

ĐỐI
THẠI
GIÁO DỤC



CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION REFORMS 2014

Ho Chi Minh City
July 31st - August 1st, 2014

CONFERENCE BOOKLET

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WELCOME MESSAGES

Welcome message from Prof. Ngo Bao Chau:

On behalf of the Viet Nam Education Dialogue group, I would like to welcome all of you participating in our conference on Higher Education Reforms.

In the big picture of education in Vietnam, higher education is perhaps the area needing the most urgent fundamental and comprehensive renovation. Higher education is also one of the most complicated areas.

Among these complications, what do the knots most need to be untied? That is the question to which everyone concerned with higher education in Viet Nam is focused on.

We hope that the papers and discussions at our conference will generate answers to these questions and that the most realistic and practical answers will be shared more widely among a number of policy-makers and the public as well.

My best wishes for an interesting and profitable Conference with open, direct, and well-intended discussions.

Ngo Bao Chau

Welcome message from Rena Bitter, U.S. Consul General:

Friends and Colleagues:

It is truly my honor to welcome you to the American Center for the Vietnam Education Dialogue. We are grateful for your participation and trust that this dialogue will result in recommendations that promote a strong, prosperous, and independent Vietnam.

Last year, when the Comprehensive Partnership was signed in Washington, Presidents Barack Obama and Truong Tan Sang agreed that close cooperation on education and training are critical elements to the next phase of our growing bilateral relationship. The Vietnam Education Dialogue is part of the U.S. government's commitment to this joint goal, based on enhancing educational, cultural, and people-to-people ties between the United States and Vietnam.

We are thrilled to host this education dialogue at the American Center because we believe that American educational values are the underpinning of American prosperity. The power of academic freedom, the ability to debate ideas, to innovate, to develop critical thinking skills – we believe these things are critical to success in an increasingly interconnected world.

Many thanks to Professor Ngo Bao Chau and to the Education Dialogue Group for partnering with us to host this important event. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

Sincerely,

Rena Bitter
Consul General

AGENDA

Thursday, July 31, 2014 – Morning

OPENING

- 7:30am – 8:00am Registration
8:00am – 8:10am Welcome Speech
Rena Bitter, Consul General of the United States
8:10am – 8:25am Opening Speech
Ngo Bao Chau, University of Chicago
8:25am – 8:35am Remarks
Bui Van Ga, Deputy Minister of Education and Training
8:35am – 8:45am Remarks
Nguyen Quan, Minister of Education and Training

GOVERNANCE

- 8:45 am – 9:00 am **Presentation 1:Developing Lecturers and Researchers in Vietnam’s Universities**
Ngo Bao Chau, University of Chicago
Ngo Quang Hung, State University of New York at Buffalo
9:00am – 9:15am **Presentation 2: University Governance in Vietnam: Cans and Cannots-** Bui Tran Phuong, Hoa Sen University
9:15am – 9:30am **Presentation 3:Hanoi University: Some Management Experiences**
Nguyen Xuan Vang, Ministry of Education and Training
9:30am – 9:45am **Presentation 4: Accountability**
Tran Ngoc Anh, Indiana University Bloomington
Do Quoc Anh, Science Po Paris
9:45am – 10:15am *Coffee Break*
10:15am – 10:30am **U.S. Government’s View on Education Reforms**
Terry White, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy Hanoi
10:30am – 11:30am **Panel and Open discussion**
11:30am – 1:30pm Lunch Break

Thursday, July 31, 2014 – Afternoon

AUTONOMY

- 1:30pm – 1:45pm **Presentation 5: University Autonomy: Realities and Solutions for Vietnam**
Nguyen Minh Thuyet, Formerly National Assembly Member
- 1:45pm – 2:00pm **Presentation 6: Autonomy and the New Law of Higher Education**
Vu Thi Phuong Anh, University of Economics & Finance HCMC
- 2:00pm – 2:15pm **Presentation 7: An Appropriate System of Governance and Management for Vietnam's Higher Education**
Lam Quang Thiep, Thang Long University
- 2:15pm – 2:35pm **Panel Discussion**
- 2:35pm – 3:00pm Open Discussion
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm *Coffee Break*

