



## 4<sup>th</sup> VEF ALUMNI CONFERENCE AGENDA

**Theme:** *VEF Alumni: Successes and Challenges*  
**Date:** August 10-12, 2012  
**Conference Hotel:** Furama Resort Danang  
Truong Sa Street, Ngu Hanh Son District, Danang  
**Venue for University Visit:** Danang University of Technology, the University of Danang,  
54 Nguyen Luong Bang Street, Lien Chieu District, Danang

### DAY 1 – Friday, August 10

Morning Out-of-town Conference participants check into Furama Resort Danang

9:00 am-6:30 pm **Conference Registration**  
*(First Floor, Furama Resort Danang)*

10:00-11:30 am **Outreach Activity**  
U.S.-Vietnam Studies Corner, Learning and Information Resource Center,  
the University of Danang  
91A Nguyen Thi Minh Khai, Hai Chau, Danang  
*(Optional as per pre-registration)*

12:00-1:15 pm **Lunch**  
*(Indochine Restaurant, Furama Resort Danang)*

1:45-2:00 pm **Welcome Remarks**  
Dr. Lynne MCNAMARA, VEF Executive Director  
*(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)*

2:00-3:30 pm **Leadership Training Session 1: Negotiating to Win**  
*(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)*

3:30-3:45 pm Tea Break

3:45-5:30 pm **Leadership Training Session 2: How to Improve Workplace Performance**  
*(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)*

5:45-7:00 pm **Welcome Reception**  
*(Gallery Room I & II, Furama Resort Danang)*

7:00 pm Free Evening: Dinner on your own

### DAY 2 – Saturday, August 11

6:30-7:30 am Breakfast  
*(Indochine Restaurant, Furama Resort Danang. Included in hotel room charges.)*

7:45 am Bus pick-up from Furama Resort Danang Lobby to  
Danang University of Technology  
*(Bus arranged by Furama Resort)*

8:30-9:15 am

**Plenary Session**

*(Auditorium F, Danang University of Technology)*

Conference MC: Ms. PHAM Thi Minh Tam, VEF Fellowship Alumna, Cohort 2004

8:30-9:00 am Welcome Remarks

- Mr. Steven PAPPAS, VEF Board Member  
U.S. Department of Education
- Mr. Robert OGBURN, Deputy Principal Officer  
U.S. Consulate General, Ho Chi Minh City
- Dr. NGUYEN Quan, Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology
- Associate Prof. Dr. DOAN Quang Vinh, Vice President,  
The University of Danang

9:15-9:30 am Presentation

- Dr. Paul BROWN, Head, Psychology and Applied Neuroscience Unit,  
Office of Laos Government

9:30-9:45 am

**Group Photo Session**

9:45-11:30 am

**Small-Group Visits at Danang University of Technology/Charity Visit to the Village of Hope (for orphaned, abandoned and hearing-impaired children)**

*(As per pre-registration both online and on-site)*

1. Civil Engineering and Project Management
2. Electrical Engineering, Energy, and Environment
3. Information Technology, Electronics, and Telecommunications
4. Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
5. Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics

10:00-10:15 am Presentation/introduction about each institution

10:15-10:45 am Informal discussions/seminars/experience sharing

10:45-11:30 am Tour of each institution

6. Charity Visit to the Village of Hope  
(209 Dung Si Thanh Khe Street, Thanh Khe District, Danang City)

11:30 am

Bus pick-up from Danang University of Technology/Village of Hope back to Furama Resort Danang

*(Bus arranged by Furama Resort)*

12:00-1:15 pm

**Lunch**

*(Indochine Restaurant, Furama Resort Danang)*

1:30-3:30 pm

**Informal Discussion Forum: "Our Stories: Challenges and Successes"**

*(VEF Alumni sharing their stories)*

*(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)*

3:30-3:45 pm

Tea Break

*(Prepare/change clothing for outdoor teambuilding activities at Furama Resort Danang)*

3:45-6:45 pm

**Outdoor Team Building Activities**

7:00-9:00 pm

**Dinner**

*(Barbecue dinner on the beach, Furama Resort Danang)*

**DAY 3 – Sunday, August 12:**

6:30-7:30 am Breakfast  
(Indochine Restaurant, Furama Resort Danang)

6:30-8:00 am Alumni check out of Furama Resort Danang  
(Luggage to be kept by the Resort Concierge)

8:00-8:30 am **Opportunities for Funding**

- Dr. DO Tien Dung, Executive Director, National Foundation for Science and Technology Development, Ministry of Science and Technology
- Ms. LE Hong Tam, State Alumni Coordinator Assistant, U.S. Embassy Hanoi

(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)

8:30-11:00 am **Parallel Discussion Sessions: (1) Overcoming Challenges, and (2) Models for Success**

❖ **Session 1: Optimizing Opportunities in Academia and Research in Vietnam**

Moderator: Dr. LE Thi Ly, VEF Fellowship Alumna, Cohort 2004

Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. BUI Van Ga, Vice Minister, Ministry of Education and Training
- Associate Prof. Dr. DOAN Quang Vinh, Vice President, the University of Danang
- Prof. Dr. Seymour VAN GUNDY, University of California at Riverside
- Dr. BUI Xuan Loc, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2004

(Ocean Room, Furama Resort Danang)

❖ **Session 2: Case Studies of Successful Sustainable Development Projects: Green City and Renewable Energy**

Moderator: Dr. NGUYEN Duc Dung, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2003

Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. Austin MARSHALL, University of Texas at El Paso
- Dr. NGUYEN Viet Hung, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2003
- Associate Prof. Dr. DINH Thanh Viet, VEF Visiting Scholar Alumnus, Cohort 2007

(Gallery Room I, Furama Resort Danang)

❖ **Session 3: Synergy for Success: Joint Efforts and Ideas for VEF Alumni Engagement**

Moderator: Ms. PHAM Thi Minh Tam, VEF Fellowship Alumna, Cohort 2004

Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. Jay BAGGA, Ball State University, VEF U.S. Faculty Scholar Alumnus, Cohort 2011
- Dr. DO Trung Thong, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2004
- Dr. NGO Thi Phuong Dung, VEF Visiting Scholar Alumna, Cohort 2007
- Dr. TRUONG Trung Kien, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2006

(Gallery Room III, Furama Resort Danang)

10:00-10:15 am Tea Break

11:00-11:30 am

**Wrap Up and Concluding Remarks**

- Dr. LE Thi Ly, VEF Fellowship Alumna, Cohort 2004
- Dr. NGUYEN Duc Dung, VEF Fellowship Alumnus, Cohort 2003
- Ms. PHAM Thi Minh Tam, VEF Fellowship Alumna, Cohort 2004
- Dr. Lynne MCNAMARA, VEF Executive Director

11:30 am-12:00 pm

**Closing Remarks**

- Mr. Steven PAPPAS, VEF Board Member, U.S. Department of Education
- Associate Prof. Dr. DOAN Quang Vinh, Vice President, The University of Danang
- Dr. DINH Thanh Viet, VEF Visiting Scholar Alumnus, Cohort 2007
- Dr. LE Van Hao, VEF Visiting Scholar Alumnus, Cohort 2008

12:00-1:30 pm

**Lunch**

*(Indochine Restaurant, Furama Resort Danang)*

Afternoon

Departure: Travel to the airport on your own