



Vietnam – UK Education Cooperation Forum  
**“Connecting opportunities  
for sustainable  
education partnerships”**

Friday, 11 September 2015  
Centre Hall Westminster  
London, United Kingdom

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British Council Vietnam

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**Vietnam – UK Education Cooperation Forum**

# **“Connecting opportunities for sustainable education partnerships”**

Organised by the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET), the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (The Embassy) and the British Council Vietnam

With support from UK Higher Education International Unit (IU) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Date: Friday, 11 September 2015

Venue: Central Hall Westminster  
Storeys Gate, SW1H 9NH  
London, United Kingdom

# CONTEXT

**To celebrate the 5th anniversary of establishment of the Strategic Partnership between Vietnam and the UK, the Embassy of Vietnam in the UK is organising Vietnam Discovery Week from 10-13 September 2015 with presence of senior Vietnam leaders. On this occasion, the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is working with the Ministry of Education and Training, the British Council and International Unit and ACCA to organise Vietnam – UK Education Cooperation Forum in the UK.**

The forum aims at

- Establishing close, effective and sustainable bilateral education collaboration between Vietnam and the UK through joint working of MoET, the British Council and IU;
- Creating a platform for exchange and sharing best practices in successful bilateral collaboration which set direction for future collaboration to focus on priorities of Vietnam education reform agenda;
- Sharing the forum's discussion results to support MoET and participating Vietnamese institutions in the development of international plan/ policy/ direction/ strategy within its education reform framework
- Establishing Vietnam – UK network of HEIs to build institutional partnership and share experience on
  - + Governance and development of internationalising higher education
  - + Improving research capacity and collaboration (science and innovation)
  - + Enhancing training collaboration
  - + Academic and student exchange

# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Timing	Session
08.30–09.00	Registration
09.00–09.25	Opening remarks
09.25–09.40	‘Education in Vietnam - opportunities and integration challenges’
09.40–09.50	Signing of Joint Statement on future collaboration among Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training, The British Council Vietnam and The UK Higher Education International Unit
09.50–10.05	Coffee break
10.05–11.15	‘Investment and education cooperation opportunities between Vietnam and the UK’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ‘Overview of the UK Higher Education system’</li><li>• ‘Education partnership – case studies’</li><li>• Case study 1: Vinh University of Technical Education, Vietnam and Westminster Kingsway College, UK</li><li>• Case study 2: Student exchange – culture and quality exchange</li><li>• Case study 3: Hanoi Foreign Trade University, Vietnam and University of Bedfordshire, UK partnership</li></ul>
11.15–12.00	Research and collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ‘Building a strong UK-ASEAN Research Hub for the sustainable development of a nation and region’</li><li>• ‘Unlocking innovation: a Queen Mary University London case study’</li></ul>

Timing	Session
12.00–12.50	Enhancing employability of graduates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Annual Vietnam Education Report” addressing students ‘abilities in looking for a job in the context of the deficiency of skills’</li> <li>• ‘Professional vs Academic qualifications’</li> </ul>
12.50–13.00	Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony among ACCA, Academy of Finance, Vietnam, Hanoi Foreign Trade University, Vietnam and Danang University of Economics, Vietnam
13.00–14.00	Lunch
14.00–15.00	Speed dating between UK and Vietnam organisations
15.00	Forum closes

# PROGRAMME IN DETAILS

Timing	Session
08.30–09.00	Registration
09.00–09.05	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HE Nguyen Van Thao, Ambassador of Vietnam to the UK</li></ul>
09.05–09.15	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HE Deputy Prime Minister Vu Van Ninh, SR Vietnam</li></ul>
09.15–09.25	Speeches by <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof Rebecca Hughes, Director of Education, British Council</li><li>• Frazer Macdonald, Head of Asia Pacific, The UK Department of Business, Innovation and Skills</li></ul>
09.25–09.40	Keynote  <b>‘Education in Vietnam - opportunities and integration challenges’</b>  Radical and comprehensive renovation of higher education system in Vietnam  This presentation aims at providing a snapshot of Vietnamese higher education. Over nearly three decades, Vietnam has pursued with perseverance towards the renovation of the country and has recorded significant achievements. With a total population of 90 million, of which over 20 million are studying from early childhood education to higher education and this is really a great challenge for the country, which must both provide access to education for all and ensure the quality of education in the context where resources are limited. The Government of Vietnam considers that the rapid development of human resources, especially those of high quality is one of the three strategic breakthroughs to develop the country sustainably in the coming years. Radical and comprehensive

Timing	Session
	<p>renovation of higher education system towards international integration is therefore a very important task of the Vietnam's government in the next decades. Opportunities and challenges of this process will be discussed in this presentation.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Dr Bui Van Ga, Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training</li> </ul>
<p><b>09.40–09.50</b></p>	<p><b>Signing of Joint Statement</b> on future collaboration among Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training, The British Council Vietnam and The UK Higher Education International Unit</p> <p>Party representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nguyen Xuan Vang, Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training</li> <li>• Cherry Gough, Director, British Council Vietnam</li> <li>• Vivienne Stern, Director, The UK Higher Education International Unit</li> </ul>
<p><b>09.50–10.05</b></p>	<p>Coffee break/Clip from Vietnam Airlines</p>
<p><b>10.05–11.15</b></p>	<p>‘Investment and education cooperation opportunities between Vietnam and the UK’</p> <p><b>Presentation 1: ‘Overview of the UK Higher Education system’</b></p> <p>UK higher education is internationally recognised.</p> <p>Internationalisation is key to the strength of many UK institutions. This presentation will give attendees a short overview of the UK sector focusing on its particular strengths as well as its diversity. It will demonstrate the importance to the UK of working collaboratively with international and should give attendees an understanding of how best Vietnamese and UK institutions can collaborate.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniel Shah, Assistant Director (Policy), UK Higher Education International Unit</li> </ul>



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### **Presentation 2: 'Education partnership – case studies'**

- Case study 1: Vinh University of Technical Education, Vietnam and Westminster Kingsway College, UK

Over the next three years the International Training and Assessing Learning (VITAL) partnership will establish Vinh University of Technical Education (VUTED) as a National Centre for Teacher Training and Assessing Learning in Vietnam; delivering an Internationally recognized City & Guilds qualification.