FINANCE, QUALITY AND DIGITALIZATION

- 3:30pm – 3:45pm **Presentation 8: Financial Reforms to Enhance Quality, Equality and Effectiveness in Higher Education**
Nguyen Truong Giang, Ministry of Finance
- 3:45pm – 4:00pm **Presentation 9: Supporting Or Obstructing The Development of Vietnamese Higher Education**
Pham Hung Hiep, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan
- 4:00pm – 4:15pm **Presentation 10: Quality Assurance and Accreditation In Higher Education: Global Trends and Implications For Vietnam – Do Ngoc Quyen, University of Melbourne**
- 4:15 pm – 4:30 pm **Presentation 11: Digital Education – A Reform Opportunity for Higher Education**
Giap Van Duong, Giap School
- 4:30pm – 4:45pm **Panel Discussion**
- 4:45pm – 5:00pm **Open Discussion**
- 5:00 pm *End of Day 1*

Friday, August 1, 2014 – Morning

FACULTY AND RESEARCH

- 8:00 am – 8:15am **Presentation 12: Developing Faculty Members**
Vu Ha Van, Yale University

8:15am – 8:30am **Presentation 13: Research and Development in Universities**
Ngo Quang Hung, State University of New York at Buffalo

8:30am – 8:45am **Presentation 14:FIRST Project: Connecting Knowledge and Spreading Innovation**
Luong Van Thang, Ministry of Science and Technology

8:45am – 9:15am **Panel Discussion**
Luong Hoai Nam, Hoang Gia Tourism and Aviation Services
Duong Nguyen Vu, John von Neumann Institute, VNU HCMC

9:15am – 9:45am **Open Discussion**

9:45am – 10:00am *Coffee Break*

PRIVATE AND INTERNATIONAL ELEMENTS

10:00am- 10:15am **Presentation 15: Viet – Phap University’s Experience**
Luong Chi Mai, University of Science and Technology of Ha Noi

10:15am- 10:30am **Presentation 16:Identities Formation of Offshore International Vietnamese Students in the Transnational Education Market in Vietnam: an Inside-out Perspective**
Nguyen Thi Nhai, RMIT Vietnam

10:30am-10:45am **Presentation 17: HowTo Operate A Private Education Institution In Vietnam?**
Dam Quang Minh, Institute of American Education

10:45am- 11:15am **Panel Discussion**
Dennis F. Berg, Emeritus Professor from California State University – Fullerton
Nguyen Xuan Thanh, Fulbright Economic Teaching Program

11:15am **Open Discussion**

12:00pm *End of Conference*

SPEAKERS



DO QUOC ANH

Do Quoc Anh is an associate professor of economics at the Department of Economics and the Interdisciplinary Center for Public Policy Evaluation (LIEPP) at Sciences Po (Institute of Political Studies), Paris, France. His research studies the political economics of governance and institutions, development and education policies, and behaviors in social networks. His work has received several prizes at a number of leading economic conferences, and has been published by economic journals, such as *the American Economic Review* and *the Quarterly Journal of Economics*. He has previously worked at the Singapore Management University and he obtained his PhD in economics from Harvard University. He is also a founding member of Vietnam Education Dialogue.

TRAN NGOC ANH

Tran Ngoc Anh is both an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Indiana University Bloomington and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Harvard University (2014-15). He teaches both international development and international trade and finance. His research focuses on the governance of developing countries, particularly in Asia. His current research projects are looking at transparency, decentralization, tax evasion, political networks, and their economic and social outcomes. His researches have appeared in the *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Public Economics* and *Journal of Financial Economics*. He also works frequently as consultant for reform initiatives by National Governments, the United Nations, and the World Bank. Anh has participated in UNDP Academic Fellowship, Asia Foundation's Emerging Leaders Program, and Vietnamese Prime Minister's Research Council. In 2014, he was named an Outstanding Junior Faculty at Indiana University. Previously, he has studied and worked in Russia, France, Australia, and the United States. Anh received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from Harvard University. He is also a founding member of Vietnam Education Dialogue.





