

2021

Year in Review

Fulbright

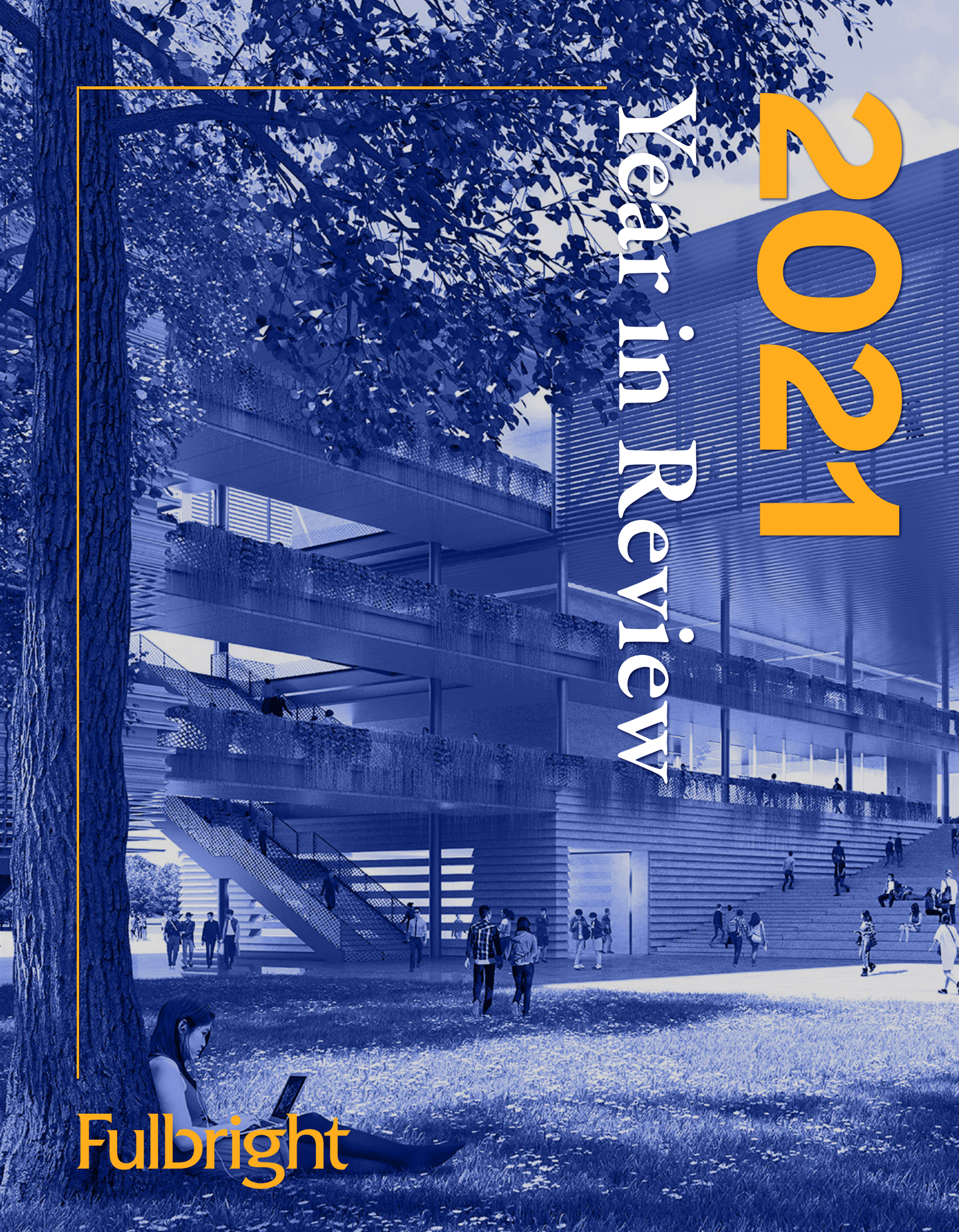


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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear cherished friends of Fulbright University Vietnam,

At the time of my writing, the end of 2021 is fast approaching. A year which, laden with memories disquieting and painful of long-suffering months when Vietnam was storm-tossed by the latest Covid-19 outbreak, many of us might have wished to forget.

However, I believe that every major event in our lives has the potential to impart invaluable lessons to a world already reckoned as highly volatile and in a state of flux. As such, the pandemic is no exception.

As the old saying goes: "If a man keeps cherishing his old knowledge, so as continually to be acquiring new, he may be a teacher of others." At this juncture between the past and the future, I would like to invite you to look back on some of the lessons we have learned from the still-unfolding crisis, so we may make provisions for a new year inundated with unknowable risks and fluctuations.

More than ever, the global pandemic has engraved in our mind the inexorable fact that we are now living in a VUCA world, that of Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity. The ground beneath our feet is shifting by the hour and it has been exacerbated by technology's breakneck acceleration, the vicissitudes of which have been further precipitated by the pandemic's sweeping impacts. Today, we have learned the hard way a piercing truth: the failure to prepare and act promptly in the face of change shall result in costly consequences, incalculable and detrimental.



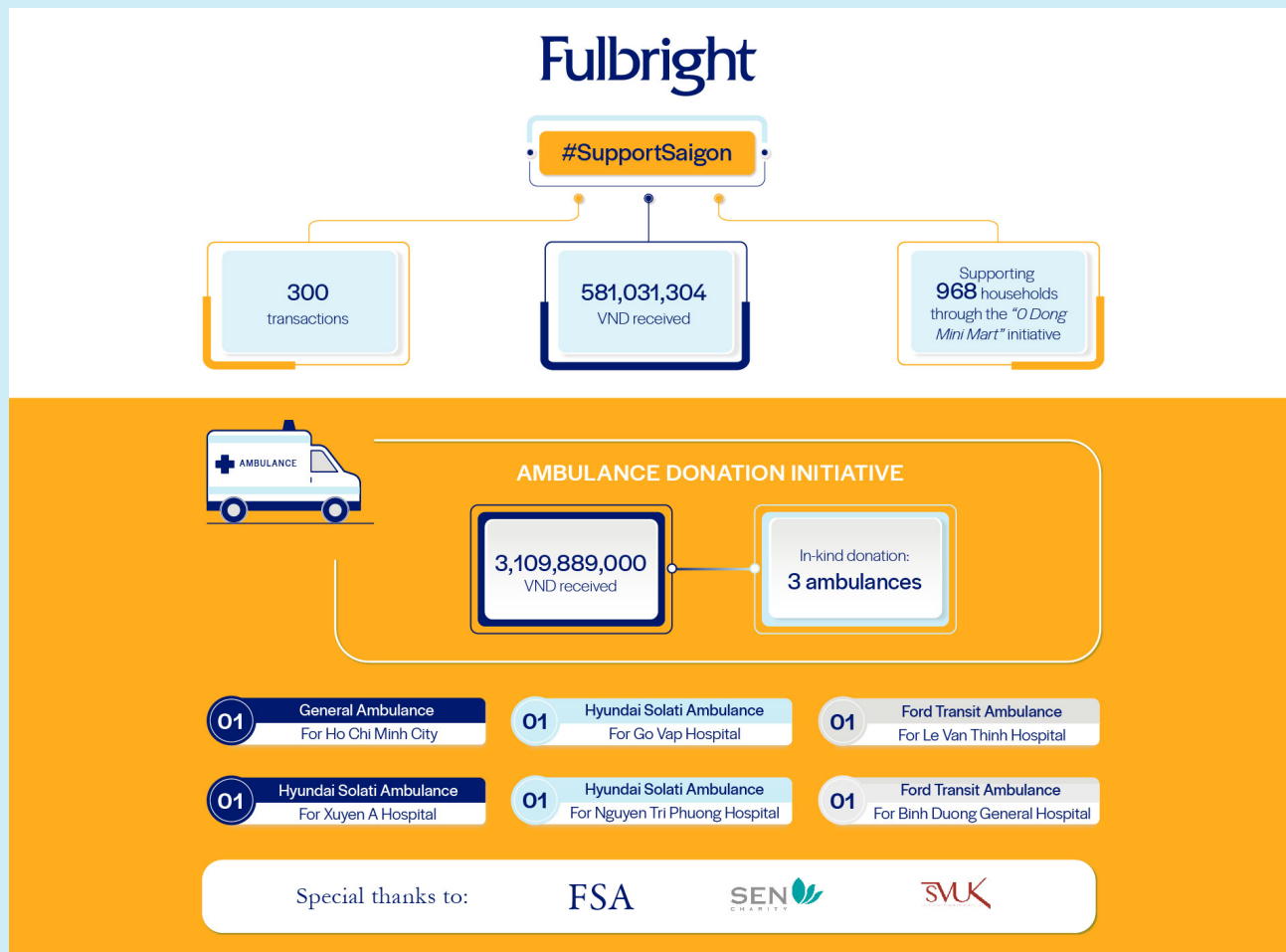
I still remember the early days when Fulbright University Vietnam was established 5 years ago, during which members of the founding board fervently discussed and debated the mission and vision of a 21st-century university. At the time, albeit the impossibility to foretell today's state of affairs, we all shared the emphatic belief that first and foremost, higher education should and ought to equip younger generations with the critical faculties to confidently confront the unforeseeable that tomorrow may hold. That unshakable conviction has guided each and every step of our unrelenting pursuit of what was deemed an ambitious undertaking: to redefine higher education for Vietnam, its young people, and the future. Each and every day of our 5-year journey has been imbued with dedicated efforts, big and small, from members of the Fulbright community to build an edifying bedrock that shall cultivate and transform the idea of an educated, well-rounded member of Vietnamese society: one who's not only endowed with the necessary skills and knowledge of a modern, globalized world but equally – if not more importantly – possesses the unique acuity and ability to make meaningful contributions to their community while living up to their full potential.