The VUTED VITAL Centre aims to enhance the competence of vocational teacher trainers across Vietnam leading to greater employment prospects for learners, through improvement to skill development and the curriculum.

The partnership is formed of VUTED, a vocational university based in Vinh City, Vietnam; Westminster Kingsway College a central London College of Further and Higher Education; and the Internationally recognized UK Awarding Body for Vocational Qualifications, City & Guilds.

The first year of the partnership which commenced in May 2015 is supported by British Council, Skills for Employability, Advanced Partnership Project funding and builds upon the outcomes of a Foundation Partnership Project between VUTED and Westminster Kingsway College in 2013/14.

This presentation shares the collaboration model of a Vocational Education partnership well positioned to achieve national recognition and delivery across Vietnam, which will benefit not just immediate institutions but the wider Vietnam – UK Education sectors.

Speaker:

- Kirsty McLaren, International Partnerships Manager, Westminster Kingsway College, UK

### **Case study 2: Student exchange – culture and quality exchange**

FPT University is the leading university in Information and

Timing	Session
	<p>Communication Technology training in Vietnam. As a member of FPT Corporation, the largest ICT Corporation in Vietnam with global branches in many countries, FPT University has maintained the outstanding curriculum with high practicality including on-the-job training component and state-of-the-art facilities.</p> <p>With a clear strategy to become a truly global university by 2020, FPT University has developed a large partnership network with other universities in several countries such as Australia, Singapore, France, Germany, US, etc. by exchanging students. The impressive results are mainly thanks to an appropriate model focusing industry oriented skill training for student.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Le Ha Duc, President, FPT Global Office, FPT University, Vietnam</li> </ul> <p><b>Case study 3: Hanoi Foreign Trade University, Vietnam and University of Bedfordshire, UK partnership</b></p> <p>Prof Helen Bailey will discuss how a successful international partnership is established for teaching degree and postgraduate courses, using the partnership between the University of Bedfordshire and Hanoi Foreign Trade University, Vietnam as an example.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Helen Bailey, Executive Dean of Academic Partnerships, University of Bedfordshire, UK</li> </ul> <p>Discussion panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Helen Bailey, Executive Dean of Academic Partnerships, University of Bedfordshire, UK</li> <li>• Kirsty McLaren, Westminster Kingsway College, UK</li> <li>• Le Ha Duc, President, FPT Global Office, FPT University, Vietnam</li> <li>• Nguyen Xuan Vang, Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training</li> <li>• Assoc Prof Dr Pham Quang Hung, Director General, Vietnam International Education Development (VIED), Vietnam Ministry</li> </ul>

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11.15–12.00	<p>of Education and Training Paul Smith, Chairman, Nash Tech (UK)</p> <p>Moderator: • Cherry Gough, Director, British Council Vietnam</p> <p>Discussions on research and collaboration</p> <p><b>Presentation 1: ‘Building a strong UK-ASEAN Research Hub for the sustainable development of a nation and region’</b></p> <p>In October 2013 the Vietnamese Government launched a new state University the Vietnam–UK Institute for Research and Executive Education (VNUK IREE) which is based within the University of Danang in Vietnam and supported by Aston University in the UK. This presentation charts the journey through the development of early relationships with employers and alumni from Vietnam and the UK to their first successes with joint funding applications. It highlights the necessity for a strong and shared vision based on common values. Insight is shared into how these relationships were developed and the way in which they are being maintained. The collaborations have focussed on Biotechnology, Engineering, Finance and Accounting and Entrepreneurship as key priority areas for Vietnam and research strengths from Aston. Researchers from both countries have been brought together in the UK and Vietnam to enable relationships to be fostered and common themes for research objectives to be identified.</p> <p>Speaker: • Prof Helen Griffiths, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Aston University, UK</p> <p><b>Presentation 2: Unlocking innovation: a Queen Mary University London case study</b></p> <p>In the last few decades, science and innovation have climbed the agenda of governments around the world as there is growing recognition that innovation is a key driver of economic growth. Many research-intensive HEIs in the UK have significant R&amp;D collaborations with overseas universities however the outcomes of these are rarely developed commercially due cultural barriers and a lack of dedicated</p>

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	<p>support and funding for UK-overseas technology transfer.</p> <p>Taking Queen Mary University of London in China as a case study, in particular the work of Innovation China-UK (ICUK), this presentation focuses on opportunities to enhance collaboration and knowledge transfer between the UK and Vietnam, namely via the creation of knowledge networks and dedicated development funds with support from a range external partners</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof David Sadler, Pro Vice Chancellor (International), Queen Mary University of London</li> </ul> <p>Discussion panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Dr Bui Van Ga, Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training</li> <li>• Prof Helen Griffiths, Pro Vice Chancellor Aston University, UK</li> <li>• Assoc Prof Dr Hoang Huu Hanh, Director of Department of International Cooperation, University of Hue, Vietnam</li> <li>• Chloe Somers, Senior International Policy Manager, Research Councils UK</li> </ul> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Hai-Sui Yu, Pro-Vice Chancellor (International), Nottingham University, UK</li> </ul>
<p><b>12.00–12.50</b></p>	<p>Discussions on enhancing employability of graduates</p> <p><b>Presentation 1: “Annual Vietnam Education Report” addressing students’ abilities in looking for a job in the context of the deficiency of skills’</b></p> <p>Recent focus on higher education in Vietnam has been in the context of mounting skill shortages. Such shortages exist with the rising graduate unemployment and underemployment, which concerns both employers, education policy makers and students. Contradictorily, as enrolments in higher education grow, so does the problem of unemployment and underemployment of graduates across a wide range of countries, including Vietnam. More often than not, higher education is blamed for not equipping students with skills required in the job market.</p>

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In the above context, the focus of this talk is to access the role of higher education in developing workplace skills and to deconstruct skill shortages in Vietnam. We look at the demand and the supply side of qualified manpower in Vietnam context and undertake an analysis of how the clearing of supply with the demand takes place in the higher education system and the labour markets for qualified workers in Vietnam.