VU THI PHUONG ANH

Vu Thi Phuong Anh currently holds the positions of Director of Educational Testing, Quality Assurance cum Director of Research and International Relations at the University of Economics and Finance (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam). She earned a Bachelor's degree in English from Ho Chi Minh University (1983), a Post-Graduate Diploma in TESOL from the University of Canberra (1991, Australia), and a PhD in Education from La Trobe University (1998, Australia). Before moving into full-time administration, she was a lecturer then senior lecturer, and for one 4-year term (1997-2001) held the position of Deputy Dean of the Faculty of English Linguistics and Literature at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH). In 2004 she left her teaching position to take up a managerial post at Vietnam National University – Ho Chi Minh City, first as Deputy Director (2004-2007) and then as Director (2008-2011) of the Center for Educational Testing and Quality Assessment. Her main research interests are in quality management in higher education, student assessment, English language proficiency testing, and educational policy studies. Her other (voluntary) work includes supporting VIPUA (Vietnam's Private Universities Association) in quality assurance and policy research activities in her position as Deputy Director of EQTS (Educational Quality Training and Support Center).

VU THANH TU ANH

Vu Thanh Tu Anh is a founder of the Vietnam Education Dialogue. He is currently on leave from the Fulbright Economics Teaching Program to be a fellow at Oxford – Princeton Global Leaders Fellowship Program.



NGO BAO CHAU

Ngo Bao Chau is one of the founding members of the Education Dialogue group. He's currently a Professor of Mathematics at University of Chicago. Professor Chau is also the Executive Director of Institute of Advanced Study in Mathematics.

DENNIS F. BERG

Dennis Berg is a Professor Emeritus of Sociology at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). He obtained his Ph.D. in Sociology from University of Southern California, Los Angeles. His research areas include: research methods, statistics, demography, and environment. Since 1970 at CSUF Dennis Berg has held a number of positions and duties including: teaching and administration, professor of sociology, coordinator environmental studies, director, social science research center, co-founder and associate director of the center for demographic research, department chair, sociology associate dean, college of humanities and social sciences, university associate vice president for academic and international programs, campus accreditation officer, and dean of graduate studies.

Since 1985, he has worked with institutions of higher education, in Asia and SE Asia including: China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam. He was awarded the Vietnam National Medal in Education by the Ministry of Education, Vietnam. He also served as adjunct professor at Fudan University, exchange professor with Vietnam National University, Fulbright Scholar in Vietnam, Ford Foundation and Social Science Research Council Foreign Expert in Hanoi, Vietnamese Educational Foundation Senior Scholar, and Fulbright Scholar in Hong Kong, China. He served as Director of Research and Faculty Development at Hoa Sen University, Associate Provost at Tan Tao University, and Head of Research and Development, SEAMEO – RETRAC. He has a 45 year record of research activity including: community based, policy oriented applied research in criminal justice, and community based organizations, urban planning, and environmental studies. Workshop facilitator/presenter throughout Asia and Southeast Asia. Some of these workshops included: teacher training, leadership development, higher education management - in topics such as accreditation, assessment (formative and summative at all levels), application and admissions, curriculum development, instructional technology, the structure of higher education, student credit units, and best practices of leadership and teaching for high school teachers, principals, and faculty and administrators in higher education. He has taught courses both traditional, hybrid, and online in Research, Statistics, Instructional Technology, Global Environmental Issues, Population, Environmental Sociology, and Environmental Research.



GIAP VAN DUONG

GIAP VAN DUONG (1976) received his Bachelor of Engineering from Hanoi University of Technology in 1999, Master of Engineering from Chonbuk National University (South Korea) in 2002, and PhD from the Vienna University of Technology (Austria) in 2006. He was a postdoctoral researcher at Vienna University of Technology (Austria, 2006-2007) and University of Liverpool (UK, 2007-2010), prior to joining the National University of Singapore (Singapore, 2010-2012) as a research scientist. His areas of expertise include: magnetic materials, material physics, and nanophysics. In 2013, he returned to Vietnam to start his education projects: GiapSchool, Books4Experts, and Books4Children.



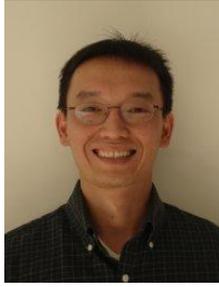
NGUYEN TRUONG GIANG

Nguyen Truong Giang earned his master's degree in Economic Policy Management at Columbia University, United States, in 1997 and doctorate degree in Finance-Credit at the Academy of Finance in 2003. Mr. Giang is currently a senior specialist, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Expenditure, and Ministry of Finance, who is assigned to monitor the financial policy formulation and the state budget allocation in education and training, science and technology, culture, sports, and broadcasting. Besides undertaking the state management tasks, Mr. Giang also participates in training doctoral students. He is also a visiting lecturer at the Academy of Finance and many other universities throughout the country.

