

Interview by Jemma Purdey with Suryanto, Melbourne, 15 May 2014

MA, Nursing, Monash; PhD, Nursing, Monash, 2010 cohort



[00:00:07]	Originally from Malang, East Java, taught in the School of Nursing at Brawijaya University. Is still a government employee on part pay. Did a master's in emergency nursing at Monash's Peninsula Campus starting January 2009 and finished in August 2010. Started a PhD on 8 July 2013 assessing hospital emergency care in Indonesia from the perspective of students, nurses, decision-makers and patients.	Childhood; Introduction
[00:04:09]	Discussion about emergency health providers in Indonesia. The paramedical profession does not exist in Indonesia, Suryanto hope to establish a Paramedics school at Brawijaya University.	Area of study
[00:07:27]	An only child. Married in December 2008, about a month before coming to Australia. Departure was delayed for medical checks and because of single name. Wife couldn't come then because she was a new government employee but this time she has, arrived last week and will stay for the rest	Childhood; Family; marriage; Australian scholarships

	<p>of the time. No children yet but are planning to. Suryanto came to Australia on ADS scholarships both times. Was supposed to wait two years after the first before applying for the second but applied after one year. The application was successful but had to wait until the end of two years for a visa. Brawijaya University were supportive, it's of benefit to them.</p>	
[00:11:18]	<p>Started studying at the Vocational School of Nursing after finished junior high school, was 16 years old and boarded for three years at the school which was about two hours drive from home in the northern part of Malang. Was difficult to find a job because of competition from nursing diploma graduates so went to Surabaya for three years to do a diploma. Had clinical experience working evening or night shift at a clinic that provided in-patient and emergency services. After graduating also worked as a lecturer's assistant in the mornings and at the clinic at night.</p>	Early education
[00:14:39]	<p>In 2003 decided to go back to Malang to do a bachelor at Brawijaya. Finished in 2006, got a lecturer's position on contract, became permanent in 2008 and has worked there since then. Decided on overseas study when in first year after one of his lecturers did that. Applied after graduating, along with three other colleagues and was one of two that were successful. Thinks that maybe Brawijaya</p>	Undergraduate education; early career

	University was targeted by AusAID that year, there were successful applications from all parts of the university.	
[00:19:04]	Sent the application in August and first announcement for interview and second round of tests came in January. About 600 got to this stage and 300 scholarships were granted. Learned English while at school but not much while studying nursing. Did about ten preparation sessions for the test. Did six months pre-departure training including academic English. Got 5.5 on the test, people who got 5.0 did nine months pre-departure training. Training was in Bali, lived there for six months and AusAID covered the expenses, 1 800 000 rupiah per month. The teachers were all native English speakers, mostly from Australia.	Scholarship application process; Pre-departure
[00:23:41]	Didn't know anyone in Australia before arriving except his colleagues from Brawijaya who arrived before he did. Had planned to do a PhD eventually so wanted to do the master's at a highly regarded university and wanted to go to Melbourne rather than Adelaide or Sydney. Chose Monash rather than Melbourne because accommodation would be more expensive closer to the city.	Previous awareness of Australia; Mentoring; Alumni network; Selection of university and course
[00:26:20]	Organised temporary accommodation before leaving Indonesia through connections with the Indonesian community in	Arrival; Indonesian community network in Australia

	Melbourne. Is involved in MIIS, the Monash Islamic students group, which is broader now than it used to be, including secular students and students from other universities. They organise welcome events for new students and PR activities.	
[00:30:35]	Involved in the M to M community – Malang to Melbourne – not only for students. Usually about 15 to 20 people from all over Melbourne come to each gathering, share food and arisan (Indonesian microfinance system). Started in 2008, just in Clayton but now has grown to include other areas. Also is a member of Australian Awards Malang alumni Facebook group.	Indonesian community in Melbourne; social networks
[00:34:32]	There are a lot of alumni in Malang, at least six from the school of nursing out of thirty-something.	Alumni network
[00:35:46]	Language was the biggest challenge on coming to Australia. The training was good but couldn't compare to real life. Didn't have experience of writing in English or attending lectures in English so tried to record lectures. Got help from the language support program at the School of Nursing, it was free and helpful. Not available for free now but AusAID provide up to \$500 per semester for that. The library has a free service and the school has a support person. Lecturers were approachable and helpful and	Challenges; Studying in Australia