Speaker:

- Assoc Prof Dr Le Anh Vinh, Director, Center for Educational Researches and Applications, University of Education, Vietnam National University, Hanoi

### **Presentation 2: 'Professional vs Academic qualifications'**

Innovative partnerships between ACCA and Universities, the benefits and challenges of successful collaboration.

ACCA has an established history of working with universities. Recently the focus of partnerships has been two fold: the efficiency of the student journey to simultaneously progress academic and professional qualifications. the student experience, and predominantly the employability of students.

It is the effective combination of professional and academic qualifications whilst retaining the identity of 'critical thinking' within the university experience and developing applied skills within the professional field that poses the greatest challenges and provides maximum benefit.

This discussion includes an overview of how ACCA has worked in partnership with the University of London and Oxford Brookes University to improve the choices for students and increase their employability.

Speaker:

- Dorothy Wood, Head of Education, ACCA Western Europe

Discussion panellists:

- Dorothy Wood, Head of Education, ACCA Western Europe
- David Priestley, The Aerospace Capability Project Ltd. (ACP), UK

Timing	Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Le Ha Duc, President, FPT Global Office, FPT University, Vietnam</li> <li>• Prof Alison Chambers, Dean of the Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK</li> </ul> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Hai-Sui Yu, Pro-Vice Chancellor (International), Nottingham University, UK</li> </ul>
<b>12.50–13.00</b>	<p>Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony among ACCA Academy of Finance, Vietnam, Hanoi Foreign Trade University, Vietnam and Danang University of Economics, Vietnam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech from Helen Brand, Chief Executive, ACCA</li> <li>• MOUs signed and witnessed by MoET, The British Council, and UK Higher Education International Unit</li> </ul>
<b>13.00–14.00</b>	Lunch
<b>14.00–15.00</b>	Speed dating between UK and Vietnam organisations
<b>15.00</b>	Forum closes

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## **Helen Bailey**

Executive Dean of Academic Partnerships, University of Bedfordshire, UK



Helen is Executive Dean for Academic Partnerships which includes responsibility for the development of international partnerships activity for the University. Her academic career has focused on providing access to excellence through higher education and research in arts and culture. She trained at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance where she was subsequently a scholarship postgraduate student and then a Research Fellow. She has worked at a number of higher education institutions in the UK and has been invited to contribute to institutions in Europe, USA and Australia. Her personal research area focuses on the relationship between arts and technology and she has led a number of externally funded, large research projects in this context.

## **Professor Dr Bui Van Ga**

Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training



Professor Bui Van Ga was appointed as Vietnam Vice Minister of Education and Training in 2010. His portfolio covers higher education, professional vocational training and international cooperation. He also manages Vietnam key human resource training projects namely Project 911 training university lecturers at PhD level overseas, Project 1558 on nuclear energy and development of International Standard Universities project.

Prof Ga got his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at Da Nang University of Technology in 1980; then Ph.D. at Ecole Centrale de Lyon, France, in 1989 and Doctor of Science in 1994.

Professor Ga's career highlights and accomplishment include a position as President of the University of Danang. He was also a visiting Professor to the University of Angers and University Institute of Technology 1 – University Joseph Fourier (France), member of a number of committee in area of combustion and mechanics in Vietnam and Japan. He was honored by the French government of his science achievement as Palmes Academiques (2001, Chevalier) Palmes Academiques (2005, Officer). His research focuses on fluid mechanics, combustion and air pollution. He is also an inventor and patents owner in this area.

## **Professor Alison Chambers**

Dean, Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care,  
Manchester Metropolitan University, UK



Professor Alison Chambers joined Manchester Metropolitan University in July 2015 as Dean of the Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care.

Alison was previously Pro-Vice Chancellor/ Executive Dean for Society and Health/UK and EU Academic Partnerships at Buckinghamshire New University. Before this, she was in post at UCLan where she founded the Department of Allied Health Professions in 2002.



## Cherry Gough

Director, British Council Vietnam

Cherry Gough started her directorship at British Council Vietnam in August 2014. She is married with one daughter.

Her professional background is in English. She was a Professor of Applied Linguistics at a university in Poland before she joined the British Council to run the Accreditation Scheme for English language course providers in the UK.

She then led on global promotion of UK ELT, working closely with the then Education UK team, as well as having the interesting role of fostering innovation in ELT and leading on the creation of the ELTONs. Since then she has worked in Poland, Venezuela and Libya.

As Deputy Director Poland she also led for the region on Marketing and Communications.



## Associate Professor Dr Hoang Huu Hanh

Director, Department of International Cooperation, Hue University, Vietnam

Assoc Prof Hoang Huu Hanh is Director of Department of International Cooperation and professor in Department of Information Technology, University of Sciences - Hue University, Vietnam since 1996. He received his PhD in Information Systems at Vienna University of Technology, Austria in 2007; MSc in IT at Hanoi University of Technology in 2001 and BSc in Maths and Informatics at Hue University in 1996. In 2012, he has received his Associate Professorship by The State Council for Professor Title.

