

**THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY IN VIETNAM**

**NEEDS, DIRECTION, AND TRAINING OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY IN VIETNAM**

**AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009, HANOI, VIETNAM**



## NEEDS, DIRECTION, AND TRAINING OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY IN VIETNAM



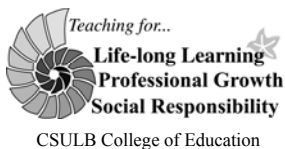
### Summary:

Current social and economic changes in Vietnam have exposed her school-age children and youth to significant challenges both at home and at school. As a result, students are increasingly experiencing learning, emotional, and behavioral difficulties. Vietnamese school systems, however, lack personnel with training in both psychology and education to intervene and prevent emotional and behavioral difficulties that negatively impact children's learning and achievement. In the United States, school psychologists are trained to work in schools to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, and emotionally by collaborating with educators, parents, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments. School psychologists are highly trained in both psychology and education. They work to find the best solution for each student and situation; they use different strategies to address student needs and to improve school and district-wide support systems. School psychologists work with students individually and in groups. They also develop programs to train teachers and parents about effective teaching and learning strategies, techniques to manage behavior at home and in the classroom, working with students with disabilities or with special talents, addressing abuse of drugs and other substances, and preventing and managing crises. Currently, no such professional exists in Vietnamese school or social service systems.



The Center for International Education and College of Education at California State University Long Beach, and the College of Educational Studies at Chapman University propose to introduce the field of school psychology to Vietnam through the collaborative efforts of U. S. and Vietnamese universities, as well as Vietnamese school and government agencies at a conference entitled, "Needs, Direction, and Training of School Psychology in Vietnam," held in Hanoi on August 3-4, 2009. Outcomes of the conference include (1) introducing the field of school psychology to education and government institutions in Vietnam; (2) gauge interest in and need for school psychologists in Vietnam; (3) gain support from Vietnamese institutions on establishing an official post-secondary program in school psychology in Vietnam; and (4) following the conference, engage in active dialogue with supporting Vietnamese institutions for the establishment of a school psychology training program in Vietnam.

Seven partner universities in Vietnam are hosting this conference. A U. S. delegation will attend the conference in Hanoi. Delegates from the U. S. include school psychology trainers and program directors, school psychology practitioners, and university administrators.



We hope that you and your organization will consider becoming a partner in this project to bring much-needed educational and psychological support to Vietnamese children and youth as the country's reintegration into the world economy grows. Your support will help the international collaborative efforts of school psychology trainers and practitioners in establishing the field of school psychology in Vietnam, with the ultimate goal of increasing access to quality mental health and educational services in Vietnamese schools.



# NEEDS, DIRECTION, AND TRAINING OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY IN VIETNAM

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Goals

In collaboration with universities in Vietnam and the U. S., a 2-day conference will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of August, 2009 in Hanoi, Vietnam. Expected outcomes of the conference include:

- Introduce the field of school psychology to institutions of higher education and government agencies in Vietnam.
- Gauge interest in and need for school psychology in Vietnam.
- Gain support from 3-5 Vietnamese government agencies and educational organizations to establish an official post-secondary program in school psychology.
- Post-conference, engage in on-going collaboration and dialogue with supporting institutions on instituting a training program in school psychology in Vietnam, including guidelines for training and practice in school psychology in Vietnam.

At the conclusion of the 2-day conference, a report will be completed by the U. S. Delegation and sent to U. S. and Vietnamese stakeholders outlining conference accomplishments relative to expected outcomes, as well as post-conference plans for the development and implementation of school psychology training programs in Vietnam.

Prospective participants include:

- Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training (MOET); Offices of Education and Training;
- Vietnamese agencies and organizations that provide services to children such as the Department of Children Protection of the Ministry of Labor, Association of Psychology and Education, Committee of Population, Family, and Children, and Study Promotion Association;
- U. S. Embassy and embassies of other countries that have provided service programs to Vietnamese children (e.g., AIDS, teen pregnancy, crisis intervention, counseling);
- U. S. universities that have education and training programs in school psychology.
- International and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have organized and/or funded service and training programs to Vietnamese children (e.g., Plan, UNICEF, Ford Foundation);
- Vietnamese public and private universities that currently have training programs in general or clinical psychology and a desire to create training programs in school psychology.
- Individual practitioners, trainers, and students in the field of counseling or clinical psychology and special education.