PHAM HUNG HIEP

Pham Hung Hiepis currently on leave from Vietnam National University, Hanoi to undertake a PhD in International Business Administration at Chinese Culture University, Taiwan R.O.C. In 2013, Hiep was a visiting researcher at The Center for Studies of Higher Education, The University of Melbourne under Endeavour Cheung Kong program sponsored by the Australian government. Hiep's interested topics include commercialization and globalization in higher education and student behavior from customer's perspective. Hiep is a member of Vietnam Education Dialogue.





NGO QUANG HUNG

Ngo Quang Hung obtained a PhD in Computer Science at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, U.S. He's currently an Associate Professor at State University of New York at Buffalo, researching on database join algorithms, error-tolerant group testing, and switching networks. Dr. Hung is a founding member of the Education Dialogue group.

LUONG CHI MAI

Luong Chi Mai received her BSc from the Faculty of Applied Mathematics, Kishinev University (Soviet Union former) in 1981 and her PhD in 1991. She joined to the Laboratory of Pattern Recognition - Institute of Information Technology (IOIT), Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) in 1982. Since then she has been working as a senior researcher. She became Associate Professor in 2005. Her research interest includes: optical character recognition, automatic speech recognition, and speech synthesis. She has published numerous research papers in all her fields. As a researcher in IOIT, she was appointed to join as the Co-Director for the Department of Information Technology and Communication, at the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi (USTH) in 2011. She received the Kovalevskiaia Prize in 2010 for her R&D contribution in ICT in Vietnam.



DAM QUANG MINH

He received his Ph.D in Geosciences at Greifswald University, Germany and Institute for Baltic Sea Research in 2007. Threw 2008-2013: FPT University, FPT Polytechnic and FPT International Academy. In 2014 he attended the Institute of American Education that owns Broward College Vietnam, Vietnamese – American Vocational Training College (VATC), and VATC English Language Center.



LUONG HOAI LAM

Mr. Luong Hoai Nam, DoB 05 October 1963, studied Aviation Economics at Riga Civil Aviation Engineering University in Riga, Latvia (former Soviet Union), and graduated in 1986. He received his PhD in Economics in 1990. Post positions: Director Marketing Planning of Vietnam Airlines Corp, Editor-in-Chief of Heritage Magazine (Vietnam Airlines), Chief Executive Officer of Jetstar Pacific Airlines, Vice Chairman of Vietnam Tourism Association, Managing Director of Air Mekong, and Deputy General Director of Nam Long Investment Corp (real estate). Current positions: Deputy General Director of Thien Minh Group (TMG), Chief Executive Officer of Hai Au Aviation Co., Vice Chairman of Hoang Gia Aviation and Tourism Services Co. (Gotadi.com), Vice Chairman of Saigon Cargo Services Co. Frequent writer on economic, and transport and education topics.

NGUYEN THI NHAI

Nguyen Thi Nhai obtained her PhD in Education at Monash University, Australia. She's currently a lecturer at RMIT University in Vietnam. Her research interests include: international higher education, cultural study, advertising and marketing, vocational training, and higher education.



BUI TRAN PHUONG

As President of Hoa Sen University, Dr. Phuong has set in place several plans to develop Hoa Sen University into a sustainable university. A team of intellectuals that were trained in various countries are contributing to Hoa Sen's development. All of its lecturers hold doctoral degrees and are graduates of overseas institutions. Dr. Bui Tran Phuong considered her largest and most meaningful achievement as the gathering of educators from diverse backgrounds all of which have dedicated their entire life to education. Many of them are also entrepreneurs, foreign professors, Viet Kieu (overseas Vietnamese), and young graduates from overseas institutions.

From 1975 to 1992, her research projects mainly focused on Vietnam's contemporary history. From 1992 to the present, she has focused on in-depth research of cultural history and

most especially on the history of Vietnamese women. The title of Dr. Phuong's doctoral dissertation is, "Vietnam 1920-1945, Gender and Modernity: The Emergence of New Perceptions and Experience".

She has been a member of more than one international research team on higher education. The next publication she participated in will be: *Thoughts on the Internationalization of Higher Education: Points of Views from Actors*, from RIMES (Réseau international sur la mondialisation de l'enseignement supérieur).

