

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Chemistry Department

Benjamin W. Smith PO Box 117200 Gainesville, FL 32611-7200 352-392-0256 352-846-2298 Fax bwsmith@chem.ufl.edu

January 20, 2012

Dr. Lynne McNamara Vietnam Education Foundation 2111 Wilson Boulevard Suite 700 Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Dr. McNamara,

We have been exceptionally pleased with the work of our VEF student. He quickly completed his coursework and is very productive in his research with Prof. Christou. His Ph.D. candidacy exam last December was excellent and done right on schedule.

Historically, we have had very few applications from Vietnamese students. Your program has brought several of them to our attention and we have had more non-VEF applications in recent years. We receive applications from about 40 different countries in any given year and we're always interested in expanding the scope of our applicant pool to new countries. VEF has certainly put Vietnam on our radar and we look forward to receiving more applications. Having them prescreened by your organization is an enormous advantage.

Sincerely,

Benjamin W. Smith

Graduate Coordinator for Chemistry