In terms of management experience, Prof Hoang was appointed as Deputy Director of Department of Science and Technology, Hue University from July 2008 to January 2010. Since January 15, 2010, he has been promoted to the position of Director of Department of International Cooperation. Prof Hoang is also a member of Hue University Science and Training Council, term 2011-2016. In terms of scientific activities, he has published several peer-reviewed papers and articles in international journals and conferences. His current research focal areas include the Semantic Web, Ontological engineering, Linked Data, Personal Digital Memories, Personal Information Management Systems, Business Processes Modeling, Business Intelligence, Knowledge Discovery, Linked Data and (Semantic-) Web Services. He was an author and co-author of four text books for under and post graduate students.



## **Professor Helen Griffiths**

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Aston University, UK



Helen Griffiths graduated with first class BSc (Hons) degree in Biochemistry from Bath University in 1985 and undertook two placements; one working in the NHS, UK and the other in Nestlé, Switzerland. She was awarded her PhD in 1989 for her research into “Reactive oxygen species damage in rheumatoid arthritis” from Birmingham University. She has been an academic faculty member at Birmingham University, Leicester University and Aston University where she was awarded a personal Chair in Biomedical Sciences in 2005. She was elected as a Fellow of the Society of Biology in 2011 and served as Executive Dean of the School of Life and Health Sciences at Aston University between November 2009 and November 2014. She took up the post of Aston’s Pro-Vice-Chancellor International in March 2015. In collaboration with VNUK, she leads the ASEAN Research hub project on behalf of Aston University.

Helen has authored over 150 publications. She has supervised 22 PhD successful students, many of whom are leaders in academic and pharmaceutical sectors.

## **Professor Rebecca Hughes**

Director of Education, British Council



Professor Rebecca Hughes joined the British Council in December 2013 as Director of International Higher Education. In May 2014 she became Director Education, with responsibility for: Skills, Schools, Higher Education and Science.

Professor Hughes' appointment at British Council follows a career working extensively in international Higher Education and English Language and Linguistics. Rebecca's experience of internationalisation of Higher Education includes being the first Pro-Vice-Chancellor, International, at The University of Sheffield, and running a Department delivering UK degrees and English language support services in Malaysia and China at the University of Nottingham, where Rebecca is now an Honorary Professor.

Professor Hughes has published widely on her personal research interest of spoken language and given presentations on this topic at a number of international conferences. She regularly contributes to debates surrounding the globalised Higher Education system in forums such as the OECD, where she brings the combination of a 20-year career working in University internationalisation and Applied Linguistics expertise to issues of academic capacity-building and language policy.

Her other roles have included Chair of the White Rose Advisory Group on East Asian Studies, Chair of the Worldwide Universities Network (W.U.N) Global Challenge on Higher Education and Research, and member of the board of governors of the Institute for Managers in Higher Education, Higher Education and Skills Division at the OECD.

## **Associate Professor Dr Le Anh Vinh**

Director, Center for Educational Researches and Applications,  
University of Education, Vietnam National University, Hanoi



Associate Professor Le Anh Vinh is the Director of Center for Educational Researches and Applications and the Vice Dean of Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Education, Vietnam National University – Hanoi. Vinh got his B.Sc. in Math (with Honors) and Computer Science from the University of New South Wales, Australia in 2005 then pursued his PhD in Mathematics at Harvard University in 2010.

He became a lecturer at Vietnam National University, Hanoi in 2010. His academic activities include General member of Institute for Mathematics and Its Applications, University of Minnesota, US (from Oct 2014 – March 2015); Junior Fellow at ICTP, Italy (Fall 2013); Visiting scholar at University of Rochester (Spring 2011) and Rothschild scholar at African Mathematical Research Institute, South Africa (Spring 2010).

Prof Le has published more than 40 papers at international journals and is leading a research group at the University of Education on developing Vietnam Annual Report on Education. The first issue – Annual Report on Vietnam Education 2015 is in the finalisation stage.

## **Le Ha Duc**

President, FPT Global Office, FPT University, Vietnam



MSc. Le Ha Duc is the Dean of FPT University Global Office at FPT University, Vietnam. He received his Master of Science in Applied Mathematics from the ENSEEIHT (a French engineering school in Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Computer Science, Hydraulics and Telecommunications) and Master of Science in Telecommunications from LAAS (a French Laboratory for Analysis and Architecture of Systems) in Toulouse, France.

After graduation, Mr Le launched his career in FPT Software in 2003, where he discovered the professional world as an IT developer. That eventually led to a ten-year partnership with the biggest IT company in Vietnam and positions as business analyst, technical leader, project manager, BU Leader and European market director. His expanding experience in IT allowed him to join FPT University to create a company 100% owned by FPT University with mission to create an professional environment and investment framework for students.

## **Kirsty McLaren**

International Partnerships Manager, Westminster Kingsway College, UK



Kirsty McLaren joined Westminster Kingsway College in 2008. On joining the college Kirsty worked with the Employer Engagement and Work-based Learning department, supporting the coordination of Government Apprenticeship programmes and the college's Vocational Assessor Trainer Academy. In 2010 Kirsty joined the college's newly formed International department, supporting the development of an initial strategy and commencement of operational activity.

In her current role as International Partnerships Manager, Kirsty establishes and builds upon relationships with overseas clients and partners. Kirsty focuses on collaboration and business opportunities in South-East Asian markets including Vietnam. Kirsty manages multi-disciplined, bespoke, international projects and programmes which contribute to the college's International strategy. Projects include British Council funded Skills for Employability partnerships in Vietnam and an EU-Korea Bilateral Cooperation Mobility Exchange Project funded by European Commission. Other customised programmes for which Kirsty supports delivery include Teacher Training for International Government agencies and institutions, bespoke English Language programmes for International students and tailored Vocational training programmes with both on and off shore delivery.