DO THI NGOC QUYEN



Do Thi Ngoc Quyen got her MSc. in Education and Educational Effectiveness and School Improvement from the University of Groningen. She was the former manager of quality assurance studies and accreditation at the Institute of Education Quality Assurance (INFEQA), VNU-HN. She is currently doing her Ph.D study at CSHE, the University of Melbourne, on quality assurance and improvement, and university governance. Her interests include quality assurance and improvement, specifically benchmarking, accreditation and rankings, university governance, performance indicators in higher education, and educational productivity models.

NGUYEN XUAN THANH

Nguyen Xuan Thanh is the director of the Fulbright Economics Teaching Program in Ho Chi Minh City, and a senior fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School. Thanh's work focuses on development finance, public investment, and infrastructure development. His recent and ongoing research projects include cross-ownership in Vietnam's banking sector, Vietnam's infrastructure constraints, and Ho Chi Minh City development strategies. Prior to joining the Fulbright School, Thanh served as an official in the municipal government of Ho Chi Minh City.





LUONG VAN THANG

Luong Van Thang graduated with two master's degrees: in international relations from Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (2006) and in Public Administration at Postdam University, Germany (2007). Thang has been working at Ministry of Science and Technology since 2000 and is currently the Vice Director in charge of the project "Fostering Innovation through Research, Science and Technology – FIRST".

LAM QUANG THIEP

Lam Quang Thiep is a Professor in Geophysics (since 1991) at both Ha Noi University, in Higher Education and Measurements in Education (since 2000) at University of Education, Vietnam National University - Ha Noi. He obtained his Ph.D. (1968) and Doctor of Sciences (1982) at Moscow National University. He was a Director of Office of Higher Education at Ministry of Education and Training (1997-1998), and a visiting Professor at State University of New York at Buffalo in the Fulbright Scholar Exchange Program (2001-2002). He is currently a Professor at Thang Long University. In the recent years, he writes various papers about higher education and measurements and evaluation in education.



NGUYEN MINH THUYET

Nguyen Minh Thuyet graduated from Ha Noi General University in 1969. He defended his doctoral thesis at the Leningrad National University, former USSR, in 1981. He was a Professor of Linguistic in 1996. He was also a Former Vice Rector of College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Hanoi. He was also a visiting lecturer at University of Laval (Quebec, Canada) and University Paris Diderot - Paris 7 (France). He was also an Editor, author, co-author of 6 monographs, university textbooks and more than 70 other books. He received the Ordre des Palmes Académiques of French government. He was a delegate to the eleventh and twelfth National Assembly. He was also a former Vice Chairman of the National Assembly's Committee for Culture, Education, Youth, and Children.





NGUYEN XUAN VANG

Nguyen Xuan Vang graduated with an English major at Hanoi Foreign Language University (1979). After that, he received the postgraduate scholarship in English teaching method in the UK (1984) and Australia (1990). Mr. Vang has in-depth experience in professional English teaching, translation training, and international cooperation. He was appointed as Vice Rector (1997), then Rector (2000) of the Hanoi Foreign Language University. He was also Director of the Vietnam International Education Development, Ministry of Education and Training (2008). Mr. Vang led the establishment and development of the Hanoi Foreign Language University from a foreign language school to Hanoi University (2006), the first interdisciplinary university of Vietnam whose courses are taught totally in English. Being active in international cooperation, Mr. Vang has been awarded many honorable titles.



VU HA VAN

Vu Ha Van is a Percey F. Smith professor of Mathematics at Yale University. Born and raised in Hanoi, he serves on the scientific board of Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics and frequently lectures at Vietnamese universities and research institutes. Van is a member of Vietnam Education Dialogue.



DUONG NGUYEN VU

Vu Duong has been Chair of Systems Science cum and Director of John von Neumann Institute (JVNI) of Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City (VNUHCM) since July 2010. Prior to his return to participate into the joined efforts for the development and growth of his Motherland, Vu had been with European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL) as Head of Innovative Research Unit from 1999-2006. He was also Senior Scientific Advisor from 2006-2012, and a Member of the Scientific Committee of EU Single European Sky Air Traffic Management R&D (2010-2012). Have been involving in academic and research activities in Vietnam since 1997, Vu has also been an Affiliate Professor of Computer Science at VNUHCM University of Technology from 2005 to

2010, and has been a Professor and Academic Advisor at VNU University of Science since 2006, Professor Charge de Conferences at EPHE-Sorbonne since 2000, and Adjunct Professor at Telecom-ParisTech since 2007. Vu was also in various research and management positions at Schlumberger Ltd from 1990-1995. Vu holds a MEng and a PhD degree both from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussees, Paris.

