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PRESS RELEASE

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7TH ANNUAL VIETNAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

Hanoi, January 2, 2010 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) is pleased to announce the 7th Annual VEF Fellows and Scholars Conference. The Conference is an annual event for VEF Fellows and Scholars and will be hosted this year by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, from Sunday, January 3, through Tuesday, January 5, 2010. RPI is one of 107 top U.S. universities that are members of the VEF Alliance supporting the mission of VEF.

The purpose of VEF, an independent U.S. Federal Government agency (www.vef.gov), is to build the relationship between Vietnam and the United States through educational exchanges. VEF activities focus only on the sciences (natural, physical, and environmental), engineering, mathematics, medicine, and technology (including information technology). VEF educational exchange activities include three programs: (1) Fellowship Program, which sends Vietnamese nationals to the United States for graduate degree programs; (2) Visiting Scholar Program, which supports Vietnamese nationals, who already hold a doctorate, to further develop their professional skills via studies, research, and/or observational activities at leading U.S. academic institutions; and (3) U.S. Faculty Scholar Grant Program, which supports U.S. professors to teach courses at Vietnamese institutions for one to two semesters by teaching on-site in Vietnam or by teaching via interactive, real-time videoconferencing from the United States.

During the 7th Annual Conference, VEF Fellows, Visiting Scholars, and U.S. Faculty Scholars will participate in a variety of sessions and discussions. The VEF Conference is a valuable opportunity for professional career development, networking, and scientific discussions. The Annual Conference this year will include the following:

- Job Fair: Academic and corporate entities interacting with VEF Fellows and Scholars, including Ho Chi Minh City University of Industry; Institute for Computational Science and Technology; Tan Tao University; Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology; and VinaGame Software Joint Stock Company.
- Guest speakers from the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology

- and Ministry of Education and Training.
- Leadership Training: Experiential learning to build future leaders
 - Scientific Sessions: Research activities of Fellows and Visiting Scholars
 - *All the Ways Home*: Preparing Fellows and Visiting Scholars to return to Vietnam
 - Motivational talks by successful U.S. and Vietnamese experts
 - VEF Fellows and Scholars Association (VEFFA): Building a network of experts
 - U.S. Faculty Scholars: Teaching programs in Vietnam

The annual **Job Fair** helps VEF Fellows and Scholars to establish important contacts with Vietnamese universities and research institutes as well as international companies involved in Vietnam that want to recruit talented and outstanding VEF Fellows into their workforce.

Nearly 200 VEF Fellows and Scholars from more than 70 U.S. universities will be present at this Conference. For more information, please visit this link: <http://home.vef.gov/news.php?id=232>.