Under the taxing circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic, the past two years have presented the greatest test that Fulbright University Vietnam had yet to undergo to prove the substance of our mission, vision, and educational model. Like any other organization, Fulbright is also susceptible to the dour strains of this unprecedented crisis. And yet, with hindsight, I am proud to share with you the unassailable fact that,

it is the very spirit of “Embrace the Uncertainty”, which has been nurtured throughout our 5-year journey, that has also enabled the whole Fulbright community the flexibility to adapt, manage, and persevere when confronted with unanticipated events. Despite being physically distanced, not to mention differences between time zones, during the past semester our faculty and students have succeeded in conducting creative learning experiences, while maintaining the cherished connection of a tight-knit community whose every member is committed to the motto of “learning together, thriving together”. Removed from the usual trappings of a live auditorium, Fulbright has been, nonetheless, able to successfully organize pertinent and impassioned virtual talks and panel discussion whose topics range from economic recovery strategy to reimagining the “new normal” after the pandemic – these are intellectual dialogues and open debates that shall critically benefit and inform the future of Vietnam and its society moving forward. While the pandemic has taken its toll on people from all social strata, the Fulbright community has never shied away from assuming the mediating role of a goodwill agent to galvanize donations and contributions through social projects to provide aid and relief for the underprivileged in Vietnam.

2021 also marked a significant milestone for the university's storied journey when the YSEALI Academy at Fulbright officially came into operation. The fact that the pandemic has presented unparalleled challenges which pushed many organizations into varying modes of survival, however, has also underlined Fulbright's resilient capacity and valiant effort to seize timely opportunities to further advance our quest for regional excellence and international accreditation. At the YSEALI Academy at Fulbright, our seminars on Public Policy, Technology and Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, held virtually throughout the year, have enriched, encouraged, and inspired more than 100 distinguished fellows – young professionals and future leaders of Southeast Asia – to impact positive change that addresses pressing issues facing the region such as energy security, digital transformation, and startup ecosystem.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

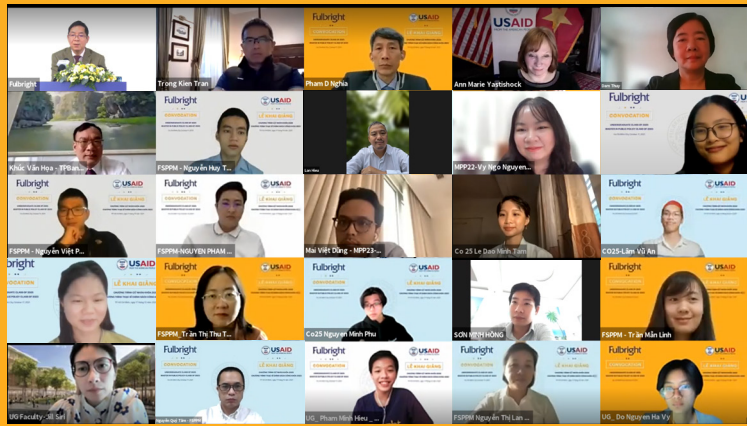


My dear friends,

Throughout my whole life, I have learned the time-tested lesson that once we find ourselves at the crossroads of choices insurmountable to handle alone considering the ominous risks and unforeseeable odds ahead, the most sensible solution is to remind ourselves of and fall back on our core values. The very things dearest and truest to your heart shall help you make the right decision. This recipe has worked wonders for me and looking back, it also applies to Fulbright University Vietnam's unfailing agility amid the pandemic's oscillating tumults.

You might wonder: what is the core value of Fulbright? The answer is rather simple and none other than our pioneering spirit and unwavering desire to serve the community and society at large.

It is rooted in the credence born 26 years ago with the establishment of Fulbright Economics Teaching Program (now the Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management), in collaboration with Harvard, whose mission was to educate and train government's officials and leaders who shall bolster Vietnam's economic reforms, also known as "Đổi Mới". Believed in and built upon since then, while rising above stringent constraints and dire impediments, we are proud to have proved Fulbright University Vietnam its worthy successor by daring to think the unthinkable and making the impossible possible, which entails our adamant effort to facilitate public engagement and participation in transparent and candid dialogues with the government regarding the country's policies and burning issues.



Once again, the pandemic has put Fulbright to the most trying of tests when it comes to our core value, as we have been entrusted the task of driving forward discussions and advisory work for the country’s economic recovery strategy, or when we were compelled to initiate fundraising campaigns to support medical frontliners and the city’s vulnerable population. All the way through, we are staunchly guided by the moral compass of doing the right thing, which has helped us see through copious cynicism and difficulties encountered along our trailblazing path. In this extraordinary moment in time, the right thing to do is to keep charging ahead with our fervent belief in serving the country and its community to which we always belong, in whichever way possible, even beyond our capacity.

My dear friends,

It was once said that pioneers’ path is often sequestered and fraught with precarious obstacles. Be that as it may, I still believe Fulbright is not alone on its journey toward the advancement of the future of Vietnam through education, for we have had your generous support and good faith in the university’s mission and core values since its very beginning.

I strongly believe that all of our contributions today, in any way, shape and form, shall add to the realization of a university worthy and living up to society’s great expectations – a proud legacy of intellectual capital built, believed, and invested in for Vietnam’s future generations and beyond.

With the sincerest gratitude,



Dam Bich Thuy
President
Fulbright University Vietnam



2021

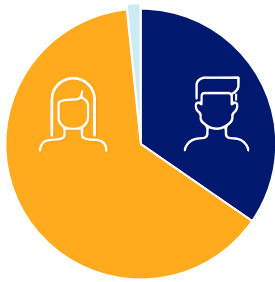
AT A GLANCE



BUILDING A DIVERSE STUDENT BODY

Fulbright University Vietnam celebrates and draws strength from diversity, which we define broadly. We are dedicated to building a pluralistic learning community that in its composition reflects the diversity of Vietnam and the world.

GENDER RATIO



Undergraduate

34.63%

Male

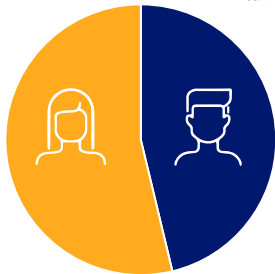
63.73%

Female

1.64%

Other

Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management (FSPPM)



46.25%

Male

53.75%

Female

FULBRIGHT STUDENTS ARE COMING FROM 50 PROVINCES ACROSS VIETNAM



25.2%

of students from northern provinces

22.7%

of students from central provinces

52.1%

of students from southern provinces

1 international student (Thailand)

24.35% of undergraduate students are first-generation college students

More than 60% of Fulbright undergraduates receive financial aid

82% of undergraduate students living in residence in AY20-21

1 New Residence for AY21-22:

Docklands Residence for students in their sophomore and junior years – accommodating up to 234 students

24 student clubs represented in the 2021 Club Fair

ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

220

First-year undergraduate students

36

Graduate students in Policy Analysis

48

Graduate students in Leadership Management

* These figures were true at the time of designing and may be subjected to change.

