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PRESS RELEASE

Sandy Hoa Dang
Executive Director

INTERVIEWS FOR 2016 VEF FELLOWSHIPS AND VISITING SCHOLAR GRANTS

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Hanoi, July 23, 2015 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) announces the visit to Vietnam by a delegation of ten U.S. scientists and professors from July 28 to August 6, 2015, to interview candidates for the VEF Fellowships and Visiting Scholar grants for the 2016 Cohort. This cohort of Fellows will begin graduate studies in the United States in the fall of 2016 in the fields supported by VEF, namely, the sciences (natural, physical, and environmental), engineering, mathematics, medicine (typically public health), and technology (including information technology). Successful Vietnamese Visiting Scholars will participate in postdoctoral training or research at U.S. universities in academic year 2016 to 2017.

During the selection process, the U.S. scientists and professors will conduct oral exams/interviews for 122 VEF Fellowship and Visiting Scholar applicants in order to select the most talented individuals with the greatest potential and promise for graduate study in the United States. All VEF Fellowship applicants were required to have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test in order to be considered for the Fellowship competition and to have demonstrated competency in English, generally through the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). While in Vietnam, the U.S. delegation will also conduct **11** scientific lectures and meetings at **seven** universities and research institutes, **two** EducationUSA Advising Centers in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, and **one** hospital in Hanoi.

Ms. Sandy Dang, VEF Executive Director, commented: "The Vietnam Education Foundation is proud to be a part of the development of the sciences, technology engineering, mathematics, and medicine for Vietnam through educational exchange. The highly recognized VEF Fellowship Program enables the best minds of Vietnam to pursue their dream of getting a graduate degree at a highly regarded university in the United States. VEF expects to send around **32** new Fellows to begin graduate programs and **5** new Visiting Scholars to do postdoctoral training in the United States in the fall of 2016. This will be the last cohort of Fellowship and Visiting Scholar awardees."

The Vietnam Education Foundation was founded through legislation enacted by the U.S. Congress, and hence is a U.S. Federal Government agency. The foundation began operations in 2003. As its flagship activity, the VEF Fellowship Program has placed **528** Fellows at **98** top U.S. graduate institutions for Master's and Ph.D. degrees. The VEF Visiting Scholar Program provides opportunities

for Vietnamese postdoctoral recipients to pursue programs of their own devising at U.S. universities for terms of 5 to 12 months. In addition, the U.S. Faculty Scholar Program allows U.S. professors to teach at Vietnamese universities for one or two terms, either on site in Vietnam or via real-time interactive videoconferencing. VEF Fellows and Visiting Scholars are required to return to Vietnam upon completion of their academic programs in the United States. As of July 2015, VEF has a network of 346 Alumni: 273 Fellows, 42 Visiting Scholars, and 31 U.S. Faculty Scholars.

For more information on VEF, please visit the VEF website at www.vef.gov.
