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FULBRIGHT UNIVERSITY VIETNAM

*In Celebration of the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc  
(Tonkin Free School) (1907-2022),  
155<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Phan Boi Chau (1867-2022), and  
150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Phan Chau Trinh (1872-2022)*

*International Research Conference*

## Tonkin Free School & Vietnamese Liberal Arts Education Model

### CALL FOR PAPERS

*“Having searched for and already examined [new models of civilization], we now carry them out. Take broadaxes and long-handled swords to tear down the old wall; raise red flags and red banners in order to ascend the new stage; jump into the swirling world in order to agitate our enthusiasm; lead our enthusiasm into the forward-leaping time in order to encourage our incentives. It is essential to ensure that people in the country start competing on account of thoughts, and initiate thinking on account of competition, so that to some extent, through a series of works, will obtain the so-called studies for the advancement of civilization.”*

(Anonymous, *New Learning Strategies for the Advancement of Civilization*, 1904)



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Although *Liberal Arts Education* can be defined in various ways, they all have one thing in common, which is to “offer a broad intellectual foundation for the tools to think critically, reason analytically and write clearly. These proficiencies will prepare students to navigate the world’s most complex issues, and address future innovations with unforeseen challenges”.<sup>1</sup> The foundation of this educational tradition has been long rooted not only in “Western” society but also in “Eastern” countries, such as India, China, or Egypt.<sup>2</sup> The establishment of Quoc Tu Giam (also known as the Imperial Academy) in 1076 was considered as the milestone marking the beginning of a liberal tradition in Vietnamese education. More than 830 years later, a multi-levelled educational institution was founded during the colonial period, making a significant contribution to the development of liberal education in Vietnam.

Founded in 1907 in Hanoi, Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc (also known as the Tonkin Free School) stands out as the integration of achievements in educational reforms from both the East and the West in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to meet the urgent demands then, especially the all-inclusive national reforms for the sake of progress, equality, cooperation, and national independence. The epigraph at the opening of this letter is an excerpt from the booklet titled *Van Minh Tan Hoc Sach* (New Learning Strategies for the Advancement of Civilization), which has been regarded as the school's manifesto, principles, and guidance, reflecting the spirit of critical and liberal thinking which leads to symmetrical developments benefiting both local and global communities. Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc’s short-term existence of just more than half a year stands in a maximum inverse ratio with its deep impacts on Vietnamese educational tradition, and on the development of Vietnamese society in a new direction in general.

The year 2022 is a special year that celebrates the 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc together with the birth years of two extraordinary revolutionary patriots who greatly contributed to the school’s liberal education values. Paying homage to Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc, we also commemorate the 155<sup>th</sup> birth year of Phan Boi Chau (1867-2022) and the 150<sup>th</sup> birth year of Phan Chau Trinh (1872-2022). As a university built upon liberal arts education, Fulbright University Vietnam proudly continues the Vietnamese traditional education founded on a liberal spirit of continuous self-improvement. In this spirit, Fulbright University Vietnam organizes this international research conference on the theme “Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc (Tonkin Free School) & Vietnamese Liberal Arts Education Model” to welcome a new and more comprehensive

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<sup>1</sup> Harvard College, “[What is a ‘liberal arts & sciences’ education?](#)”, accessed on 23.02.2022.

<sup>2</sup> Kara A. Godwin and Philip G. Altbach, “A Historical and Global Perspective on Liberal Arts Education: What Was, What Is, and What Will Be,” *International Journal of Chinese Education*, 5 (2016), 9-11.



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understanding of the liberal tradition in Vietnamese education in history as well as its longstanding values in contemporary global contexts.

## Conference Topics

The conference focuses on (but not limited to) the following topics:

- Liberal tradition in Vietnamese education
- Cultural exchanges between Vietnam and East Asian countries from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries;
- Interactions among various educational systems in Vietnam from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries;
- Multilingualism and multiscrypt practices in urban Vietnam in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century;
- Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc: New discoveries and newly recovered documents;
- Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc in national, regional, and global contexts;
- Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc and Vietnamese literati and “Western-learning” intelligentsia, with a focus on Phan Boi Chau and Phan Chau Trinh;
- The liberal spirit of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc;
- Textbooks of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc: Contents and Pragmatic values;
- Lessons from Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc for Contemporary Vietnamese (higher) education.
- Digitizing Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc-Relevant Documents: Directions and Prospects

## Conference Organization

- The conference is due to take place for one and a half days (1.5 days), including 2 plenary sessions (opening and closing) and thematic panels.
- In collaboration with the State Records and Archives Management Department of Vietnam, an exhibition of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc and Duy Tan (also known as Modernization) Movement will be inaugurated on the same day as the conference and remain open for one week.
- Working languages of the conference: Vietnamese and English (including submitted papers and presentations in the conference).
- The selected participants will be responsible for their travel expenses; The Conference will provide 2-night accommodation (for those who are not from Ho Chi Minh City) and meals during the conference. Should there be any requests for further support, the Conference will consider it on a case-by-case basis according to its limited resources.
- The papers presented at the conference will continue to be edited and published in the form of (an) edited volume(s).



