



*9th Annual Vietnam Education Foundation
Fellows and Scholars Conference*
January 3-5, 2012

*Connecting the Dots: The International Journey to
Cooperation and Collaboration*

Host University: Louisiana State University Health, Shreveport, LA

Monday, January 2, 2012

4:00 pm – 9:00 pm	CONFERENCE CHECK-IN	Hotel, Registration area 2 nd Floor
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Informal discussion with H.E. Nguyen Quoc Cuong , Ambassador of Vietnam to the United States & Dr. Chu Ngoc Anh , Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Science & Technology	Hotel, Ballroom B, 2 nd Floor
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Forum/discussion with the 2011 Cohort Fellows Sandarshi Gunawardena	Hotel, Arkansas Room, 2 nd Floor

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

6:00 am – 7:30 am	Breakfast Buffet	Hotel, Ballroom A, 2 nd Floor
7:45 am – 8:00 am	Buses depart the Hotel for LSUS. Last bus departs 8:00 am.	Hotel Lobby

All Conference Sessions will take place in the Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS) University Center (unless otherwise noted). Only the tour/information session will take place at Louisiana State University Health-Shreveport campus.

8:30 am – 9:30 am	CONFERENCE WELCOMING REMARKS Dr. Lynne McNamara , VEF Executive Director Dr. Robert Barish , Chancellor, LSU Health Shreveport Dr. Vincent Marsala , Chancellor LSU Shreveport Christopher Fussner , Chairman, VEF of Board of Directors Ambassador David Shear , Ambassador of the United States to Vietnam (Videotaped remarks) H.E. Nguyen Quoc Cuong , Ambassador of Vietnam to the United States Dr. Nguyen Xuan Vang , Director General, Vietnam International Education Development (VIED), Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training Dr. Chu Ngoc Anh , Vice Minister, Vietnam Ministry of Science & Technology	LSUS University Center, Theater, 1 st Floor
9:30 am – 10:30 am	KEYNOTE SPEAKER: “Preventable Deaths: Working together to Develop Emergency Medical and Trauma Systems” Dr. Robert Barish , Chancellor, LSU Health Shreveport	Theater, 1st Floor

10:30 am – 10:45 am	Break	Lobby, 1 st Floor
10:45 am – 11:45 am	Collaborations & Cooperation between the U.S. and Vietnam: VEFFA Projects and Partners Dr. Thong Do , (<i>VEF Cohort 2004, Johns Hopkins University</i>), <i>Postdoctoral Researcher, Army Research Laboratory</i>	Theater, 1 st Floor
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Ballroom, 2 nd Floor
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm	IMMIGRATION MATTERS Q&A Sandarshi Gunawardena , <i>VEF Sr. Program Officer</i>	Theater, 1st Floor
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Break	Lobby, 1 st Floor
2:30 pm – 7:30 pm	SPORTS TOURNAMENTS	LSUS, Gymnasium (Health & Physical Education Building and University Center Game Room)
2:30 pm	First round of buses depart: One bus will return to the Hotel directly and other buses will depart to LSU Health Sciences Center for Information Session followed by tours and shopping/dinner in the Boardwalk area. Please note that the LSU Health Sciences Center Information session and the tours are a combined event and return to the hotel will only be at 8:30 pm Busses depart Outside of LSUS University Center and Business and Education Building	
2:45 pm – 8:30 pm	LSU HEALTH INFORMATION SESSION & TOURS	
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	LSU Health Sciences Center Information Session	LSU Health Sciences Center, Main Auditorium
4:00 pm – 6:00	Tours: Louisiana State Exhibit Museum & Scenic Drive Buses leave LSU Health at 3:45 for Louisiana State Museum, scenic drive, and then to Boardwalk area at 6:00 pm	Leaving LSU Health
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Boardwalk: Shopping and Dinner Busses will return to the Hotel with pick-up from a pre-assigned place at the Boardwalk area at 8:30 pm	Boardwalk
7:45 pm	Final buses depart LSUS for Hotel after Sports Tournaments	Outside of LSUS University Center & Business and Education Building
8:30 pm onwards	Dinner on your own or Restaurant Hops	Local Restaurants

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

6:00 am – 7:15 am	Breakfast Buffet	Hotel, Ballroom A, 2 nd Floor
7:30 am – 7:45 am	Buses depart the Hotel for LSUS. Last bus departs 7:45 am.	
8:30 am – 9:15 am	FORUM WITH VEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS	University Center, Theater, 1 st Floor
9:15 am – 12:00 pm	ALL THE WAYS HOME	Theater 1 st Floor
9:15 am – 10:00 am	Dr. Quyen Chu , " <i>What is a Nation's Best Asset?</i> " <i>Albert Sklar Professor in Surgery, Associate Professor of Surgery & Surgical Oncology Division Chief, LSU Health Science Center-Shreveport</i>	

