The Office of Education and Training Resources (ETR) in IU-B’s School of Education has designed an innovative curriculum in Mobile Workshop Technology which draws upon the combined teaching resources of Indiana University and Indiana Vocational-Technical State College (IVYTECH) of Bloomington. The Project Director is ETR Director James A. Pershing of the School of Education, with ETR’s Carthell Everett serving as Project Coordinator.

The IU Education and Training Resources office developed this integrative training program at the request of BAKOSURTANAL, Indonesia’s National Coordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping, which had invited course proposals from several institutions for training technicians in the installation, maintenance, and repair of computerized geological information systems.

After submitting a curriculum proposal based on the combined teaching resources of the School of Education, School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), and IVYTECH, Education and Training Resources was awarded an initial contract to train the Indonesian agency’s first three technicians. If ETR is awarded the full BAKOSURTANAL contract, forty additional Indonesian technicians will receive training through the School of Education’s Mobile Workshop Technology program.

In mid-February, three BAKOSURTANAL technicians—Mr. Agus Widiastono, Mr. Agus Subagya, and Mr. Misa Saptono—arrived in Bloomington to begin ETR’s three-month customized course. During the first month of the program, the three technicians received hands-on instruction at IVYTECH which included: computer technology; basic electronics; computer hardware and software installation; and the repair of computers and peripherals used in geological remote-sensing operations. IVYTECH coordinator for the training course was Roger Gaetani, with technical instruction provided by Dave Hecht and Leslie Holleam. On March 15, the technicians began their instruction on the IU-Bloomington campus, with SPEA’s J.C. Randolph, Wahong Fan, and Bill Littlefield providing the three trainees with instruction in Geological Information Systems.

Upon completion of the Mobile Workshop Technology curriculum in mid-May, the technicians will return to Indonesia, where they will be traveling to remote worksites in order to install and service BAKOSURTANAL’s geological computer systems. The ETR graduates will also be instructing other Indonesian technicians in the skills they acquired in their IU School of Education program.