

## ABSTRACT

Today, university students have often been widely criticized as being individualistic, apathetic and insensitive toward happenings around them. The students appear to consider whatever is going on outside of their immediate campus environment as something which is not of their world. As for medical students, only a small number of them are interested in social, political and other issues affecting the country. Medical students are also said to be losing their sense of idealism toward the medical profession by succumbing to economic and social pressures.

This study is therefore designed to ascertain the expectations, attitudes, and aspirations of Gadjah Mada University medical students toward social commitment and ideal doctor. By knowing the factors mentioned above it hopefully may be possible for the faculty to modify its programs, curriculum, approaches and teaching methods so as to be more satisfactory to all concerned.

This study is a cross-sectional, non-experimental and descriptive study. Questionnaires were distributed to 35 pre-clinical students from each year (Year 1-Year 4) respectively and 48 clinical students (interns) from Year 5 and Year 6 during the 1997/1998 academic year with a total of 188 respondents (140 pre-clinical students and 48 clinical students). Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics i.e. frequency counts, distributions, and percentages.

The result of this study indicates that the majority of medical students do have positive expectations, attitudes, and aspirations toward social commitment and ideal doctor. However, it is recommended that the faculty review, modify and develop further the existing programs, curriculum, approaches and teaching methods so as to be even more effective in instilling a strong sense of social commitment and ideal doctor in the medical student.