ABSTRACTS

Paper 1: Build Up Crews of Lecturers and Scientific Researchers at Vietnamese Universities - Ngo Bao Chau and Ngo Quang Hung

One key factor of creating university quality greatly depends on the quality of lecturers and scientific researchers at the University. In our presentation, we point out the differences in the process to select and build up Vietnamese University workforce in order to improve gradually the quality of research and teaching at Vietnamese Universities.

Paper 2: University Governance in Vietnam: Cans and Cannots - Bui Tran Phuong

In order to build a real university, we cannot help raising the university governance. My presentation analyses, from the realities in Vietnam, the cans and cannots. We will mention factors about history, culture, institution, politics, and law, with a special focus on regulations that have been changed many times over the last several years. These regulations seem to remain severe and binding. However, we will not disregard human factors, especially at the school level: from managers to lecturers, staff, students, former students, businesses and other social partners. Stakeholders will be viewed as the community having different interests and obligations, sometimes coherent, and sometimes interactive with conflict of interests and compromises which are sometimes acknowledged and sometimes not. What are the obstacles? What can be promoted and encouraged to enhance awareness of personal responsibility and democracy at Vietnamese universities to form, for the first time, a new university culture. The premise for this new Vietnamese culture can be changed in nature. We have no ambition of mentioning the issues deeply, but we will try to provide a wide insight to identify the preliminarily cans and cannots.

Paper 3: Hanoi University: Some Management Experiences - Nguyen Xuan Vang

On August 17, 2006, the Prime Minister signed Decision No. 190/2006/QĐ-TTg on changing the name of the Hanoi University of Foreign Languages to the Hanoi University. Officially recognizing the successes of the university's collective cadres, lecturers and students and allowing the university to become a multi-disciplined university. To achieve this, the Hanoi University of Foreign Languages must have a

number of certain achievements confirmed by the Ministry of Education and Training to submit the Prime Minister for approval. In my presentation, I, as the rector of the university from 2000 to 2008, will report a number of results in the building and developing the Hanoi University of Foreign Languages. I will also report on the leadership and management measures that have been taken, and some experience in managing and operating the university.

Paper 4: Accountability - *Tran Ngoc Anh and Do Quoc Anh*

To reform a university, the university leaders need to have adequate driving forces to reform. The strongest driving force is the mechanism to take responsibility for the university's operational results. If the university operates well, its leaders should be rewarded and promoted. On the contrary, if university has bad leaders, it must discipline and even dismiss them if necessary. There are three forms for the leaders to explain: Explain to higher authorities, explain to the inferiors, and explain to students. In this presentation, we propose the use of student evaluation cards to increase the leaders' responsibility in explaining to students and former students. The Ministry of Education and Training assigns an independent organization to carry out surveys of students and former students' evaluation. From the survey results, the organization ranks universities in teaching quality and rate of students who successfully apply for jobs. The Ministry of Education and Training can use the independent ranking to reward and appoint university leaders.

Paper 5: University Autonomy: Realities and Solutions for Vietnamese Higher Education - *Nguyen Minh Thuyet*

University autonomy includes autonomy in organization, finance, work force, and learning. In Vietnam, autonomy is acknowledged in the Vietnam Education Law and the Vietnam Higher Education Law as a progress in university governance thought. However, it is not a great turning-point because the government still controls everything greatly. Developing universities in the form of research, application or both research and application mainly depends on the factors outside universities. Establishing, splitting, merging, appointing university board president and rector, making decisions on workforce, and salaries for cadres are all decided by the governing body. The university board has no real power. At private universities, the board of directors has real power but big shareholders' also have power. A pilot plan about autonomy in finance was not carried out synchronously, so it was not successful. Apart from themechanism difficulties, implementing autonomy has faced difficulties because universities are not capable and ready. To implement university autonomy, a number of urgent measures about institution, organization, workforce, learning and finance should be taken.