## **Nguyen Van Thao**

Vietnam's Ambassador E&P to the UK and Ireland



HE Nguyen Van Thao was born in 1964, in Vinh Phuc Province, Vietnam. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2007 as Director General, Department of Administration and Finance. In 2011, he was promoted to Assistant Minister. His profile includes financial management of the Ministry, internal control and economic diplomacy. He was designated Vietnam's Ambassador to the UK and received the letter of acceptance from HM Government in September 2014.

Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Nguyen was Deputy Secretary General of Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1999-2007). He also assumed other responsibilities including Permanent Member of Viet Nam-US Society, Permanent Member of the Association for Liaison with Overseas Vietnamese, Vice President of Viet Nam Business and Software Association. In 2006, he served as the Chief Executive Officer of APEC CEO Summit in Vietnam.

Mr Nguyen graduated from Vietnam's Academy of Finance. He then obtained his BA degree in English at Foreign Languages University of Hanoi National University. He also has a Master of Business Administration from Southern California University.

He is married with two children.

## **Nguyen Xuan Vang**

Director General, International Cooperation Department,  
Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training



Mr Nguyen received his education in applied linguistics and teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) in Vietnam, the UK and Australia. He is experienced in teaching English for specific purposes, conference interpreting, translation and international cooperation.

He has extensive hands-on experience in higher education. He was appointed Director of the ESP Resource Center in 1991, Vice President of Hanoi University of Foreign Studies in 1997 and President of Hanoi University of Foreign Studies in 2000. He served Hanoi University of Foreign Studies for two terms (2000-2008) and has made significant contributions to turn Hanoi University of Foreign Studies - a single-disciplinary university to Hanoi University - a multi-disciplinary university in 2006. Hanoi University has been the first university in Vietnam to offer full curricula in English since 2002.

In 2008, he was appointed Director General of Vietnam International Education (VIED) of the Ministry of Education and Training. Under Vang's leadership, this newly set up department has now been well-positioned and Vang has taken a new job as Director General of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Education and Training since February 2015.

With more than 30 years of service, Mr Nguyen's contributions have been recognized through notable awards from the Presidents of Vietnam, Italy, Spain and Brazil and honorary professorships, degrees and titles from a number of foreign universities.

## **Associate Professor Dr Pham Quang Hung**

Director General, Vietnam International Education Development, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training



Dr Pham Quang Hung was born in Hanoi, Vietnam. He obtained his B.Sc. degree from the National University of Civil Engineering (NUCE), Hanoi, Vietnam and completed his M.Sc. degree and then his Ph.D. degree at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada in 2005.

In 1996, he accepted a teaching position in the Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering division at the NUCE. In 2009, he was promoted as the Director of the Geotechnical Engineering Institute, as well as the Head of the Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering division of the NUCE. Dr Pham Quang Hung used to be the Deputy General Secretary of the Vietnam Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Society as well as an expert of the State Authority for Construction Quality Inspection. He was then appointed as Associate Professor of civil engineering for his contribution at the NUCE and the field of civil engineering in Vietnam.

In 2013, Assoc Prof Dr Pham Quang Hung was appointed as Deputy Director General and then Acting Director General of the International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Education and Training (MOET). Early 2015, he was promoted as Director General of Vietnam International Education Development (VIED), Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training.

## **David Priestley**

Aerospace capability project Ltd., UK



David has a wealth of experience working in the international environment over his previous 38 year career with Rolls-Royce plc. Most recently (Until April 2015) David was Managing Director of Rolls-Royce International (Vietnam) Ltd based in Hanoi, responsible for RR's corporate representation in the region. In addition, David was also legal representative and Chairman of Rolls-Royce Vietnam Ltd in Vung Tau, a marine manufacturing facility which is part of Rolls-Royce's global supply chain.

David's international experience also extends through a series of increasingly senior roles in the Middle East leading to positions as Director of Service Strategy & Business Development M.E and Regional Director - Saudi Arabia.

Since recently leaving Rolls-Royce, David has formed a new business with two colleagues, called the Aerospace capability project Ltd – ACP, focussing on capacity building and capability development in the international aerospace sector; building a business support relationship with government organisations to enhance and promote British exports in the aviation market and working with SME's on business development and performance improvement strategies. David is maintaining his strong links to Vietnam as a consultant and life member of the British Business Group of Vietnam (BBGV).

David is married to Carmel with 2 sons in full-time education in UK.



## **Professor David Sadler**

Vice Principal (International), Queen Mary University of London, UK



David Sadler graduated from the University of Durham with a degree in Geography. He stayed there to complete his PhD and a post-doctoral fellowship, taking up a position as Lecturer at St David's University College, Lampeter in 1987. He returned to Durham in 1989, and in 2002 moved to the University of Liverpool.

At Liverpool he served as Head of the Department of Geography and Dean of the Faculty of Social and Environmental Sciences. He took a lead in international activities, and from 2010 to 2014 was seconded to the role of Vice President (Academic) at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University based at Suzhou, PR China. In that time the university grew to become the largest international joint-venture HE institution in China.

He joined Queen Mary as Professor of Economic Geography and Vice Principal (International) in September 2014. His research interests are in the field of economic globalisation, uneven regional and urban development, and urban and regional policies.

## **Daniel Shah**

Assistant Director (Policy), The UK Higher Education International Unit



Dan is Assistant Director for Policy, leading the international policy activities of the International Unit, including European higher education and research. He works closely with the Assistant Director for Operations and Projects to ensure that policy issues of strategic importance to the sector are reflected in the Unit's overall work.

Dan joined the Unit in April 2013 having worked on European, immigration and international competitiveness policy at the Russell Group and university research and knowledge exchange funding at BIS. He studied philosophy at New York University and Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Oxford. David is married to Carmel with 2 sons in full-time education in UK.