BUILDING A SUPPORTIVE TEAM



ACADEMIC STAFF

- **31** Full-time faculty
 - 20** Undergraduate faculty
 - 11** Graduate faculty
- **37** Adjunct/visiting faculty
 - 22** Undergraduate faculty
 - 15** Graduate faculty
- **2** International fellows
- **88%** of full-time academic staff have Ph-Ds
- **14** research articles published on ISI/SCOPUS in 2021

107 PROFESSIONAL STAFF



37.38%
Male

62.62%
Female

● KEY APPOINTMENTS

Fulbright University Vietnam is working to implement the University's strategic goals, build its financial health and maintain its academic excellence, and will continue to do so as the various vacancies in the executive leadership and faculty team are filled.



PROF. DR. LE VU QUAN
Director of YSEALI Academy
at Fulbright University Vietnam



NGUYEN GIANG THU
Director of Human Resources



DINH THI BINH DUONG
Director of Finance

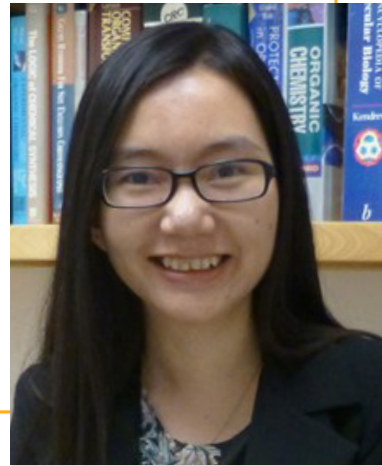


DR. NGUYEN NHUT TIEN
Chair of Computer Science

● KEY APPOINTMENTS



DR. MATTHEW MCDONALD
Senior Faculty of Psychology



DR. NGUYEN THI TRANG
Faculty of Integrated Sciences



DR. KHIEU VAN HOANG
Faculty of Economics



DR. HOANG HA THI
YSEALI Academy's Lead Faculty for
Entrepreneurship cum Undergraduate
Faculty of Integrated Sciences

● KEY APPOINTMENTS



DR. MARK FRANK
Faculty of History



VO THANH LAM
Senior Faculty Member of Fulbright
School of Public Policy and Management



● ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Working in partnership with other universities around the world is one of the most important aspects of Fulbright's development. Starting with the collaboration between the Fulbright Economics Teaching Program and Harvard Kennedy School over a quarter of a decade ago, academic partnerships now provide a significant contribution to students' academic experience and faculty's research activities.

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV)

In this partnership agreement, the two institutions will leverage each other's strengths to develop cooperation in areas of common interests, including reciprocal exchanges of faculty and students, collaborative research projects, exchange of publications, reports, and other professional development activities. These rigorous academic exchanges enable Fulbright and DAV to add further values to their respective communities.



Yale-NUS College, Singapore

This Exchange Agreement will enable Fulbright and Yale-NUS students to go on international exchange for an academic term between both institutions, supporting the internationalization of both student bodies and building mutual understanding between liberal arts institutions in the region.

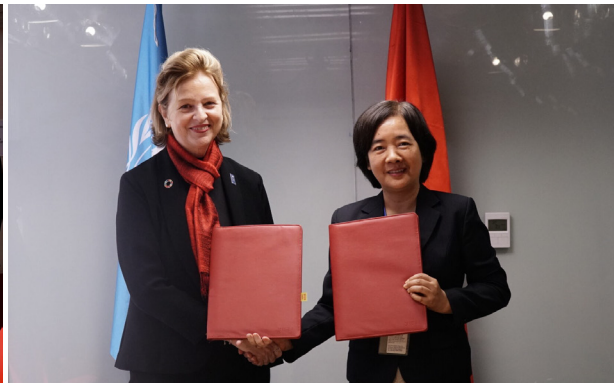
Dreamplex

This partnership agreement started with Career Day in April 2021, which gathered 40+ partner organizations and 300+ total participants from partner organizations and undergraduate students. In the Fall, Fulbright and Dreamplex launched The Future of Work – Mini-Course to address the rapidly evolving world and facilitate leaders learning how to create leading organizations.



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

This memorandum of understanding established a framework of cooperation between Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management and UNDP to collaboratively analyze and research economic policies. This MOU also focuses on building capacity of Vietnamese academic institutions to actively participate in economic policy debates and to strengthen relationships among universities, Government, business and civil society, to hold constructive dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders, to increase public awareness and understanding of policy achievements and challenges, especially those relevant to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Vietnam.



EnPointe Management Corporation

This partnership agreement entails a comprehensive collaboration between the two parties in co-hosting various programs, masterclasses, and speaker/workshop series to encourage the young generation to be liberal and creative in their quest for knowledge. This will enable Fulbright students to develop critical and creative thinking skills with the arts as their vehicle to become well-rounded future leaders.



ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Besides building new academic partnerships, one of Fulbright's key goals is to seek corporate sponsorships to provide our students with a variety of scholarship programs. The main objectives of these programs are not only for students to achieve their educational goal with a little bit of financial support, but also for corporations to encourage and develop the next generation of employees.

In 2021, the University is grateful to announce five new scholarship programs.

Fulbright Scholarship

This is a generous gift from an American philanthropist to form a scholarship program for five (05) students in Class of 2025 to help Vietnamese young talents, who have a strong commitment to community service, pursue quality education at Fulbright.



Nguyen Dac Hoang
Hai Phong



Nguyen Hoang Ngoc Ha
Dak Nong



Luong Ngoc Chung
Binh Phuoc



Tran Tieu My
Kien Giang



Le Dao Minh Tam
Quang Ninh

Wheel Cards Scholarship

This scholarship is to financially aid students with disabilities at Fulbright University Vietnam, help raise awareness about disabilities in Vietnam and become a catalyst to create a more equitable world for students with disabilities. This scholarship is established through the generosity and commitment of Wheel Cards, the world's first wheelchair/ disabilities related NFT project.



Dong Thi Hai Yen
Bac Giang



Tran Viet Hoang
Ha Tinh



Alyssa Bao
Da Nang

Nguyen-Phuong Family Scholarship:

This scholarship awards one (01) full tuition scholarship to incoming students for every academic year, starting Fall 2021, those who demonstrate exemplary traits of future change-makers by having these following characteristics: Curiosity and Creativity, Courage and Resilience, Adaptability and Open Mind, Leadership and Co-leadership.

TPBank STEM Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded up to five (05) undergraduate students majoring in STEM disciplines including Engineering, Computer Science, or Integrated Science, who are committed to pursuing and advancing in their fields of knowledge through a research project.

Nguyen Cao Nghi, *Class of 2023*
and **Nguyen Duy Hieu**, *Class of 2024*
with the joint research proposal on “The Relationship between Symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease and Slow Wave Activity Changes in the Brain: Mechanism and Applications”



Nguyen Cao Nghi



Nguyen Duy Hieu

Nguyen Phung Nhat Khoi, *Class of 2023*
with the research proposal on “Synthetic Game Trees in Artificial Intelligence”



Nguyen Phung Nhat Khoi

Community Change-maker Scholarship

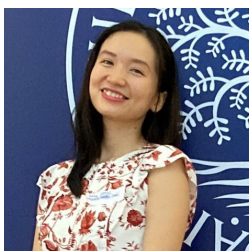
This scholarship is awarded up to four (04) students (both undergraduate and graduate programs) to pursue projects that serve Vietnam society and contribute to the betterment of the broader community.



