

Find Your Passion Early



Dyna Rochmyaningsih known as a freelance science journalist from Indonesia. In contrast to 'regular' journalism, scientific journalism aim to render very detailed, specific, and often jargon-laden information produced by scientists into a form that non-scientists can understand and appreciate, while still communicating the information accurately (Wikipedia). She writes for Asian Scientist Magazine, SciDev.Net, and The Jakarta Post. After completed her Bachelor's Degree in the Department of Biology, she attended the Harvard Summer Course on Biodiversity in 2010.

Hi Dyna. How are you today? What is your activity now? Is it related to biology, or, perhaps not. Please, tell us.

I am fine thank you. I'm a stay-at-home mother most of the time. In my spare time, I write science articles for international science publications such as SciDev.Net and Nature. Yes, it is related sometimes.

What was your most memorable experience at the Department of Biology?

Caving at Gua Gudawang, in Pak Ibnu Qayyim's class (Introduction to Biodiversity)

Aside from subject matter, what did you learn from your university experience?

Analyzing scientific journal and mining data

What about your writing works, or perhaps your new story?

My works cover a wide range of topics such as health, climate change, science policy, forestry, disaster risk management, and the intersection between science and religion. Ah, yes. My new story was about animal extinction risk. It was just published last week. it is about how land conversion from natural forests to oil palm/rubber plantation increases the risk of extinction of many "unnoticed" animals in Southeast Asia.

That is good. Then, we need your suggestion in how to improve our writing skill,

especially English writing skills.

The key of english writing is to read a lot of english articles in your specific interests (ex: biology). By reading, you can gain more vocabularies and therefore be acquainted by the sentence logic. another thing is you should do more practice to make a cohesive article. The easiest way is to answer certain question in a paragraph. Write it down Ask yourself. Does it answer the question? Does it have enough evidence? how is the logic? well above is the tips for argumentative writing..but I think you can apply it for narrative or academic writing

Finally, what is the one piece of advice you would give to future students of the Department?

It's simple. Find your passion early and stick on it.