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PRESS RELEASE

VIETNAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION SENDS FELLOWS AND VISITING SCHOLARS TO ATTEND TOP U.S. UNIVERSITIES IN 2011 COHORT

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Hanoi, June 2, 2011 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF), a U.S. Federal Government independent agency, is pleased to announce that forty four (44) new Fellows will begin graduate studies and three (3) new Visiting Scholars will undertake professional development programs at thirty four (34) top universities in the United States (see list below) during the upcoming academic year 2011-2012. The VEF Fellowship Program and the VEF Visiting Scholar Program are two of the outstanding educational programs offered by VEF in its efforts to build the relationship between Vietnam and the United States through educational exchange and capacity building.

Of the 44 new VEF Fellows, 35 will be pursuing doctoral degrees while 9 will seek master's degrees at high ranking U.S. universities in various fields of science, technology, and engineering. The fields include aquaculture; biology; biophysics; chemistry; computer science; epidemiology; genetics; mathematics and statistics; pharmacology; and plant, insect and microbial sciences. The fields of engineering include biological, biomedical, civil, electrical and computer, environmental, materials, mechanics, and structural engineering and geomechanics. With this ninth cohort, VEF has placed a total of 382 Fellows at 81 leading U.S. universities since 2003 when the VEF Fellowship Program began.

In addition to this new group of Fellows, the fifth cohort of Visiting Scholars will pursue self-designed post-doctoral training programs at leading U.S. universities for up to 12 months, focusing on various fields in science and technology, including medical data analysis and computer-aided diagnosis, electrical engineering, and optical networks. With this new cohort, VEF has awarded a total of 32 Visiting Scholar grants since 2007 when the Visiting Scholar Program began.

Dr. Lynne A. McNamara, VEF Executive Director, commented, "We are extremely pleased with this outstanding 2011 cohort of 44 Fellows and 3 Visiting Scholars to join the ever-growing VEF network of U.S.-educated scientists and engineers for Vietnam. The 2011 cohort succeeded in receiving the VEF Fellowships and Visiting Scholar Grants through a highly competitive selection process, organized by VEF with the assistance of the U.S. National Academies and based on the candidates' intellectual and academic merit.

Congratulations to the new Fellows and Visiting Scholars and to their families, who have helped them reach this point in achieving their dreams!”

To prepare the new Fellows and Visiting Scholars for their transition to the United States, VEF provides a comprehensive Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) to be held this year from June 9-14, 2011, in Hoi An, Quang Nam, Vietnam. The extensive PDO includes an outdoor experiential Team Building program followed by two days of lectures and presentations, addressing immigration and visa matters, financial issues, health issues, travel and insurance requirements, cultural adaptation, life in the United States, academic expectations, connections to Vietnam and re-entry, as well as other significant information.

For more information about VEF, please visit the VEF website at: www.vef.gov

U.S. UNIVERSITIES HOSTING VEF FELLOWS AND VISITING SCHOLARS OF COHORT 2011

1.	Case Western Reserve University
2.	Duke University
3.	Florida State University
4.	Iowa State University
5.	Johns Hopkins University
6.	Oklahoma State University
7.	Purdue University
8.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
9.	Rice University
10.	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick
11.	Stanford University
12.	Texas A&M University
13.	University of Alabama at Birmingham
14.	University of Arkansas
15.	University of California at Davis
16.	University of California at Santa Barbara
17.	University of Chicago
18.	University of Hawaii at Manoa
19.	University of Illinois at Chicago
20.	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
21.	University of Maryland at College Park
22.	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor
23.	University of Missouri at Columbia
24.	University of North Texas

25.	University of Notre Dame
26.	University of Pennsylvania
27.	University of Pittsburgh
28.	University of Southern California
29.	University of Texas at Austin
30.	University of Texas at Houston
31.	University of Utah
32.	University of Wisconsin at Madison
33.	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
34.	Washington State University