## **Chloe Somers**

Senior International Policy Manager, Research Councils UK



Chloe Somers works in the Research Councils UK (RCUK) International Team as a Senior International Policy Manager. She leads on European policy and the Global Research Council and has worked on a wide range of other initiatives, including the Newton Fund. Prior to this she spent a year in Brussels as a European Advisor at the UK Research Office and has also held other policy and communications roles within RCUK

## **Dorothy Wood**

Head of Education, ACCA Western Europe



As a member of the Western European senior leadership team she is responsible for student progress and retention from recruitment through to membership.

She has spent 20 years in education and during this time has: taught secondary and adult students; tutored and mentored teachers; written texts for college audiences; advised government on teachers' training needs; led a faculty and now concentrates on professional education.

Dorothy gained her MBA (Open) on 1999 and prior to joining ACCA in 2009, she held a number of positions at Snibston Discovery Park, The Open University, ifs School of Finance and ICAEW.

## **Professor Hai-sui Yu**

Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Global Engagement, The University of Nottingham, UK



Professor Yu's main research activities have focused on theoretical and computational geomechanics, constitutive modelling, in-situ soil testing, and pavement geotechnics. Professor Yu has published two books and well over 150 papers in leading international journals and conference proceedings, and has been awarded numerous medals and prizes for his research work, which include ISSMGE's first J K Mitchell Lecturer in 2004, Shamsher Prakash International Research Award in 2003, ICE's Telford Medal in 2000, and Australian Geomechanics Society's Trollope Medal in 1998. Professor Yu has served on the Editorial Boards of several top international journals in geotechnical engineering and on the National Executive Committee of the British Geotechnical Association (BGA). Over the last decade, he has also worked for various periods with many of the leading soil mechanics research groups in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, China, France and the UK.

# British Council Vietnam work in internationalising higher education and science

From 2013, we have

Provided grant to

**20** Over 20 higher education partnership projects

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**6**  
institutional links

**34**  
travel grants for researchers

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**591,797**

With a total grant of GBP591,797 being matched with GBP 591,797 from partners.

**Reached**

**70**

key policy maker  
from government  
organisations

academic staff from  
Vietnamese Higher  
education institutions

**465**

**123**

academic staff from  
UK Higher education  
institutions

experts from international  
organisations

**19**

**55**

business representatives

**6**

academic staff  
from foreign Higher  
education institutions

**148**

researchers from Vietnamese  
research institutes

# Policy Dialogue

We organise East Asia regional and Vietnam large scale policy dialogues Global Education Dialogue (GED) around key reform issues to bring thought leaders and sector experts from UK together with East Asian and Vietnamese experts on employer engagement to improve the employability of university graduates and issues around university governance, quality assurance and research. We worked in partnership with Ministry of Education and Training to engage with SEAMEO members in regional discussion on ASEAN HE harmonisation issues and debates.

We contributed to global policy forum by identifying relevant speakers to share their views and to discuss challenges that an emerging economy like Vietnam was facing during its process of reform of HE sector.



**Professor Dr Bui Van Ga**, Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training said from the Going Global 2015 in London that we have approached and discussed with international partners, especially UK partners in expanding international collaboration, and exchanging experiences in various fields including two important areas of quality assurance and national qualification framework to support the ASEAN integration process by end of 2015.

# Research Hub

The UK-ASEAN Research Hub was established through the funding from the British Council, Aston University, UK and The University of Danang from November 2013, operated under the Vietnam-UK Institute of Research and Executive Education (VNUK IREE), and expected to self-sustain after three years of operation. The overall purpose of the hub is to create an inspirational research community in the region. The Hub aims at

1. initiating links between UK and Vietnamese researchers in the first year
2. building on the established links to create stronger partnerships between researchers with similar research passions and interests, in the second year
3. building capacity for PhD scholars, increasing engagement with industry and across ASEAN region, hosting national and international conferences, and securing funding for ongoing work, in the third year of operation.

The academic conference series in economics and biotechnology at VNUK IREE brought together both experienced and early career researchers which has created a research network and strong partnership between Aston and VNUK IREE. The delivery of the researcher training programmes by UK experts in development of intellectual property, writing for international journal publication and writing for successful grants has been fostering and developing research capacity to staff at VNUK and other institutions. The impact of these successful activities has highlighted Danang as an important and developing region in the research community.”

*Dr Duong Mong Ha, Rector, VNUK IREE*



The Researcher Hub has brought opportunities for linking researchers for the development of joint research proposals and response to other funding calls. We are beginning to recruit PhD students from Danang into Aston whose research will build and deepen links. We have had some limited reach into the business community for delivery of executive education programmes.’

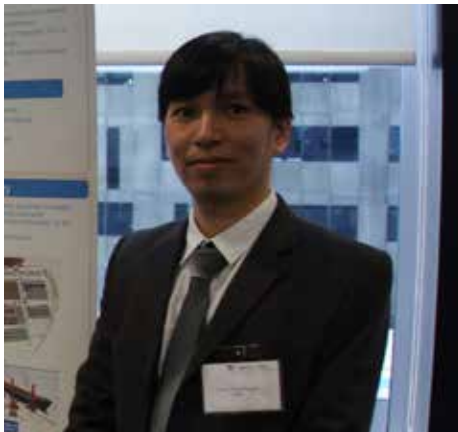
*Professor Helen Griffiths, Pro Vice Chancellor, Aston University*



Total grant for the Researcher Hub operation has been GBP235,750 with equivalent match funding from partners.

# UK-ASEAN Knowledge Partnership Fund

The UK-ASEAN Knowledge Partnership (UAKP) is a joint programme between the British Council and the UK Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO), introduced in 2013. The overall objective of the UAKP initiative is to enhance education, research and innovation links between UK and ASEAN countries by capitalising on the strength of existing UK educational links, and the widespread use of English in the region. The ultimate goal is to make the UK a partner of choice for ASEAN as it develops world-class learning and research capabilities.



