



2nd VEF ALUMNI CONFERENCE

Theme: *Building a Strong VEF Alumni Network*
Date: August 13-15, 2010
Venue for Outdoor Training Day: Vung Tau (on August 14 only)
Venue for Sessions: New World Hotel Saigon
76 Le Lai, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

DAY 1 – Friday, August 13

Afternoon Out-of-town Conference participants check into New World Hotel Saigon

05:00-06:30 pm **Conference Registration** (For Alumni only)
Venue: Mekong Room 1 & 2 - New World Hotel Saigon

06:30 – 09:00 pm **Welcome Dinner (Sponsored by VNG Corporation)**
Venue: Mekong Room 1 & 2 - New World Hotel Saigon

06:30-07:00 pm **Remarks:**

- Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director
- Mr. Andre W. Lewis, VEF Board Member
- Ms. Angela Dickey, Acting Consul General, U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City
- Dr. Margaret Petrochenkov, U.S. National Academies
- Dr. Nguyen Cong Nghia, Representative of VEF Alumni, (Cohort 2004)

07:00-07:15 **VEF Presentation of Appreciation Mementos**

07:15-08:45 **Dinner**

08:45-09:00 **Closing Remarks**

DAY 2 – Saturday, August 14: **Outdoor Experiential Activities** (*Arranged by Embers*)

- ✓ All participants wear T-shirts prepared by VEF.
- ✓ Site: Vung Tau

06:30 – 07:00 am **Gathering at New World Hotel Saigon’s Lobby**

07:00 am **Departure from New World Hotel Saigon to Vung Tau**

09:00 am- 12:00 pm **Outdoor Experiential Activities**

12:00 - 01:00 pm **Lunch**

01:00 – 03:30 pm **Outdoor Experiential Activities**

- 03:30 pm** **Bus pick-up and departure to visit the Centre for Caring and Supporting Children in Vung Tau**
Address: 26 Ngo Quyen Str, Thang Nhat Ward, Vung Tau City
- 05:00 pm** **Bus pick-up and departure for New World Hotel Saigon**
- Evening** **Networking Dinner (Sponsored by EQuest Academy)**
(07:30 – 10:00 pm) *Venue: Indochine Ballroom, Level 1, New World Hotel Saigon*
- DAY 3 – Sunday, August 15: Conference Sessions**
- ✓ *All participants wear name tags.*
✓ *Venue: Mekong 1&2, Level 1, New World Hotel Saigon*
- 07:00-07:30 am** **Conference Registration for outside participants**
- 07:45 - 08:15 am** **Welcome and Introduction**
- Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director
- 08:15 – 10:00 am** **Session 1: Promotion of STEM Fields Expertise in Vietnam**
- Moderator/Chair: Dr. Tiendung Le, VEF Alumnus, Cohort 2005
- Speakers:
- Dr. VO Van Toi, Professor and Chair, Biomedical Engineering Department, International University - Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City
 - Dr. NGUYEN Chanh Khe, Director of the R&D Centre, Saigon Hi-tech Park
 - Dr. Cynthia Chappell, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- Q&A Session
- 10:00 – 10:15 am** **Tea Break**
- 10:15 am -12:00 pm** **Session 2: Working Environment in Vietnam for VEF Alumni**
- Moderator/Chair: Dr. Hoa Trinh, VEF Alumna, Cohort 2004
- Speakers:
- Academia: Madame TON Nu Thi Ninh, President of the Founding Committee, Tri Viet International University Project
 - Corporate Sector:
 - Mr. LE Hong Minh, CEO and Chairman, VNG Corporation
 - Mr. VUONG Quang Khai, VEF Alumnus, Vice President of Web Business, VNG Corporation
- Q&A Session
- 12:00 - 01:00 pm** **Lunch**
(Park View Restaurant at the New World Hotel Saigon)

01:00-03:00 pm

Session 3: VEF Alumni Panels

✓ *Open Session for Alumni to Share Experiences*

Moderator/Chair: Dr. Chanh Kieu, VEF Alumnus, Cohort 2003

Alumni working in academic sector
Alumni working in corporate sector
Alumni working in development sector
Alumni working in entrepreneurship

03:00-03:15 pm

Tea Break

03:15-05:00 pm

Session 4: Building a Strong VEF Alumni Network and Wrap-up

Moderator/Chair: Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director

✓ *Alumni will be divided into 6 groups to discuss ideas, strategies and initiatives to strengthen VEF Alumni's contribution to Vietnam and to build a strong VEF Alumni Network.*

03:15 – 04:15 pm: **Brainstorming** in each group (45 minutes)

04:15 – 04:45 pm: **Presenting ideas/initiatives:** Each initiative will be presented in 5 minutes.

04:45 – 05:00 pm: **Wrap-up and Future Efforts:** Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director

05:00-05:15 pm

Evaluation Forms Distribution and Collection

05:15 – 07:00 pm

Light Closing Reception

(Venue: Indochine Ballroom, Level 1, New World Hotel Saigon)

Farewell Remarks:

- Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director
- Dr. Chau Minh Khoi, VEF Visiting Scholar Alumni, Cohort 2008

VEF wishes to thank the following organizations for their generosity in providing in-kind/financial contributions to the 2nd VEF Alumni Conference:

1. VNG Corporation – Diamond Sponsor
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