Paper6: Autonomy and the New Law of Higher Education - *Vu Thi Phuong Anh*

"Autonomy" is a fundamental concept in Western higher education discourse, but is relatively new in Vietnam. Its first mentions can be traced back as recently as the mid-1990s with the establishment of the two national universities, which are until now regarded as having the highest level of autonomy in the system. With the

promulgation of Law of Higher Education in 2012, for the first time in the history of higher education in Vietnam this new concept has been legalized. However, in spite of its being included in the Law of Higher Education, autonomy is still not a reality in Vietnam's higher education, as can be seen in various practices where government control is not at all loosened. The author argues that the mere mention of autonomy in the Law of Higher Education in an article does not mean that the concept is fully understood, not to mention its being implemented, as there are many other articles that prove otherwise. Consequently, it is necessary to continue to discuss the concept and how it can be implemented in the context of Vietnam's higher education. Also to consider revising the Law to make it more consistent with the idea of allowing universities more autonomy as currently practiced in other countries in the world.

Paper 7: An Appropriate System of Governance and Management for Vietnamese Higher Education - Lam Quang Thiep

This paper aim is to find an appropriate model for the governance and management of Vietnam's higher education (HE) system.

Initially, the paper shows two critical weaknesses of Vietnam's HE system which have been pointed out by many researchers: the separation of HE and research systems, and the mechanism of line-ministry control and HE institutions subordinate to the ministry. The paper goes on to describe some worldwide models of governance and management of HE and then suggests a common model that Vietnam's HE can adopt.

The main portion of the paper focuses on an appropriate model of governance and management for Vietnam's HE system. This model consists of two levels. At the macro level, a single point of authority for HE and research is suggested to implement the State's strategic priorities for both HE and research systems and at the same time to manage all HE and research allocations. At the HE institutional level, a system of university council and Rector's management apparatus is suggested, in which the functions of each body and the relationships between them will be explained, to ensure autonomy, accountability, and democracy for all activities of HE institutions.

The paper concludes with some anticipated difficulties related to the implementation of the new governance and management system in the current context of Vietnam, the possibility of its application, and a feasible road map for a successful application of the proposed model.

Paper 8: Financial Reforms to Enhance Quality, Equality and Effectiveness in Higher Education - Nguyen Truong Giang

This presentation points out limitations and consequences of the current financial mechanism used in higher education. On that basis, the presenter proposes a number of recommendations in order to reform the education finance resource mobilization and allocation policy in the future. The presenter holds the position that even in the case that the state budget for higher education doesn't increase, by changing the forms of mobilizing and allocating education finance resources, reforming the policy to support students, reforming the state budget's expenditure

mechanism, we can completely build a higher education system that operates on equally and effectively with high quality.

Paper 9: Supporting or Obstructing the Development of Vietnamese Higher Education - *Pham Hung Hiep, Tran Ngoc Anh*

As the higher education scale rapidly grows up, one of the issues that have perplexed policy makers all over the world, including those in Vietnam, is how to achieve two targets at the same time, meaning ensuring both education quality and chances to approach higher education. In this paper, which is based on the world's most updated research, we have systematized issues related to cost sharing in higher education and suggest appropriate financial mechanisms that could help policy makers and concurrently achieve those two targets.

Paper 10: Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education: Global Trends and Implications for Vietnam - *Do Thi Ngoc Quyen*

Following the world development trend that assures higher education quality, Vietnam started to carry out the accreditation in higher education system in 2005. After 10 years, the accreditation system has not been completed and is not operational. The National Quality Assurance System in Higher Education has not actually been built. It is mainly based on the quality accreditation but lacks several necessary tools widely used in many countries to assure higher education quality. The amended Law on education, the law on higher education and the Education Strategic Development Plan 2011-2020 of Vietnam, which focus on the education quality, have put out necessary requirements for the building and development of the National Quality Assurance System in Higher Education. With a systematic viewpoint, this paper analyzes the current reality of quality assurance and accreditation in Vietnam's higher education, practices, and development trends of quality assurance at the leading universities in the world including those of US, UK, and Australia. The purpose is to show the development gap so that we can carry out and suggest development plan for Vietnam's quality assurance and accreditation system in the future.

Paper 11: How to Operate a Private Education Institution in Vietnam - *Dam Quang Minh*

This paper will talk about how to operate a private university in Vietnam, from financial structures and the differences compared with private schools in other countries such as the US and India. In order to succeed, Vietnam's private schools must own two important factors: a difference and an effectively and professionally operational mode.

