

Fulbright University Vietnam and the opening ceremony with the message of encouraging young people: be confident, exchange, learn, and live each moment to the fullest.

- Along with the meaningful freshman representative speech of basketball "warrior" Tim Waale

Ho Chi Minh City, 27 August 2023 - Fulbright University Vietnam just started the new school year 2023-2024 with the Opening Ceremony with the theme "Pride. Send my greetings. Together." While students enrolling last fall were encouraged to "Prepare with a long-term mindset", the luggage that the school sends to new students of the 2023-2027 class this year is pride in their experiences. The experiences and successes they have accumulated, so that they can confidently interact, share, and learn from friends, teachers, and the Fulbright community during their time at school and in the future.

The person who welcomed the students, parents, guests, teachers and school staff to this year's opening ceremony was Professor Scott Fritzen, the new President of Fulbright University Vietnam. The ceremony was also attended by US Consul General, Ms. Susan Burns.

Professor Scott Fritzen gave a passionate talk to new students. The message "Proud. Send my greetings. Together." The opening ceremony was explained by the Professor in a simple yet profound way, with inspirational quotes from the poem "Leaves of Grass" by famous 19th century American poet Walt Whitman. Fulbright University Vietnam puts human values at its core, builds a learner-centered curriculum, and honors personal values. According to Professor Fritzen: "We celebrate humanity, common dignity, and the happiness of living, connecting, and growing every day. Pride in being yourself is not based on comparison, but on the feeling that each person is a precious being, containing within them the promise of future development, and inherent value. This fact cannot be denied." That is also the reason why Fulbright always aims to explore and maximize the potential of each individual. This means that students learn about their strengths, see their expectations, and the core values that they pursue. The curriculum at Fulbright puts the learner at the center, providing both knowledge and thinking skills and evoking the human spirit.

With the spirit of liberal education, Fulbright University Vietnam encourages students to spend the first 2 years studying a variety of fields, students can explore themselves and experience a variety of fields before they advance. Choose a professional path to



graduate with one major, or dual degrees in two fields. The learning method through both theory and practical projects (experiential learning) at Fulbright helps learners develop the mindset of grasping, understanding, problem solving, reasoning and management thinking. Even higher, these are lifelong self-study skills. This helps learners update their knowledge, seize new opportunities and cope with challenges in an ever-changing future. That is why the second thing mentioned in this opening ceremony is to encourage the exchange of ideas and discussions for mutual development. “The interaction of ideas and the ability to connect with people, with diverse perspectives, through respectful and problem-solving discussions – this is the hallmark of “ Fulbright discussion” - Professor Scott Fritzen emphasized. At Fulbright, students are encouraged to exchange thoughts and ideas with classmates, other students, as well as teachers. This is also a message from the opening ceremony that students together take advantage of the resources here to grow strong, enjoy a rich learning environment, and respect diversity. , where individuals always respect and support each other. During their four years at Fulbright, students will have many opportunities to foster strong relationships and friendships throughout their studies.

Strong thinking ability and excitement to exchange and share ideas are tools that anyone can practice to achieve and then carry with them in work and life. These are skills that help ensure success in students' first jobs after graduating, and help them strongly face future challenges. With a future where AI tools can provide multi-faceted support, it is necessary to always update knowledge in many different fields, promoting intellectual development.

The final message of the ceremony was an encouragement to the students to live each moment to the fullest. This is shown more clearly in the statement of the new student representative, Tim Waale, Captain of the professional basketball team Saigon Heat, and a new student of the 2023-2027 class with an excellent application record. at Fulbright University Vietnam. Tim shares his passion for basketball and academics, and how he feels secure in pursuing both at Fulbright: “Here, I can continue my dream of playing professional basketball for Saigon Heat while still being able to study and pursue a second passion of Cinema by majoring in Arts and Media Studies.” The captain of Saigon Heat added that although his start in professional basketball was difficult, he has worked hard to practice so that today he can have 3 championships in hand and develop his presence. online to encourage a healthy lifestyle through sports, and was chosen as a brand ambassador for a number of domestic and international companies. “Why compromise with something as precious as your life,” Tim chose determination, perseverance, and unflinching bravery to pursue the great passions in his life.

The opening ceremony of Fulbright University Vietnam is an interesting event during the back-to-school season every year. With meaningful messages, Fulbright conveys confidence in its students and adds color to the bustling atmosphere of the new school year.

He also added that with the goal of providing international quality educational opportunities for all students, regardless of background, to equalize opportunities to access education, Fulbright University Vietnam has established a support program. Financial support and scholarships for candidates with more than 11 scholarship programs, along with 1 need-based tuition support program.

In the upcoming academic year of the 2024-2027 session, Fulbright will have up to 75 scholarships for excellent students (merit-based scholarships) in addition to the

need-based financial aid program for you. candidate. And you can apply for both scholarships and financial aid.

About Fulbright University Vietnam

Founded in 2016 on the promise of Vietnamese-American partnership, Fulbright University Vietnam is Vietnam’s first independent, not-for-profit, liberal arts university. Globally integrated but deeply embedded in Vietnamese society, Fulbright is dedicated to providing world-class undergraduate and graduate education. By adapting the latest advancements in institutional design, teaching, learning, technology and other fields, Fulbright endeavors to establish itself as an innovative, globally relevant Vietnamese institution. Fulbright is committed to serving Vietnamese society through rigorous research and civic engagement.

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