



*Susan (center) with a group of FEE teachers/students on the Cilandak campus in 2005.*

## Dr. Susan Stengel Leaves FEE

*Dr. Susan Stengel, former PEL principal and director of the Foundation for Excellence in Education (FEE), left JIS at the end of last school year and wrote this note to her JIS colleagues.*

*Dear Friends of FEE,*

I would like to update you on the plans for FEE's future.

A time of change is also one of opportunity to explore new directions. As you know from my earlier letter, we initially planned to continue our programs as usual but under the able direction of David Simojoki. However, after carefully reviewing and evaluating our programs, finances and human resources we are now pursuing two new directions. Our objective is to ensure the institutionalization of the FEE programs with reliable funding to allow for the expansion of delivery.

The Advanced Certificate and Learning Program (ACTL) will remain a FEE program, but will be administered by the JIS Academy. JIS teachers will continue to offer the courses as they have in the past and we expect the program to expand with new workshops and course offerings. The ACTL program administrator will be Dennise Rao and Dr. Karen Bonthron will be the educational supervisor.

Our Training of Trainers (TOT) and Step-by-Step programs will be administered by Ita Rajasa as Director of Educational Programs. She, Agung Wibowo and our new trainer, Ery Retno Artini, will continue with their delivery of excellent training. At the same time, we aim to come to an agreement with a well-endowed educational entity that shares our mission. In this way infrastructure and management can be provided by them and enable our expert trainers and training materials to be supported and delivery expanded.

These are exciting new avenues and we will keep you informed of developments.

Thank you again for your collaborative efforts to improve the quality of education in Indonesia. Please give the FEE team your continued support as they pursue this vital goal in the future.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Susan Stengel  
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# FEE Graduate Now Teaches at JIS

Stephanie Hendrawan, daughter of Josie Sindhutomo, a former secretary to Niall Nelson while he was Headmaster at JIS, graduated from FEE and now teaches Indonesian Studies at Pattimura. We interviewed Stephanie to get her reactions to teaching after taking the FEE courses.

*How did you first begin at FEE and how long was your course?*

I was working with the International Labor Organization (ILO) when I first found out about FEE. My mom informed me about the program while she was still working with JIS. I felt challenged to try and I thought I needed to go back and study again. So I went for the test and I got accepted. The course itself was two times a week, three hours a day, for three years.

*What were some of the courses you took at FEE and what kind of degree did you receive?*

The courses were about how to teach in the core subjects such as math, languages, science, social studies and Bahasa Indonesia. Additional courses were about human development, Understanding by Design (UbD), educational psychology, restitution, public speaking and ethics. I received an Advanced Diploma in Teaching and Learning.

*What were some of the activities you experienced with FEE?*

Some of the activities included joining the in-house training of JIS teachers at the Al Izhah school in which we took part in translating the training. We also managed to find the time to take a Jakarta city tour. Some of us also joined a workshop conducted in Aceh. And last year, before Susan Stengel left Indonesia, we held a workshop for Indonesian teacher at the Al Azhar school. It was the biggest workshop that we ever conducted. It was dedicated to Susan as she did so much to promote better education in Indonesia.



*Stephanie with some of her students at Pattimura.*

*What is your teaching philosophy?*

I believe learning should be engaging and meaningful. Learning activities should promote a positive atmosphere so that the children get inspired and are provided with a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

*What is your favorite thing about teaching?*

Teaching is very dynamic. As I am teaching, I am learning at the same time. There's always something new and exciting. It is a self-rewarding experience.

*What is your favorite thing about teaching at PEL?*

It has been a life-changing experience teaching at PEL. I am learning to know more about myself, my strengths, my abilities, and my limitations. The students, teachers and staff are lovely. They are helpful and cooperative.

*What advice do you have for future FEE teacher students?*

Don't take things for granted. Enjoy every moment and experience it as it will be a treasure in their future teaching career and life.