**Dr Nguyen Trung Thanh**, Liverpool John Moore University, who has worked closely with University of Engineering and Technology, Vietnam National University Hanoi, and Ho Chi Minh City University of Transport in 'ICT for sustaining and renovating logistics services in Vietnam, a UK-Vietnam research partnership' commented that the most impactful factor of the project is the establishment of a research network in ICT for logistics in Vietnam, connecting the partner universities and a variety of industrial partners. The optimisation algorithms resulted from

the project are being considered by Greenport in Vietnam. Discussions are also underway to transfer the outputs of the project to another major industrial company in Vung Tau, Vietnam.

The concrete values the project has brought to our university are the new links with Vietnam partners, to be formalised via MOUs and joint programmes. The project has brought us 141K additional external funding via follow-up projects. The project has also resulted in two papers presented in reputable international conferences, and one paper accepted in a world-leading journal.'

There have been 17 projects granted with a total grant of GBP281,297 with equivalent match funding from partners.



# Higher Education Partnership Fund

As a continuity of the UK ASEAN Knowledge Partnership (UAKP), the Higher Education Partnership (HEP) fund is an initiative of the British Council Vietnam to enhance education, research and innovation links between the UK and Vietnam.

In 2015 the HEP supports partnerships in key areas of HE priorities which include University Governance, Quality Assurance, Social Sciences and Education, Employability, and Teaching, Learning and Development.

The HEP starts the implementation stage from September 2015, and will include a total grant of GBP75,000 with equivalent match funding from the partners.

# Newton Programme Vietnam

We work closely with Science and Innovation Network, BIS and Vietnam match fund partners to implement the Newton Fund – People strand in Vietnam. Our work is to use strength and expertise of the UK to work towards:

- Primary impact: economic development and social welfare of Vietnam
- Secondary impact: strong and sustainable and systematic relationships between the UK and Vietnam that open up opportunities for wider collaboration

The strands we are working on include

- PhD Scholarship
- Researcher Links (Travel grant and Workshop grant)
- Institutional Links
- STEM Education
- Professional Development and Engagement

For one year of implementation, Newton Fund Programme have certain achievement:

- 3 Researcher Links workshops:
  - + Aston University, UK and Ho Chi Minh City Biotechnology Institute (vaccination)
  - + University of Leeds, UK and Danang University of Technology (communications system)
  - + Newcastle University, UK and School of Chemical Engineering, Hanoi University of Science and Technology (chemical engineering)
- 34 travel grants
- 6 Institutional Links:
  - + University of Oxford, UK and National Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Vietnam
  - + Strathclyde University, UK and School of Chemical Engineering, Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam
  - + Royal Veterinary College, UK and National Institute of Animal Science, Vietnam
  - + Queen's University, Belfast, UK and Duy Tan University, Vietnam
  - + The Genome Analysis Centre, UK and Agricultural Genetics Institute, Vietnam
  - + Liverpool John Moores University, UK and University of Engineering and Technology, Vietnam National University, Hanoi

# Our partners

## No. Vietnamese universities

- 1 Duy Tan University
- 2 Hanoi University of Mining and Geology
- 3 Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Multimedia, Information, Communication & Applications International Research Institute
- 4 Hanoi University of Science and Technology, School of Biotechnology and Food Technology
- 5 Hanoi University of Science and Technology, School of Chemical Engineering
- 6 Hanoi University of Science and Technology, School of Electronic and Telecommunications
- 7 Ho Chi Minh City University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Center for Molecular Biomedicine
- 8 Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education
- 9 Ho Chi Minh City University of Transport  
Le Quy Don Technical University
- 10 National University of Civil Engineering
- 11 Nong Lam University, Research Institute of Biotechnology and Environment
- 12 Post and Telecommunications Institute of Technology
- 13 Tan Tao University
- 14 The University of Danang, University of Economics
- 15 The University of Danang, University of Education
- 16 The University of Danang, University of Technology
- 17 The University of Danang, VN - UK Institute of Research and Executive Education
- 18 University of Science and Technology of Hanoi
- 19 Vietnam Maritime University
- 20 Vietnam National University of Agriculture
- 21 Vietnam National University, Hanoi, School of Law
- 22 Vietnam National University, Hanoi, University of Education
- 23 Vietnam National University, Hanoi, University of Engineering and Technology
- 24 Vietnam National University, Hanoi, University of Social Sciences and Humanities
- 26 Vietnam National University Hanoi, University of Economics and Business
- 27 Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, University of Technology
- 28 Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, University of Science

## **No. Vietnamese institutes/ organisations and businesses**

29	Association of Cities of Vietnam
30	City Biotechnology Institute
31	Danang Hi-tech Park
32	Department of State Assessment of Construction work quality
33	Ho Chi Minh City Biotechnology Institute
34	Institute of Science and Environmental Engineering
35	Ministry of Construction
36	National Hospital for Tropical Diseases
37	National Institute of Animal Science
38	Nha Trang Institute of Technology Research and Application
39	TechBio Company
40	Union of Chemical & Environment Science and Technology
41	The Company for Vaccine and Biological Production No.1
42	Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences Vietnam, Agricultural Genetics Institute
43	Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Institute of Biotechnology
44	Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Institute of Chemistry Vietnam
45	Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Institute of Genome Research
46	Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Institute of Information Technology
47	Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Institute of Material Sciences
48	Vietnam Federation of Civil Engineering Association
49	Vietnam National Architecture Institute
50	Vietnam Water Supply and Sewerage Association
51	VN-UK Excellent Interdisciplinary Centre for Natural Products Research

## **British Council Vietnam contacts**

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## **No. UK institutions and organisations**

- 52 Aston University
- 53 King's College, London
- 54 Liverpool John Moore University
- 55 Loughborough University
- 56 Middlesex University
- 57 Queen's University, Belfast
- 58 University of Aberdeen, Marine Biodiscovery Centre
- 59 University of Brighton, School of Pharmacy
- 60 University of Hull
- 61 University of Kent
- 62 University of Leeds
- 63 University of Newcastle, School of Agriculture, Food and Rural development
- 64 University of Newcastle, School of Chemical Engineering and Advanced Materials
- 65 University of Oxford, Clinical Research Unit Hanoi
- 66 University of Reading
- 67 University of Southampton
- 68 University of Strathclyde
- 69 University of Strathclyde, Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Science
- 70 University of York
- 71 Westminster Kingsway College

## **No. Other organisations/ businesses**

- 72 Genome Analysis Centre
- 73 Institute of Food Research, John Innes Centre
- 74 Royal Kew Garden (RKG), London, UK
- 75 Tate and Lyle Plc.

