



Charles A. Wight, Dean

December 28, 2011

Lynne A. McNamara, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Vietnam Education Foundation
2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Dr. McNamara,

I am pleased to acknowledge the generous contributions of the Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) to the mission of the University of Utah.

For the past 9 years, students from Vietnam have been earning Ph.D. degrees in departments at the University of Utah, mostly in Chemistry and Computer Science, but also in Bioengineering and Neuroscience. In all, 7 students have been admitted to our programs, and 3 have already earned their Ph.D. degrees here.

The VEF provides financial support for students to pursue their doctoral degrees here. This support is essential for many reasons, including

- Permitting students to focus on their studies to complete their degrees in a timely manner;
- Contributing directly to research and scholarship conducted at the University of Utah;
- Contributing directly to teaching graduate and undergraduate students;
- Helping to expand and improve the local economy through research and living expenses;
- Helping to expand the national and world economies through research and innovation;
- Helping to provide a highly educated work force for Utah and for Vietnam;
- Providing opportunities for our faculty to visit and teach in Vietnam;
- Providing opportunities to expand cooperation and technology transfer between the US and Vietnam;
- Building strong intellectual and economic ties between our countries to build lasting peace.

On behalf of the University of Utah I want to express my appreciation to you and to the VEF for your generous support of our students and faculty.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Wight
Dean of the Graduate School