	<p>he had a good relationship with his supervisor. There was nothing like that in Indonesia, there's a gap between students and lecturers.</p>	
	<p>[00:39:17] The content of the master's in Australia was perhaps less demanding than in Indonesia which is more outcome driven. That may be changing now in Indonesia. Suryanto's mother is a teacher and father is a retired railway worker.</p>	
<p>[00:43:03]</p>	<p>Plagiarism is more common in Indonesia. Suryanto tried to change that with his master's students but it was quite hard. Gave students clear assessment criteria, which is not normally done, and explained why plagiarism isn't good.</p>	<p>Post-scholarship experience</p>
<p>[00:45:57]</p>	<p>Master's focused on emergency nursing and PhD research is into the nurse–doctor relationship in the emergency department, specifically in pre-hospital emergency care. Was part of the emergency nursing staff at Brawijaya. Main supervisor is the same as for his master's but second supervisor is different, from paramedic school.</p>	<p>PhD research and fieldwork</p>
<p>[00:47:49]</p>	<p>Wife arrived last year, her first time in Australia, Suryanto has been showing her around. They were apart for nearly a year except for a month when Suryanto went home for the summer holidays. She did English in senior high school and did a</p>	<p>Family; marriage; Living in Australia</p>

	<p>course before coming. Has a dependant visa. AusAID stipend is enough, the same whether for one person or a couple or family.</p>	
[00:51:26]	<p>Hasn't worked but was paid to be part of a study. Hasn't traveled away from Melbourne but is planning to now that his wife is here. Considered buying a car but they've decided not to. Lives in a studio apartment close to Clayton campus.</p>	
[00:54:30]	<p>Parents are used to Suryianto being away from home so his being here is not a problem for them. They haven't been here, getting a visa seems difficult.</p>	
[00:55:43]	<p>Hasn't made many Australian friends, only one unit of the master's had many Australians in it. All the lecturers were Australians. Hasn't been invited to an Australian's home. Suryianto doesn't feel like he knows how to approach Australians, feels they're a bit closed unless you know them but then they're very open. For example, got to know the researcher in the study he participated in and that was easy because they had an introduction. Initial contact is difficult. Usually hangs out with Indonesian students. Swims at Monash sport, also an individual activity.</p>	
[01:00:14]	<p>People are generally friendly, they may seem distant but, actually, they're not. One unit of the master's had a clinical part but only registered</p>	

	<p>nurses could work in a hospital so the international students couldn't, they did their clinical part in a lab, with actors, not in a real clinic. Observations in hospital were not a part of the course but Suryianto did go to hospital for blood tests etc. Hospitals here are more organised and have better facilities than in Indonesia, also less crowded and more informal and community-minded.</p>	
[01:05:20]	<p>In 2008, after doing his master's Suryanto established some emergency medicine training centres in East Java, Madura and Lombok, especially training nurses in First Aid, CPR and basic life support. It's like community outreach of the school. Joined the ADS alumni group, but it's not very active. And there's a Malang group that operates separately from the Jakarta group. M to M also has a branch in Malang. Malang people are more connected to their home city than people from Jakarta. A similar group has been set up by people from Bandung.</p>	
[01:09:55]	<p>'Thanks' and 'sorry': has noticed how common it is that people say these in Australia, not common in Indonesia. Planning to go back to Brawijaya after finishing the PhD but likes living here. Has considered staying in Australia but wants to fulfil family and work obligations, and his wife does too. Also plans to maintain connections with colleagues</p>	

	here.	
[01:13:53]	<p>PhD thesis is going OK, confident that fieldwork will get ethics approval. There is also an ethics committee in the Faculty of Medicine and School of Nursing at Brawijaya but the process is more complicated than in Australia. Discussion about Melbourne weather.</p> <p>Suryanto's field work will be in Indonesia in August, so he and his wife will go back to Indonesia, then they will return to Melbourne until 2017 and his wife will look for a job.</p>	
[01:17:47]	END	