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# Education Market Brief – Vietnam

August 2015

## Key Opportunities

- *Student mobility*

- + High demand for overseas study in Vietnam continues to be driven by concerns over low quality and capacity of the domestic education system. Over 100,000 Vietnamese students are studying overseas (90% are self-funded). The number of students studying abroad at the secondary level keeps growing, which will eventually lead to a higher number of students enrolled at universities in foreign countries.

- + Enquiries from students are becoming more diverse in terms of subjects, which focus not only in business but also PR and journalism, social sciences, education, IT, tourism and hospitality.

- *TNE:*

- + Vietnam remains a potential market for TNE development. In 2014, there were 436 active TNE programmes between 224 foreign partners and 83 domestic institutions, in which 53 TNE programmes were VN-UK. Most popular types are 3+1 and 2+2 joint programmes, at both undergraduate and master's level;

## Implications and Recommendations

Schools and Colleges need to use scholarships or other types of financial support as an important marketing tactic. Working with selected education agents to target families at top income level and students at some elite high-schools should be considered.

Universities can find Vietnam as a good market to promote one-year master's courses and International Foundation programmes. Ranking and scholarships are important factors in students' decision making in the North and Central regions, while value-for-money benefits are most attractive to students and their parents in the South. In all cases, marketing messages should focus on opportunities for Vietnamese students to gain employability skills and working experience as part of the course, such as sandwich programmes, internships, or links with industries and businesses.

## Key Education UK promotion activities

Timing	Activity	Description
24–28 October 2015	Education UK Annual Exhibition	Flagship exhibition
26–29 January 2016	Education UK University Roadshow to international schools	Mini-fairs at international schools offering IGCSE, A-level, IB courses
October 2015 – September 2016	Education UK scholarship promotion package	A marketing package to promote UK institutional scholarships for Vietnamese students in 2016 intakes
10–14 March 2016	Pathway to Universities Exhibition	Exhibition and school roadshow for student recruitment for pathway courses: A-level, IFY, IB, vocational courses

### Contact person

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# List of participating institutions

## No. UK universities

- 1 Anglia Ruskin University
- 2 Aston University
- 3 Bath Spa University
- 4 Birmingham City University
- 5 Bournemouth University
- 6 Brunel University London
- 7 Canterbury Christ Church University
- 8 Cardiff Metropolitan University
- 9 Cardiff University
- 10 Coventry University
- 11 De Montfort University
- 12 Department of Education - University of York
- 13 Edinburgh Napier University
- 14 Goldsmiths University of London
- 15 Liverpool John Moores University
- 16 London South Bank University
- 17 Manchester Metropolitan University
- 18 Middlesex University
- 19 Newman University
- 20 Nottingham Business School - Nottingham Trent University
- 21 Queen Mary University of London
- 22 Queen's University Belfast
- 23 Robert Gordon University
- 24 SOAS - University of London
- 25 St George's - University of London
- 26 The University of Bolton
- 27 The University of Northampton
- 28 The University of Wolverhampton
- 29 UCL Institute of Education
- 30 University of Aberdeen
- 31 University of Bedfordshire
- 32 University of Bradford
- 33 University of East Anglia
- 34 University of East London
- 35 University of Essex
- 36 University of Exeter



- 37 University of Glasgow
- 38 University of Hertfordshire
- 39 University of Hull
- 40 University of Kent
- 41 University of Liverpool
- 42 University of Stirling
- 43 University of Sunderland
- 44 University of Sussex
- 45 University of the Arts - London
- 46 University of the West of England - Bristol
- 47 University of Westminster

### **UK schools/colleges**

- 48 Chichester College
- 49 Ealing - Hammersmith & West London College
- 50 Eastbourne College
- 51 London School of English
- 52 Loughborough College
- 53 INTO University Partnerships
- 54 Westminster Kingsway College

### **Other UK organisations**

- 55 Asia Matters
- 56 Aspire Business Consultancy Ltd
- 57 BBGV
- 58 Global University System
- 59 Pascall+Watson
- 60 Proskills UK Group
- 61 Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
- 62 Source the Planet
- 63 UK HE International Unit
- 64 VietSolutions Ltd
- 65 Worldteachers Recruitment Ltd

## **No. Vietnamese universities**

- 1 Academy of Banking
- 2 Academy of Finance
- 3 University of Economics, Da Nang University
- 4 Foreign Trade University
- 5 FPT University
- 6 Hanoi University of Industry
- 7 Industrial University of HCMC
- 8 National University of Civil Engineering
- 9 Nguyen Tat Thanh University
- 10 Open University
- 11 University of Hue
- 12 University of Medicine and Pharmacy, University of Hue
- 13 University of Education, Vietnam National University Hanoi
- 14 University of Economics and Law, VNU-HCM
- 15 University of Economics of HCMC
- 16 University of Electricity Power
- 17 Vietnam University of Commerce
- 18 Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education

## **Other Vietnamese organisations**

- 19 Association of Vietnamese Universities and Colleges
- 20 SEAMEO Retrac
- 21 Smarttrain Center