leadership
[01:05:58]	Four years after returning from Australia applied to AusAID for projects in Eastern Indonesia and she was invited to join a water and sanitation project in East Timor as well as checking on projects that were already going and other AusAID social and community activities. So still has a lot of Australian contacts. Comments about aid engineers' ignorance about the social and cultural significance of water.	Australia connection; Research collaboration
[01:11:12]	Roos enjoyed this work, having an effect at the village level, but she had to go back to the ministry. She's still involved in an AusAID project in Flores. Thinks Australia is focussing on	Australia connection

	aid to eastern Indonesia because of an agreement between Indonesia and Australia. People from Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB) who study in Australia mostly go back to NTB to the University of Mataram (Unram).	
[01:14:42]	AusAID appointed Roos as the chair of the Australian Alumni Reference Group (ARG). They had regular meetings and developed the constitution. Roos had the opportunity to meet Julia Gillard and talk to her about what alumni need. Roos also made suggestions about how the ARG could be organised, e.g. according to expertise rather than region. Also made contact with alumni from other countries at international meetings.	Australia connection; alumni network; leadership
[01:20:54]	When Roos accepted the scholarship she was already aware that alumni contribution to Indonesian development is an important part of the program and she talked about this at alumni meetings. Alumni meetings are also a good opportunity for networking and collaboration with other alumni e.g. in government.	Alumni network; leadership
[01:24:43]	Has returned to Australia many times. In the first two years ANU invited her to present papers with other international alumni. She has also been back to attend the Australia–Indonesia Ministerial Forum (AIMF) with or to represent former minister of research and technology, Pak Kusmayanto Kadiman, who is also an Australian alumnus. In 2001 she was involved in a collaboration with CSIRO and researchers from Indonesia. Sees old friends when she visits Australia.	Australia connection; professional networks; research collaboration; friends in Australia
[01:29:09]	Roos's daughter Rika studied in Melbourne but she preferred to go home for holidays rather than have her parents visit her in Melbourne. She went home four times in 18 months. Her favourite place in Australia was Ballarat, the gold mines, she always took Indonesian visitors there. Now she is a lawyer working for a London-based company.	Family connections with Australia
[01:33:44]	When Roos went to Australia, loyalty to her institution was important but now the mindset is different, it's more about competition and mobility. [Discussion about bonded scholars and the open category of ADS scholarships.] Rika worked as a translator and English tutor and teacher while at university and got a good IELTS score (8.5).	Career; Family

[01:37:24]	While in junior high school, Rika was chosen to go to China for two-weeks as a UNESCO Young Heritage Fellow. Roos thinks her time in Australia helped with her confidence as well as English.	Family; Impact of living in Australia
[01:40:41]	END	