Le Kieu Oanh
Class of 2023
with “em-in” (Emotional Intelligence)



Tran Thi Thu Thao
Class of 2024
with “Long Khanh on the Road”



Nguyen Phuong Dung
MPP22-PA
with “Empowering Female Farmers in Highland provinces Knowledge-sharing and Community-building”

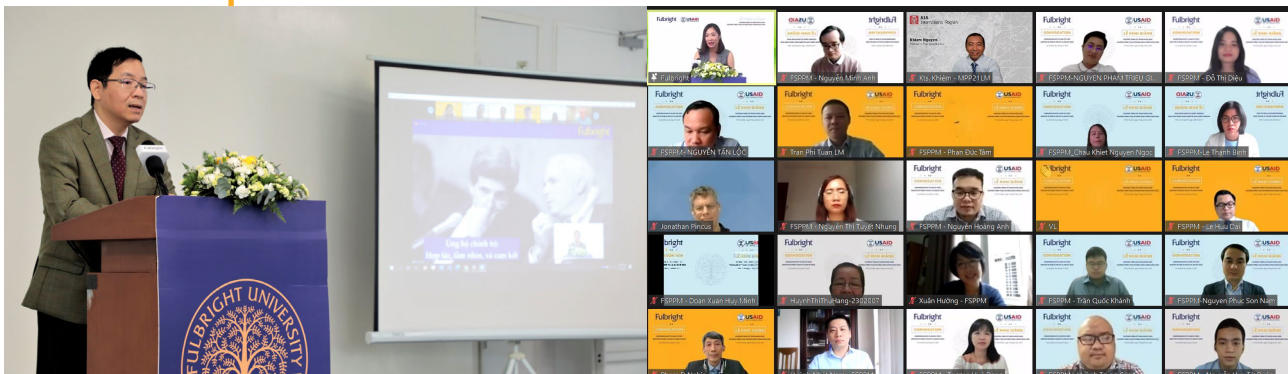


Vu Hai Trung
MPP22-LM
with “Youth Talk Sâu”

● CONVOCATION: ONE FULBRIGHT – ONE FAMILY

October 17 marked our first-ever online Convocation, crowned with ceremonial drumbeats evoking a time-honored tradition for Vietnamese students and Fulbright University Vietnam alike, transcended the usual trappings of a virtual webcast to impart its empowering and emotive message. Whether it's an undergraduate freshman thrilled with her budding college experience, or a student who successfully gained entrance to our Master in Public Policy program 2023 at the Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management, all shared the excitement of becoming members of the Fulbright community, where everybody learns and grows together, in which each person is encouraged to explore and develop into the best version of themselves.

Associate Professor Nguyen Lan Hieu, Director of Hanoi Medical University Hospital, our keynote speaker at the Convocation ceremony, remarked: *“The pandemic is like a shower of rain that washed away the glorified veneers entrenched in our society. It has revealed the old ways of doing and thinking, those that shall be replaced by the new, specifically the young thinkers and doers – like many of you present here today – who will be at the heart and forefront of our country.”* Through our distinguished guests and students' addresses, the ceremony was reflective of a year, fraught with adversities and affliction, called for courage and resilience in every exerted effort of ours in the face of hardship. Despite the challenges, we are also presented with an unprecedented opportunity: the opportunity to re-define the “new normal” and make our community a better, safer one.



● GIVING WEEK: ONE WEEK – ONE FULBRIGHT

In the spirit of celebrating the fifth anniversary of Fulbright University Vietnam, and of looking forward toward the future, this past May, Fulbright has organized a Giving Week, **One Week - One Fulbright**, to bring the Fulbright community closer together, to appreciate each other's passion and dedication for education, as well as to create a tradition of unity. Throughout the week, Fulbright community members joined hands to contribute in various ways, from gifting a brick or a tree, to making other material contributions. Together, we have raised 481 million VND for Campus Building and Students Fund for Research and Community Service.

Giving was also expressed creatively in other non-material forms, such as writing a grateful note to the “silent knights” like the tea ladies, the professional staff, finance team, and facility people, etc. without whose commitment Fulbright would be a train without wheels. There were also appreciation notes connecting professors, faculty, and staff, giving one another a pat on the back for all their hard work. Sincerities and encouragements came in all forms – hugs, handshakes, fist bumps – spreading positivity all around campus.





UNDER-GRADUATE

PROGRAM NEWS



● KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Gold Medal at Mekong Business Challenge

A team of four freshmen from Fulbright University Vietnam has surpassed 12 strong competitors from 6 neighboring countries to bring home a Gold Medal at Mekong Business Challenge. This is the first win from a Vietnamese representative in 10 years, and the team will represent the whole region to compete in the Global Competition in the United States.



From left: Dao Hai Nhat Tan, Pho Do Quyen, Duong Dam Yen Nhi, Pham Hoang Minh Phuong

Bronze Medal at ICPC Asia Can Tho Regional Contest

A team of sophomores at Fulbright has won a bronze medal at the International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC), the oldest, largest, and most prestigious algorithmic programming contest for college students around the world. Defying popular assumptions, liberal arts education equipped them to excel in a programming contest against students from computer science-specialized schools in multiple unexpected ways.



The Fulbright team at 2019 ICPC Asia Da Nang Regional Contest



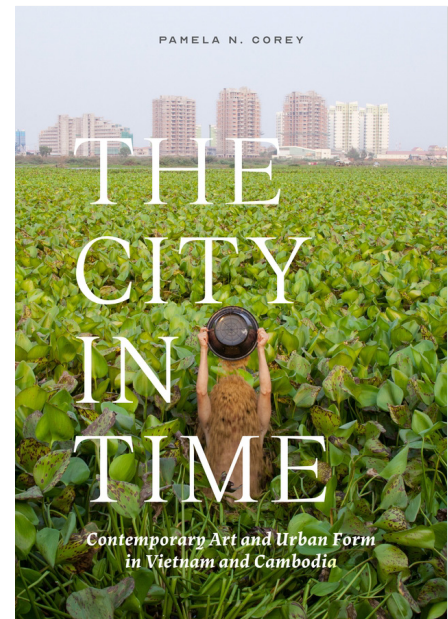
From left: Doan Duc Nguyen Long, Le Hoang Phuc and Nguyen Phung Nhat Khoi at the ICPC Asia Can Tho Regional Contest 2020

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Two books by Fulbright's Undergraduate Faculty were published.

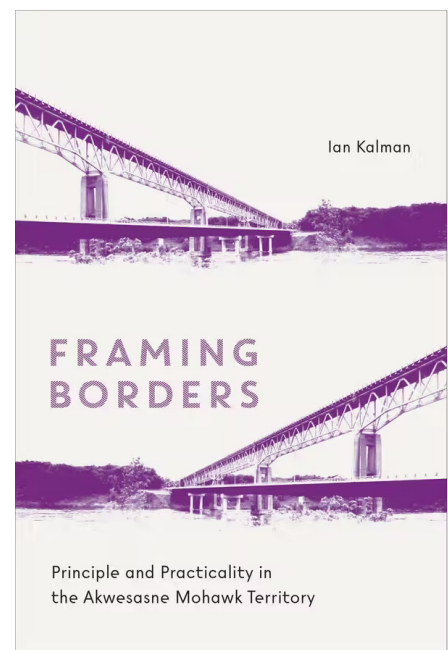
Corey, Pamela N.. *The City in Time: Contemporary Art and Urban Form in Vietnam and Cambodia*. Seattle. University of Washington Press, 2021.

In *The City in Time*, Pamela N. Corey provides new ways of understanding contemporary artistic practices in a region that continues to linger in international perceptions as perpetually "postwar." Focusing on art from the last two decades, Corey connects artistic developments with social transformations as reflected through the urban landscapes of Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh. As she argues, artists' engagements with urban space and form reveal ways of grasping multiple and layered senses and concepts of time, whether aligned with colonialism, postcolonial modernity, communism, or post-socialism.



Kalman, Ian. *Framing Borders: Principle and Practicality in the Akwesasne Mohawk Territory*. University of Toronto Press, 2021.

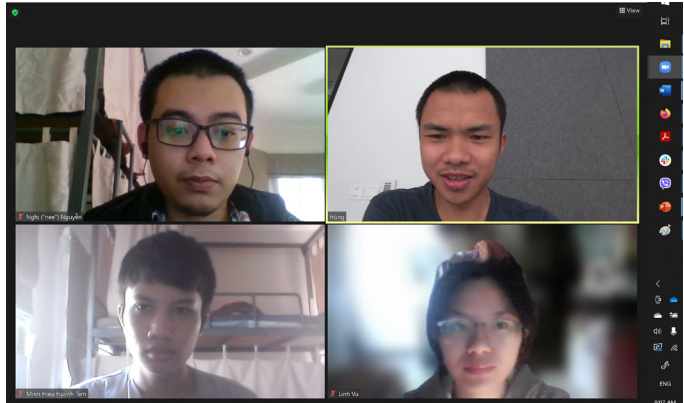
Framing Borders addresses a fundamental disjuncture between scholastic portrayals of settler colonialism and what actually takes place in Akwesasne Territory, the largest Indigenous cross-border community in Canada. The book explores how border crossing represents a conversation where different actors "frame" themselves, the law, and the space that they occupy in diverse ways. Written in accessible, lively prose, Kalman addresses what goes on when border officers and Akwesasne residents meet, provides an ethnographic examination of the experiences of the border by Mohawk community members, the history of local border enforcement, and the paradoxes, self-contradictions, and confusions that underlie the border and its enforcement.



● KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Two scientific research projects led by Fulbright faculty with the participation of Fulbright students were published.

Nguyen Phuc An and Huynh Tam Minh Hieu (Class of 2023) worked alongside Dr. Phan Vu Xuan Hung for the past 2 years on various strategic and computational projects. After countless weekly check-in meetings and intensive summer research work, the group has successfully delivered a research paper published in the *Environmental Research* journal and a research talk presented at the 2021 SPIE Organic Photonics + Electronics conference in San Diego, USA.



At Fulbright, learning expands beyond the confinement of a traditional classroom and takes the form of numerous creative ways, whether that be participating in business case competitions, hackathons, research projects, academic/social club events, or field trips. Here, students are to explore the depth and breadth of knowledge through mentorships from the faculty and friendships with one another, on campus or virtually, the community stays tight-knit.



STUDENT LIFE

Overcoming the socially distant barrier of 2021, the Student Life Team went above and beyond to support student wellbeing and enhance the student experience.

TATÀ TẾT

An epic launch of Fulbright Student Council since its establishment, this [prerecorded showcase](#) highlights the students' talents, personalities, creativity, and their “out-of-the-books” thinking. Fulbright Student Council in collaboration with Fulbright Music Club, with the support of Fulbright Student Life Office, has created a music party, chatting about Tết with special guests in a very cozy and welcoming atmosphere.



Sustainability Fair

“Act Responsible – Think Sustainable”. Non-profit organizations and social enterprises joined the fair to open a dialog with students about environmental pressing problems that Vietnam is currently facing while also introducing their projects and creative communication campaigns to address the matter. Save Son Doong brought their Virtual Reality Tour, which was listed as one of the top 10 virtual tours of the world’s natural wonders selected by The Guardian, to Fulbright campus. The highlight of the event was a panel discussion about three pillars of sustainability: social equity, environmental protection, and economic viability. The youth are faced with a challenge but also granted the opportunity to think about their own actions and contribution to a sustainable economy, a sustainable society, and a sustainable world.



STUDENT LIFE



WeCARE

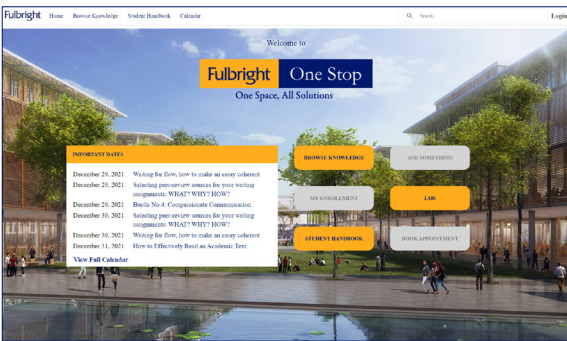
(CARE stands for "come", "ask", "respond" and "embrace")

A wellness-focused program that aims to provide tailored 1:1 support to the residents, promote self and community healthcare via various prompts to help students through transitioning phases, embrace new changes, alleviate stress, enhance diversity and inclusion, and virtual care packages for the holidays during the pandemic.



Bustles Event Series

Monthly events organized to cultivate students' well-roundedness, including effective communications, collaboration, creative thinking, health and wellness, self-defense, and fire training.



Fulbright OneStop Calendar

An improvement in student portal Fulbright OneStop to ensure Fulbright community can stay in the loop about all events, both online and offline, to make the workflow smoother and bring our community closer.



Virtual Orientation Week

A 15+ day program packed with 41 activities and contests via 4+ online platforms allowing students to meet and work with peers from their class, interact with faculty, staff, and students from other cohorts, understand and know how to access the available support system and services at Fulbright.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- **+82** is the Net Promoter Score (NPS) when employers are asked “How likely are you to recommend Fulbright as a source of talent acquisition to another colleague or employer?”

- **54%** of the entire current student body reported having at least 01 internship or professional project since enrolling at Fulbright.

- **150+** opportunities shared to our student body during Academic Year 2020–21. Opportunities range from internships, work-study, to volunteer positions.

- **60+** partners engaged across Career Development activities, events, and programs during Academic Year 2020–21.

- **24** experiential opportunities made possible through financial support disbursed by Career Development. Opportunities range from academic research, internships, to start-up projects.

- **16%** of the entire current student body is engaging in Signature Internship Programs (e.g., Social Impact Fellows Program and Venture Fellows Program).



CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Fulbright students are unique in many ways as individuals, and the liberal arts curriculum ensures that students build a wide set of competencies and skills. From day one, our students work in diverse teams to develop projects, learn to execute deliverables of the highest quality and on time, gain skills to address conflict and provide feedback, and hone creative problem-solving capabilities. Beyond the expected technical skills that most graduates can offer employers, Fulbright graduates can also bring the employability skills necessary to grow professionally while adding value to the table. Aside from the vibrant summer internship programs, Fulbright students also get to explore exciting career pathways and build the skills to excel in any professional setting via diverse opportunities, such as:



Social Impact Fellows Program

Social Impact Fellows Program is a highly selective social impact-focused and professional experiential learning program with a structured approach and scaffolded support: pre-internship seminar, ongoing mentorship, post-internship reflection and synthesis. Throughout the whole process, Fulbright students were to chart their social impact pathways, develop a critical lens towards approaching society's pressing challenges, get an inside view through impactful project-based work, and grow their network. All the while, social impact-oriented organizations benefited from and invested in the development of talented students and future changemakers.

The first iteration of the Social Impact Fellows Program has secured 8 partners across Vietnam and across a diverse set of issue areas. Ten provinces were represented through SIFP Fellows, with 50% being first-year students and the other 50% being second-year students.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Career Day

At the first-ever Career Day, students met and learnt from a diverse group of partners, while companies recruited resourceful and creative talents through on-site CV assessment and individual interviews. With a liberal education program like Fulbright, this kind of exposure allowed students to not only make better decisions when it comes to choosing their majors, but also fostered a supportive professional network for their future careers.

The event welcomed over 100 representatives from 42 corporations across all industries, from consulting, financial technology, digital solutions, communications, to education, non-profit, and fashion. Among them are highly sought-after enterprises such as GroupM – the global number one media investment management, Schneider Electric, Procter & Gamble, Jardine Matheson, plus many more. With 13 speakers from industry-leading companies, three panel discussions covered highly anticipated topics, particularly female empowerment in the workforce, the future of work for Generation Z, and how to bounce back and learn from failures. What made Career Day 2021 even more special was that Fulbright students played a significant role in organizing the event themselves.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT



Career Talk with UNIQLO Vietnam

UNIQLO Vietnam's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Shota Miura and Head of Human Resources (HR) Lisa Diep Phan joined a Career Talk with Fulbright University Vietnam to share how their experiences in studying and working abroad have formed their perspectives of the world, and how it has helped them expand this international business in the Vietnamese context. Their interesting stories provided insights into how Fulbright students can leverage the "global citizen's" mindset to build successful local business models, and how this multi-cultural lens can shape their mindset about different fields.

The Career Talk series by Career Development provides Fulbright students with opportunities to learn from leaders of big companies and organizations, deepen and broaden their knowledge about job demands in the market to prepare for their future endeavors.

FSPPM

NEWS



● **FULBRIGHT REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND POLICY (FREP) - INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL**

Published on the platform of Emerald Publishing, FREP is an academic, peer-reviewed, open-access journal that publishes theoretical and empirical results in all the areas of economics and public policy. Economics is a highly theoretical field of inquiry tapping into large datasets and utilizes sophisticated mathematical formulas in its approach. On the other hand, public policy explores more realistic problems making use of analytical observations in policies, law, and institutions that directly impact people’s lives.

The inaugural issue of Fulbright Review of Economics and Policy (FREP) was published in September. The journal aims to promote publications that employ rigorous analytical tools and advocate for evidence-based policy. Link to the journal’s inaugural issue can be found [here](#).