The difference not only brings in successes for private universities in Vietnam but also helps them build their prestige globally. Several private universities such as FPT, Hoa Sen, RMIT, Thang Long, Binh Duong, Duy Tan, and Lac Hong have been highly evaluated. They bring a new fresh air and diversity to Vietnam's human resources.

The effectively and professionally operational mode is the key factor for private universities to exist. Unlike the competition between private and public companies in Vietnam, where public companies only have financial advantages but have to

cover all operational costs, private schools in Vietnam face fiercer competition. Public universities are provided with facilities and buildings and are covered for most of their operational costs while private universities must take care of both long term investments for development and short term investments for survival.

I have eight year experience in both successes and failures in starting and operating private universities such as FPT, Broward College, and the US Education Organization. This paper will discuss how to build a good private school that brings the best qualities to students and can be both sustainable and successful.

Paper 12: Developing Faculty Members - Vu Ha Van

The strength of a university is essentially determined by the strength of its research faculties. In this short talk, the speaker will share some of his experience in how to build a strong faculty.

Paper 13: Research and Development in Universities - Ngo Quang Hung

Research and Development is of the utmost importance in a modern university. R & D is not only important in terms of economic aspects, scientific development, and research skills, but it also plays an essential role in improving education quality.

In this paper, I will share some examples, and personal observations and experiences in R & D at universities. Examples and observations will mainly focus on the area of Computer Sciences, the major that I am working on and base most of my knowledge. I hope these observations can be universal and useful to other majors. Finally, the paper provides some ideas to improve the quality of R & D works at universities in Vietnam.

Paper 14: FIRST Project: Connecting Knowledge and Spreading Innovation - Luong Van Thang

Fostering innovation through Research, Science, and Technology (FIRST) is the Ministry of Science and Technology's first project that uses the World Bank's ODA capital with the total invested capital of US\$110 million in the period of 2013-2019. Together with other programs of the Ministry of Science and Technology, FIRST project aims at enhancing Vietnam economy's productivity, competitiveness, and growth quality by intensifying the effects of scientific research, developing and applying technology, promoting strongly creativeness, and renovating technology in businesses in order to create more added value for the economy. In this presentation, the speaker will present the FIRST project's basic contents and discuss opportunities for local and foreign scientists to participate in the project.

Paper 15: Viet – Phap University's Experience - Luong Chi Mai

This presentation will share some experiences and difficulties that the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi - USTH (a public Vietnam – French University) has had to deal with in order to fulfill its ambitious and challenging mission. USTH is a new model university. This Formation-Research-Industries equation aims to address the emerging needs of Vietnam, and to adapt Bologna System (3/5/8) for its courses and degrees. All courses are taught in English. The University should be a good environment for the training of undergraduate and postgraduate. That leads to the

need for addressing the following fundamental issues: entrance good quality, organizing training programs for undergraduate students of strong fundamental knowledge, an oriented master program may change in accordance with the times, an environment for created high-quality research toward autonomy capable of postgraduate training, teaching organization in order to benefit a significant advantages of the consent USTH cooperation of 40 universities in France. Besides the advantages that a difficulty arises is how to incorporate the involvement of so many places to build a school uniform content; how to recruit permanent staff, a policy of strong involvement of Vietnamese sites – qualification, salary, administration.

Paper 16: The Formation of International Student Characters in a Multi-National Educational Environment: Insights from an Insider - *Nguyen Thi Nhai*

Annually, it is estimated that more than three million students study overseas or participate in joint training programs at home. However, no in-depth researches on the impacts of the multi-national educational environment on the formation of student characters at local universities have been conducted. This presentation's purpose is to analyze the process of the formation of international student characters of Vietnamese students who are studying joint training programs with foreign universities, especially at the branches of foreign universities in Vietnam from the insights of an insider. The presentation mentions research results and proposes a number of recommendations for management levels, educators, partner universities, and universities in Vietnam.

Paper 17: Digital Education: A Great Opportunity to Upgrade the Vietnam's Higher Education Curriculum - *Giap Van Duong*

This paper discusses the development of digital education, especially in Vietnam, recently. The pros and cons of digital education compared to the traditional education will be analysed. The effect of this digital movement to Vietnam higher education, especially to the private sector, will be discussed. The possibility of Vietnamizing digital resources, including the open courses taught in English, will be mentioned. For conclusion, digital education is a great opportunity to upgrade Vietnam's higher education curriculum, and for universities in both public and private sector to do the same.