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## Timeline and Venue

### *Timeline*

Announcement and invitation for paper submission	March 5, 2022
Paper abstract/ proposal submission	March 25 to April 30, 2022
Invitation to participate in the conference	May 20, 2022
Full research paper submission	September 26, 2022
Editing and preparing conference documents	October 1 to 20, 2022
Invitation letter sent to paper presenters	October 1, 2022
Conference days	November 19 to 20, 2022
Exhibition of Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc and Duy Tan Movement	November 19 to 26, 2022

### *Venue*

The conference is open to the public and will be organized in a hybrid format (online and offline) at Fulbright University Vietnam, Crescent Campus (105 Ton Dat Tien St., Tan Phu Ward, District 7, Ho Chi Minh City).

For your paper abstract/proposal, please use the enclosed form.

Please send us your paper abstract/proposal form and all further inquiries and requests via email at [Hoithaodknt@fulbright.edu.vn](mailto:Hoithaodknt@fulbright.edu.vn)



## Paper Abstract Template

**Title bolded, 12-point Times New Roman, centered**

**Contact author's name: 10-point Times New Roman, centered, bolded**

*Contact author's affiliation and full mailing address  
in 10-point Times New Roman, centered, italicized*

*Contact Author's e-mail address: 10-point Times New Roman, centered, italicized*

Contact author's brief professional biography:  
This biography should be no more than 100 words.

**Second author's name: 10-point Times New Roman, centered, bolded**

*Second author's affiliation and full mailing address  
in 10-point Times New Roman, centered, italicized*

*Second Author's e-mail address: 10-point Times New Roman, centered, italicized*

Second author's brief professional biography:  
This biography should be no more than 100 words.

**Abstract:** Be sure to adhere to the word limitation of 250 words.

The entire proposal submission should not exceed 1500 words (including the abstract).



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## Style Guidelines for Conference Papers

(Based on Academic Conferences International)

1. Papers must not exceed 5,000 words in length (2,000 words for work in progress papers), including abstract, figures, references, and appendices. Please attach a short biography of up to 100 words of the presenting author in a separate document, with a photograph (if possible).
2. Papers should be written in either English or Vietnamese. Before submitting your paper, please ensure that it has been carefully read for typographical and grammatical errors.
3. Papers should be submitted as a .doc or .rtf attachment by email to the conference manager [Hoithaodknt@fulbright.edu.vn](mailto:Hoithaodknt@fulbright.edu.vn).
4. Papers must not be sent in PDF format and should not be zipped.
5. Papers can be produced in any Windows or Mac version of Microsoft Word using Times New Roman font, 12-point for the main text.
6. Set the page size to A4 with margins of 2.54cm all around. Please do not insert headers, footers, or page numbers. Do not refer to page numbers in your text as these will be changed.
7. Do not use multiple columns.
8. Put the title of the paper in bold, left aligned, at the top of the first page only.
9. Then, on the next line put the names of the authors. Where all authors are from the same institute, the following format should be used.

Lead Author, Co-author One, Co-Author Two Institute, Town, Country

[leadauthor@email.com](mailto:leadauthor@email.com) [co-authorone@email.com](mailto:co-authorone@email.com) [co-authortwo@email.com](mailto:co-authortwo@email.com)



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Multiple authors from different institutions should appear as:

Andrew Nonymous, Second Author and Third Author The department, faculty and name of institute, Town, Country The department, faculty and name of institute, Town, Country The department, faculty and name of institute, Town, Country [leadauthor@email.com](mailto:leadauthor@email.com)  
[coauthorone@email.com](mailto:coauthorone@email.com) [co-authortwo@email.com](mailto:co-authortwo@email.com)

All author details will be removed before the review process.

10. A 300-word abstract should follow.

11. Include up to 6 keywords or phrases

12. Do not use more than three levels of heading and use the numbering convention:

1 Heading 1

1.1 Heading 2

1.1.1 Heading 3

13. The main body of the text should be in Times New Roman, 12-point, single spaced and fully justified. Please use normal capitalization within the text and do not use bold face for emphasis. Italics are acceptable. All headings should use initial capitals only, excepting for use of Acronyms

14. You can include bulleted or numbered lists.

15. Figures and tables should be placed as close to their reference point in the text as possible. All figures and tables must have titles and must be referenced from within the text. Avoid color diagrams as the proceedings will be printed in black and white. Images must be inserted as picture files (.gif, .jpg, .bmp, .pct, .png, .psd). You may be asked to supply the pictures as separate files.

16. Please use footnotes throughout the paper.

17. References should follow the Harvard referencing style, which means that primary references in the text should be in the format (Nugus 1999) and should then be listed at the end of the paper as per the following examples:



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Brooks, I. and Weatherston, J. (1997) *The Business Environment: Challenges and Changes*, Prentice Hall, London.

Doherty, Noel and Delener, Nejdet. (2001) “Chaos Theory: Marketing and Management Implications”, *Journal of Marketing Theory and Practice*, Fall, Vol 9, No. 4, pp 66–75.

Goldberg, J. and Markoczy, L. (1998) “Complex Rhetoric and Simple Games”, [online], Cranfield University, [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/262004819\\_Complex\\_Rhetoric\\_and\\_Simple\\_Games](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/262004819_Complex_Rhetoric_and_Simple_Games), accessed October 28, 2021

18. Secondary references would appear in the text as “Nugus (in Remenyi 1999: 25) ...” and only the Remenyi work would be listed at the end of the paper. Further information on the Harvard referencing style can be found at:

<https://www.hup.harvard.edu/resources/authors/pdf/hup-author-guidelines-author-date-citations-and-reference-lists.pdf>