● **NATURAL CAPITAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management (FSPPM) has received a five-year programmatic grant of US\$1 million from two companies, Galaxy Studio and Dragon Capital to launch “Natural Capital Management” Program. The grant will enable the university to advance research, hold dialogues on policy responses, offer executive education programs and classes on Natural Capital Management issues.

For the first annual topic of the five-year plan, the gift will propel the Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management to address critical issues and policy responses in the Mekong River Delta region. Specifically, FSPPM will advance their research on the following key priorities: agriculture transformation, energy, air pollution and public health, climate change, flooding, regional infrastructure, and transboundary cooperation.



A working session between FSPPM and Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) in Can Tho in March 2021 to collect opinions from economics and policy experts and business representatives for the Mekong Delta 2021 report.

● PANEL DISCUSSION ON ENTREPRENEURIAL STATE AND INDUSTRY 4.0

On March 16, Fulbright School hosted a seminar entitled "**From the developmental state to the entrepreneurial state: The role of the State in Industry 4.0**" discussing the role of the state in economic development and the relationship between the state and the market, as well as the state and the business sector.

Offering extended discussions from the theme of the book *The Entrepreneurial State: Debunking Public vs. Private Sector Myths* authored by Professor Mariana Mazzucato (University College London), the seminar featured the attendance of Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh - FSPPM Dean, Dr. Nguyen Si Dung - former Deputy Chairman of the Office of Vietnam National Assembly and Dr. Vu Duy Thuc - Founder of OhmniLabs.



● NORDIC DAY

2021

On the occasion of the Nordic Day – March 23, the Nordic Embassies in Vietnam (Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden), in coordination with FSPPM, jointly organized the seminar to facilitate and promote exchanges of knowledge, experience, and good practice between the Nordic countries and Vietnam on how to ensure that their capital cities grow in a green, innovative and sustainable manner.

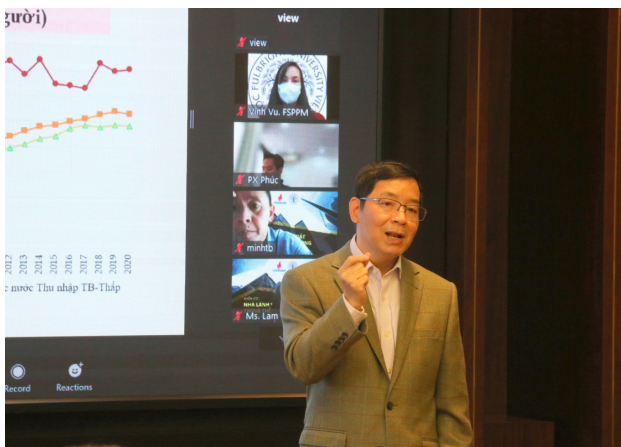
The seminar, as a part of the Nordic countries’ support to Vietnam’s achievement of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), took place both offline and online through video links between Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and the four Nordic capitals and had broad participation of high-ranking representatives and policymakers from the Vietnamese government agencies, local experts, academia researchers, etc.



LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR VIETNAM OIL AND GAS GROUP

Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management collaborated with Vietnam Oil and Gas Group (Petrovietnam – PVN) to organize a Leadership Executive Education program on the topic “Navigational Leadership in a ‘VUCA’ world” for members of Board of Management and Board of Directors of PVN and its subsidiaries.

The program objectives include providing different perspectives on global economic issues and Vietnam development policies through up-to-date and independent economic policy research conducted by leading academic institutions and think tanks like Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management, Fulbright University Vietnam, and Harvard University. The program also aimed to improve strategic vision, policy analysis capabilities, and adaptability for leaders of Petrovietnam and its subsidiaries to successfully cope with new changes in the modern world.



ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Fulbright School Alumni (FSA) continued to strengthen its internal bonding within the Fulbright community as well as the larger community. In early April, the first FSA networking event was organized in Hoi An, the central of Vietnam where FSA members from Hue, Danang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai got together to share stories of their lives and work, how they managed to overcome difficulties brought by the pandemic. There gathered 70 members of MPP22 students who were on a study field trip, totaling up to 250 FSPPM folks for an exciting networking opportunity.

The event also hosted the renowned writer Nguyen Ngoc, who shared with FSA about the life and thought of Phan Chau Trinh - the Vietnamese cultural and thought nationalist in the late 19th century. Additionally, a mentorship initiative was launched to provide mentoring between alumni and students of FSPPM.





YSEALI ACADEMY

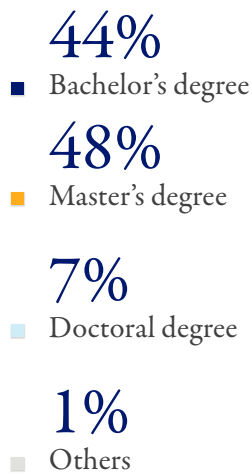
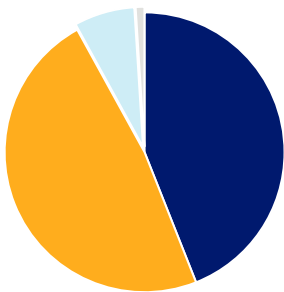
AT FULBRIGHT



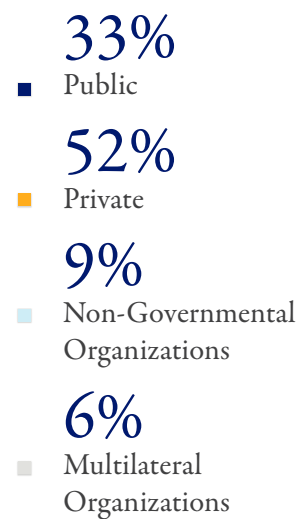
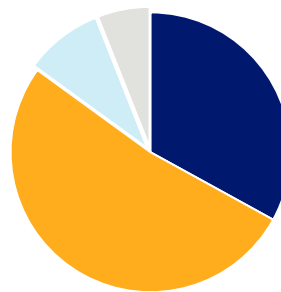
Launched in 2020, YSEALI Academy's main mission is to organize executive-level seminars and workshops fostering the capacity for young professionals, juniors, and middle management levels from across Southeast Asia. This year, YSEALI Academy has successfully offered three flagship seminars addressing challenging issues facing the region such as energy economics and policy, contemporary cybersecurity challenges and opportunities, and fundamentals of startup investing in Southeast Asia.

● BY THE NUMBERS

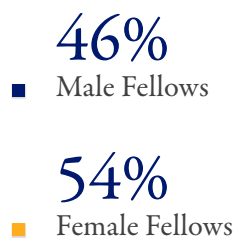
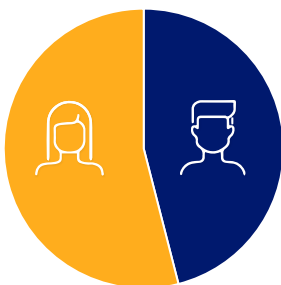
EDUCATION



SECTOR



GENDER



Acceptance rate: **21%**

The YSEALI Academy has received a diverse pool of applications from all **11** Southeast Asian countries.

Particularly, **23%** of Fellows in the Entrepreneurship seminar came from rural areas.

● PUBLIC POLICY SEMINAR: ENERGY ECONOMICS & POLICY SEMINAR

Huynh Trung Dung - Public Policy Lead Faculty at YSEALI Academy cum Lecturer at Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management

The inaugural cohort was welcomed by Ms. Wendy R. Sherman, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State. The two-week intensive seminar covered a highly interdisciplinary field from not only energy economics and policy perspective but also incorporated other YSEALI's signatures such as leadership skill workshops and cultural exchange experiences.

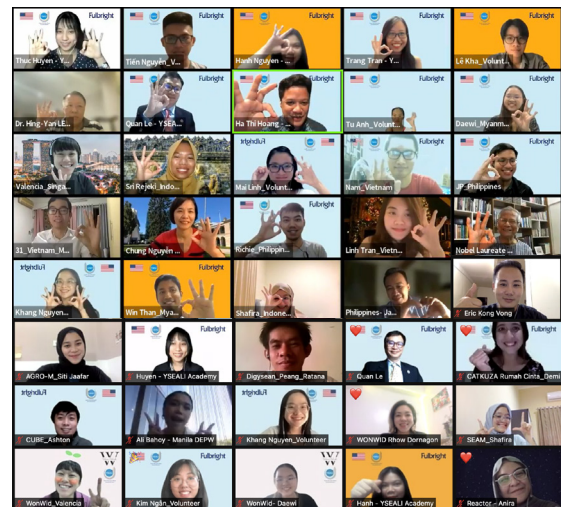
Converging all YSEALI networks, the Fellows were invited to participate in a wide range of activities from morning to evening with professors from well-known universities such as Harvard Kennedy School, Monash University, UC Davis, and industry experts from the U.S., Europe, and Asia Pacific region with diverse experiences in Southeast Asia. Joining the seminar were also guest speakers from leading private corporations such as Siemens, First Solar, Wärtsilä, Nami Energy, Asia Clean Capital Vietnam, and Baker & McKenzie.



● ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINAR: NAVIGATING THE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

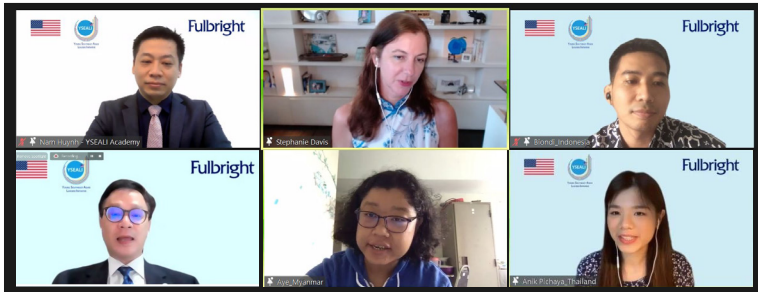
Dr. Hoang Ha Thi – Entrepreneurship Lead Faculty at YSEALI Academy cum Fulbright University Vietnam's Undergraduate Faculty Member in Integrated Sciences

For this seminar, the YSEALI Academy had the honor to host Nobel Peace Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus as the Distinguished Lecturer to celebrate the 8th anniversary of YSEALI. With the engaging participant from YSEALI members and YSEALI Academy Fellows, his lecture on “Unleashing the Power of Entrepreneurship: The Way to Create a World of Three Zeros” inspired the audience to envision and think about a new destination where we have zero net carbon emission, zero wealth concentration for ending poverty once for all, and zero unemployment by unleashing entrepreneurship in everyone.



In addition, the fellows also had the opportunities to learn with high-profile professors from Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Sloan School of Management, George Washington University, and Tilburg University. Besides the high-profile lecturers, exciting entrepreneurs, investors, and marketers gathered to inspire the fellows and share their learned lessons with them.

● TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION SEMINAR: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES POST COVID-19



Dr. Huynh Nhat Nam - *Technology and Innovation Lead Faculty at YSEALI Academy cum Senior Research Fellow at the Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management*

Fifteen academic scholars and 20 industry experts from world-renowned institutions such as Columbia Business School, University of Washington, Hong Kong University, University of Wollongong (Australia) and companies such as Google, NVIDIA, Grab, IBM, Kyper Network, Hitachi Vantara etc. were invited to provide comprehensive knowledge and information for the fellows.

While the seminar was held for a two-week duration, the resonance of it has continued evoking with the new strong bonds and ideas nurtured in the seminar. When being asked about their overall impression, the Fellows keenly described the seminar as “dynamic”, “inclusive”, “engaging”, and “mind-changing”. Challenges of a virtual format and unstable world contexts notwithstanding, the seminar was acclaimed “beyond expectation” by many.



CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION



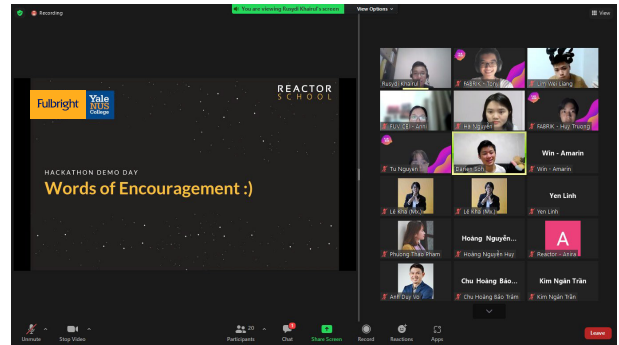
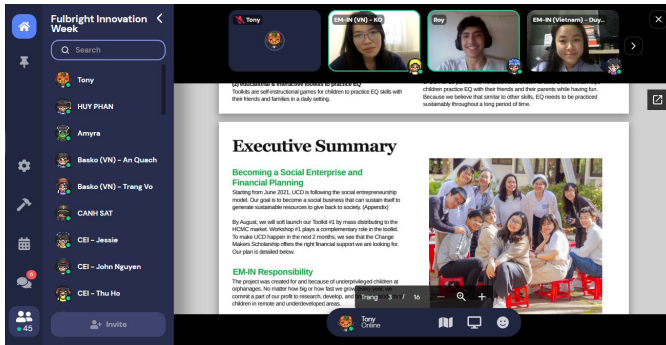
● EDTECH SYMPOSIUM

Co-hosted with EdTech Asia and InnoLab Asia, the symposium gathered more than 100 leaders of all fields to discuss the future of edtech. With keynote speeches and distinguished panel discussions, the event encouraged educators, tech innovators, and leaders to reflect and be purposeful about the important roles they all play in pushing the boundary of education, and to ponder on how universities should change to adapt in a world transformed ever since the pandemic.



● INNOVATION WEEK

Partnered with Yale-NUS College along with leading partners in the field, Fulbright Innovation Week 2021 was established to foster the entrepreneurial mindset and innovation culture among Vietnamese students. The Innovation Week included four main activities: Virtual Start-up Showcase, Future Leaders Forum, Entrepreneurship Seminar Series, and Virtual Hackathon, attracted more than 400 diverse registrations across 38 provinces in Vietnam, from high-school students to fresh-graduates joining as visitors, with a selected 17 student business/start-up projects from both Vietnam & Singapore to present at the entrepreneurship exhibition.



● GENDER EQUALITY TRAINING

In collaboration with US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Tetra Tech, CEI hosted a seven-week virtual course as part of the Workforce Gender Equality Accelerated Program aiming to improve gender equality in male-dominant industries across Asia. The first cohort of the program is delivered virtually with 30 representative participants from Vietnam, Bhutan, the Philippines, Maldives, India, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan. After the success of the first cohort, CEI hosted another training program designed and moderated specifically for Vietnam Electricity (EVN). Launching the Workforce Gender Equality Accelerated Program has been one of CEI's efforts in offering impactful learning opportunities for stakeholders across Vietnamese society and the region, including non-Fulbright students, professionals, startups, companies, and members of the general public. With great hope, CEI aims to cultivate the next generation of ethical leaders and changemakers of Vietnam and the region.





COMMUNITY

ENGAGEMENT NEWS



● FOR A RESILIENT HO CHI MINH CITY

We strive to continue to deliver an academic experience that fosters critical and creative thinkers and doers who will in turn find their own creative outlets to give back and support causes and endeavors that they hold dear. And we see that in everything our Fulbright community members do, from the advisory work our FSPPM faculty have been doing with the Ho Chi Minh City's government, to the social projects our undergraduate and FSPPM students initiated, to the Covid-19 relief activities to support Saigon.

#SupportSaigon Mini Concert

In July, Fulbright initiated the [virtual mini concert](#) #SupportSaigon to call for donations to help those who have been severely affected by the pandemic. Due to the timing sensitivity of this project, we only had three days to turn this idea from conception to reality. Thanks to the joint efforts of Fulbright students, faculty, and staff, as well as the moving performances, the heartfelt support from our famous singers and artists, #SupportSaigon was able to come to life, ever so vibrant, lively, and meaningful. In total, #SupportSaigon has received 581,031,304VND from 300 transactions, all of which have been sent to the “0 VND Mini Mart”, helping more than 900 impoverished households to have enough food and necessities for nearly a month.