### Conference Topics

- Current status of student support services in Vietnamese schools
  - Social, governmental and educational support for student support services in Vietnam.
  - Academic, emotional, and behavioral needs of Vietnamese children and youth
  - Current education and training of student support service providers in Vietnam
  - Professional development needs of current student support service providers in Vietnam
- School Psychology in the U. S.
  - Education and training programs in school psychology
  - Service delivery models and practices in school psychology
- Guidelines in the practice, role, and function of future Vietnamese school psychologists
- Guidelines for the education and training of future Vietnamese school psychologists
  - Curriculum guidelines
  - Education and training methods

### Organizing Committees

The Institute of Psychology will be co-hosting the conference on school psychology with six other educational institutions from the three main regions in Vietnam, including the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi; University of Pedagogy in Danang and Hue; Dong A University in Danang; University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City; and An Giang University in the Mekong delta. The conference also is sponsored by the California State University, Office of the Chancellor; California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) Office of International Education and Global Engagement; CSULB College of Education; and College of Educational Studies at Chapman University.

Delegations of faculty and administrators at California State University, Long Beach and Chapman University, as well as current school psychology practitioners and related service providers in the U. S. will participate in the organization and delivery of the conference.

*Conference Organizing Committee:*

1. Conference Chairs
  - Vũ Dũng, Ph.D., President, Institute of Psychology

- Nguyễn Văn Khanh, Ph.D., President, University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Hanoi
- Nguyễn Bảo Hoàng Thanh, Ph.D., Vice President, University of Pedagogy -Danang
- Nguyễn Thám, Ph.D., Vice President, University of Pedagogy - Hue
- Võ Văn Thắng, Ph.D., Vice President, An Giang University
- Võ Văn Sen, Ph.D., President, University of Social Sciences and Humanities - Ho Chi Minh City
- Nguyễn Thị Anh Đào, President & Chairwoman of BOD, Dong A University

## 2. Conference Editors

- Nguyễn Hữu Thọ, Ph.D., Dean, Department of Psychology, USSH – HN
- Lê Văn Hào, Ph.D., Director, Department of Cultural Psychology, IOP
- Phan Mai Hương, Ph.D., Director, Center of Applied Psychology, IOP
- Lê Quang Sơn, Ph.D., Director, Office of International Cooperation, U of Pedagogy, Danang,
- Trần Tú Anh, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Office of International Cooperation, University of Pedagogy, Hue
- Đỗ Hạnh Nga, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Center for Education Assessment and Measurement, HCMC National University
- Lê Thanh Hùng, M.A., Director, Psychology Study, An Giang University

## 3. Conference Logistic Committee

- Nguyễn Thị Minh Hằng, Ph.D., Coordinator, Clinical Psychology Program, USSH-Hanoi
- Lê Minh Tâm, M.A., Lecturer, Department of Psychology, USSH-HCMC
- Phạm Thế Hưng, M.A., Lecturer, Department of Psychology, An Giang University
- Đỗ Thế, Vice President, Dong A University
- Lương Minh Anh, Cooperative Project Development Coordinator, Dong A University

## Delegation from the United States:

### California State University (CSU), Chancellor's Office

- Andrew Tran, Assistant Director, Application Services, System-wide Coordinator of CSU's Vietnam Initiatives

### California State University, Long Beach

- Kenneth Curtis, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President, International Education and Global Engagement
- Kristin Powers, Ph.D., Director, Educational Psychology Clinic
- Kristi Hagans, Ph.D., Coordinator, School Psychology Program
- Phuong Le, M.A., Lecturer, School Psychology Program, & School Psychologist, Long Beach Unified School District

### Chapman University

- Michael Hass, Ph.D., Coordinator, School Psychology Program
- Cynthia Olaya, M.A., Ed.S., Lecturer, School Psychology Program, & School Psychologist, Huntington Beach Union High School District
- Jeanne Anne Carriere, Ed.S., Lecturer, School Psychology Program, & School Psychologist, Long Beach Unified School District

### Specialists in School Psychology & Community-Based Mental Health

- Marcie Roussos, Ed.D., School Psychologist, Long Beach Unified School District.
- Engrid Smith, MAOM, Service Coordinator, Regional Center, California Department of Developmental Services.