10:00 am – 10:45 am	Mr. Herb Cochran , “Continuing your Collaborations and Connections between the U.S. and Vietnam: The Role of AmCham” <i>Executive Director, AmCham Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City</i>	
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Break	Lobby, 1st Floor
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Dr. Gazi B. Zibari , “Humanitarian Medical Work in Iraqi Kurdistan: Two Decades of Collaborative Partnership to Enhance Medical Education and Health Care” <i>MD, Professor of Surgery, Division Chief, Director of Regional Transplant Center & Vice Chairman of Academic Affairs, LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport</i>	
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Ballroom, 2 nd Floor
	Discussions over lunch with VEF U.S. Faculty Scholars	Ballroom, 2 nd Floor
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Dr. Minh Do , “From Solving a Homework Problem to Solving a Research Problem to Solving a Real World Problem” <i>Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign</i>	Theater, 1 st Floor
2:00 – 2:15 pm	Break	Lobby, 1 st Floor
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm	SCIENTIFIC SESSION: Poster Sessions	Ballroom, 2 nd Floor
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm	VEF Fellows and Scholars Association (VEFFA) ANNUAL MEETING	Theater, 1 st Floor
7:35 pm	Buses depart LSUS for Hotel	Outside of LSUS University Center and Business and Education Building
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Dinner on your own	Local Restaurants
9:00 pm – Midnight	VEFFA IDOL NIGHT	Hotel, Ballroom B, 2 nd Floor

Thursday, January 5, 2012

6:00 am – 7:30 am	Breakfast Buffet	Hotel Ballroom A, 2 nd Floor
7:45am – 8:00 am	Buses depart the Hotel for LSUS. Last bus departs at 8 am.	Hotel Lobby
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	CAREER DEVELOPMENT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS Introduction of speakers: <i>VEF/VEFFA Representative</i>	University Center, Theater 1 st Floor
9:00 am – 10:15 am	Christopher Nguyen , “Funny Things that Happened on my Way from Asia to America and Back. Twice” <i>CEO & Co-founder of YATOWN</i>	
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break	Lobby, 1 st Floor
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Panel Discussion: “Building Tech Startups in the U.S.” Dr. Minh Do , Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign & <i>CTO and Co-Founder, Nuvixa Inc.</i> ; Hieu Khac Le (VEF Fellow Cohort 2004), <i>Ph.D. student UIUC & Co-founder Caterva</i> ; Hung Viet Tran (VEF Fellow Cohort 2007); <i>Ph.D. student University Of Iowa & Co-founder of Tutor Universe</i> ; Christopher Nguyen , <i>CEO & Co-founder of YATOWN</i> ; and Dr. Thong Do , <i>VEF Alumnus Cohort 2004, Johns Hopkins University, Post-doctoral Researcher Army Research Laboratory & Co-founder of Sharing2Care</i>	Theater, 1 st Floor

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Ballroom, 2 nd Floor
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS (Break-out sessions) Parallel sessions conducted by the LSUS faculty/staff. Each workshop is 50 mins. in duration	University Center 2nd Floor
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Success in Academia in a Cross Cultural Environment</i> Facilitators: Dr. Lisa Schrott and Dr. Tak Yee Aw, LSU Health 	Webster (1 & 2 pm) & Pilots (3 & 4 pm)
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Entrepreneur Leadership</i> Facilitator: Wayne Hogue Director, Leadership Education & Development, LSUS & Louisiana Small Business Development Office 	Red River
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communication/Networking</i> Facilitators: Dr. Linda Webster, Professor and Chair of Communications, LSUS 	Ballroom
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Writing an Effective Resume and Cover Letter</i> Facilitator: Gina Starnes, Director of Career Services, LSUS 	Caddo
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mock Interviews</i> Facilitator: LSU Health, Human Resources Department 	Pilots (1 & 2 pm) & Desoto (3 & 4 pm)
1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Job Search Strategies</i> Facilitators: VEF Alumni 	Bossier
1:00 pm & 2:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Employment/Training after Graduation Immigration Options:</i> Facilitator: Sandarshi Gunawardena 	Desoto
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Break	Lobby, 1 st Floor
3:00 pm & 4:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leadership Challenge: Learn valuable leadership strategies through interactive games</i> Facilitators: Bonnie Ennis Dublin, Motivate Me, Inc. & volunteers 	Webster
5:00 pm	All buses depart LSUS for Hotel	Outside of LSUS University Center and Business and Education Building
5:45 pm – 6:30 pm	Preparation for Gala Dinner	Hotel
7 pm – Midnight	GALA DINNER MC: VEFFA Representatives Conference Closing Remarks: Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director Dr. Stephen Maxner, VEF Board of Directors Dr. Robert Barish, Chancellor LSU Health Shreveport Dr. Vincent Marsala, Chancellor LSU Shreveport New VEFFA Executive Director, and BoA Chairperson Dr. Quyen Chu, LSU Conference Coordinator Dr. Jennifer Feltman, Florida State University:2013 Conference Host University	Hotel, Ballrooms A, B & C

Friday, January 6, 2012

6:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast Buffet	Hotel, Ballroom A, 2 nd Floor
	Departures	