MINI LIVE SHOW

*Chia sẻ yêu thương
với Sài Gòn*

18:30 LIVESTREAM

03.07.2021

Cùng Phối hợp và Đồng Tổ chức

Fulbright VieZ

Để ủng hộ

SIÊU THỊ MINI 0 ĐỒNG



Ambulance Donation Initiative

During the fourth wave of the pandemic, our health services were completely overwhelmed by a dramatic increase in new cases while medical supplies became scarcer. Specifically, learning from three members who participated in a special task force to aid the efforts of the Ho Chi Minh City's administration and the government to monitor, prevent, contain, and mitigate the spread of Covid-19, Fulbright identified that the need for more active ambulances is critical. Hence, we initiated a fund-raise to provide added support for the front-line health workers in Ho Chi Minh City. In just two weeks in August, with the joined hands from the Fulbright School Alumni and the pouring support from the larger Fulbright community, we successfully raised 3,109,889,000VND to buy three (03) Hyundai Solatis, two (02) Ford Transits, and one (01) general ambulance gifted to Covid-19 resuscitation hospitals in Ho Chi Minh City and Binh Duong, which are responsible for treating critically ill patients.

● FULBRIGHT SPEAKERS' SERIES: THE WORLD BEYOND A BOOK

In the Fall, there continued a *Fulbright Speakers' Series: The World Beyond a Book*, where students and the extended Fulbright community were invited to a quest for knowledge and understanding with diverse incisive viewpoints of prominent authors, both in Vietnam and globally, venturing into a myriad of topics ranging from development history and current Vietnam in the context of globalization, to the importance of mental health in being a compassionate community member. A few sessions of the Fall Speakers' Series are:

- Prof. Matthews Jones – *Anthony Eden, Anglo-American Relations and the 1954 Indochina Crisis*
- Dr. Dang Hoang Giang – *Black Ocean – Stories from the World of the Depressed*
- Dr. Vu Minh Hoang – *The Third Indochina War and the Making of Present-Day Southeast Asia, 1975-1995*
- Dr. Nguyen Manh Tien – *The creation of The Dragon and The Fairy mythical story*
- Dr. Pham Van Hung – *Culture of Sexuality in Vietnam from the 10th - 19th Centuries*

● VIETNAM STUDIES EVENT SERIES

This Spring Semester, a series of events were coordinated by Fulbright's first-year students with the support of the Modern Vietnamese Culture Studies teaching team. Among many prominent activities, a notable one was the talk with Director Nguyen Thi Xuan Phuong, a witness of an aching period in our history when our nation was divided, who is also a crew member of the notorious documentary *Le 17e parallèle: La Guerre du Peuple*. And the other was the *Se Se Chu* poetic-musical night, organized and performed by our students, to commemorate the two renowned poets Luu Quang Vu and Xuan Quynh. With creativity fostered by liberal education, these students' efforts are their ode to the nation's history and poetry, as a way to preserve and promote Vietnamese cultural heritages.

At *Se se chu*, Fulbright students and guests – Dr. Nguyen Nam, Ms. Dam Bich Thuy, Actress/Director Hong Anh, Literary Critic Pham Xuan Nguyen – brought a breath of fresh air to Luu Quang Vu – Xuan Quynh’s poetry and moved the viewers deeply.



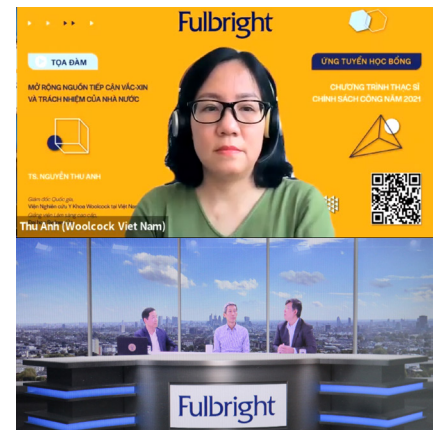
***Le 17e parallèle:
La Guerre du Peuple***

Director Nguyen Thi Xuan Phuong and Fulbright’s students and faculty after the screening event

● FSPPM'S VIRTUAL SEMINARS

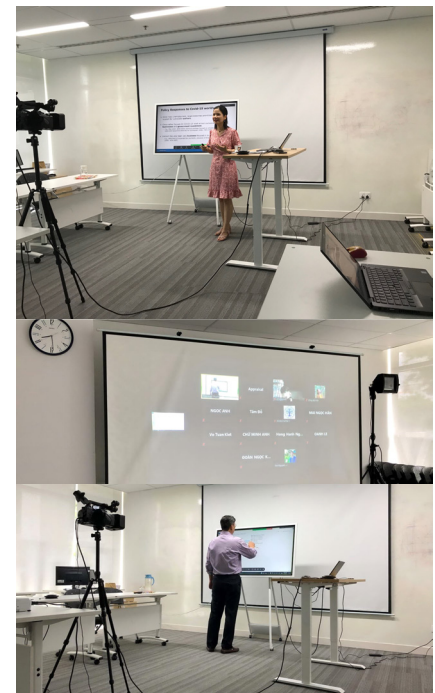
Amidst the grave conditions of Covid-19 pandemic in HCMC, as the leading public policy education and research institute in Vietnam, FSPPM faculty closely works with experts to give insightful analysis looking from macroeconomic, law, and economics aspects. Among the virtual seminars were:

A Panel Discussion on Covid-19 vaccination strategies, titled **"Expanding the Access to Covid-19 Vaccines and the Responsibilities of the State"** was moderated by Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Duy Nghia, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh, and the invited panel member Dr. Nguyen Thu Anh, Director of Woolcock Institute of Medical Research Vietnam that attracted about 700 participants. Leading experts gave in-depth analysis from epidemiological, legal, economic, and public policy perspectives on Vietnam's vaccination strategy in the context of the fourth wave of Covid outbreaks that requires the Vietnamese government to find new approaches to the pandemic. Among other things, they discussed the need for Vietnam to map out a long-term vaccination and immunization plan.



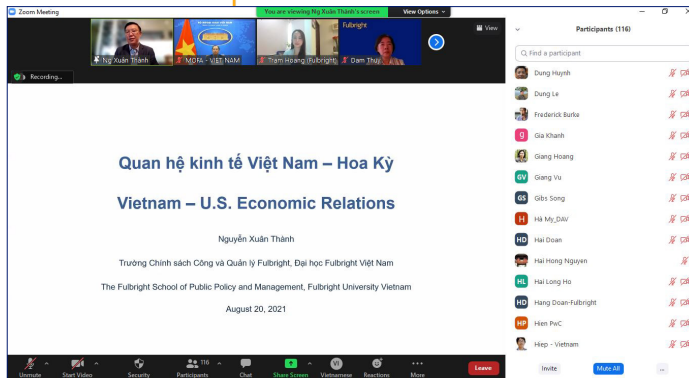
A series of demo classes were held examining the impact of Covid-19 on Vietnam looking from macroeconomic, law, and economic perspectives, including:

- By looking at a social policy, a demo class on **"Consumer Welfare and Policy Analysis"** was conducted by Dr. Le Thai Ha - Director of Research and Senior Faculty member of FSPPM to analyze the impact and effectiveness of government subsidy programs, focusing on the contradiction between the concept of welfare economics and institutional problems.
- Through a specific case study - Decision No. 2666 of Ministry of Health, **"Bluezone – Individual rights during the pandemic"** was delivered by A/Prof. Pham Duy Nghia, Director of MPP program, examining the way the government implements its policies effectively while ensuring that all decisions take into account the aspects of equality and fairness and protect the basic rights of the people in time of a crisis.
- In **"Vietnam's economy amid the Covid-19 pandemic"**, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh - Senior Faculty member of FSPPM clarified important growth dynamics of Vietnam's economy as well as impacts of social distancing lockdowns during the 4th outbreak on economic activities and policies to re-open the economy.



● PROSPECTS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THE U.S.

In August, we proudly co-hosted a virtual conference with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As the two nations are undergoing changes in administrations, the engaging exchanges amongst the scholars, researchers, and businesses as well as associations have brought a practical contribution to the important dialogue, policy-wise, continuing to pave the way for the Vietnam-U.S. economics partnership.





GIVE

TO FULBRIGHT



● WHY GIVE TO FULBRIGHT?

At Fulbright, we offer Vietnamese youth the opportunity to pursue their passions through our undergraduate and graduate programs. Your gift will make a lasting impression on our students and community, from providing financial aid and continuing construction on our future campus, to outfitting classrooms with cutting-edge technologies and bringing international scholars to our campus. With your support, our students can capitalize on the opportunities offered to them at Fulbright, become productive citizens of society, and in time, pay it forward by supporting the next generation of Vietnamese students.

DONATE VIA BANK TRANSFER

Please send donations to Fulbright University Vietnam's bank with a direct transfer using the following information:

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