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WEBCAST ON VEF FELLOWS' RETURNING TO VIETNAM AFTER U.S. GRADUATE STUDIES

Hanoi, December 27, 2007 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) is pleased to announce a webcast on reflections related to returning to Vietnam after graduate studies in the U.S. The webcast, organized with the assistance of the U.S. National Academies, is part of the annual VEF Fellows and Scholars Conference to be held this year in Irvine, California, U.S.A. from January 3-6, 2008. The theme of this year's conference is "All the Ways Home" (Đường về Tổ quốc) with the intent to create and continue dynamic dialogue between VEF Fellows and Scholars about returning to Vietnam, and to include Vietnamese leaders and guests in the discussion.

The webcast presentation of the VEF Fellows and Scholars' "All the Ways Home" session can be viewed live at the following link: <http://128.200.205.34/webcast1>.

In Vietnam, the live webcast will begin on Saturday, January 5, at 7:30 a.m. and last until 10:30 a.m. (i.e., Friday, January 4, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time in California). During that period of time viewers will be able to ask questions by sending email to the following address: it@vef.gov. The questions will be selected, read to the audience and answered.

The webcast can be opened and viewed with Microsoft Windows Media Player version 9 or higher. If you don't have Microsoft Windows Media Player or you are using Mac, you can download Microsoft Windows Media Player at:

http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx?displang=en&qstechnology=&wt_svl=20513a&mg_id=20513b.

In case of technical difficulties, please email VEF and the National Academies at it@vef.gov and vef@nas.edu. The webcast will be recorded and placed on the VEF website: www.vef.gov.

In addition to the aforementioned presentation, to enhance the ways for VEF Fellows to return to Vietnam, a special feature of this year's conference is the Academic Job Fair. The purpose of this Job Fair is to help Vietnamese universities and research institutions to recruit talented and outstanding VEF Fellows for teaching and research and to establish relationships with potential collaborators. The Job Fair has attracted more than 20 delegations from different universities and research institutes in Vietnam, who will discuss with VEF Fellows about their organization's current and future employment, visions, strategies, and policies, as well as the potential teaching, research, and working environment.

Referring to these significant events, Dr. Vo Van Toi, Executive Director of VEF, said, "VEF continues to play an important role in assisting Vietnam with its development of science and technology. With the close cooperation of the U.S. National Academies, the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training, and now the other crucial components of the Vietnamese higher education, our aim is to provide excellent educational exchange opportunities and sustainable capacity-building projects for Vietnam."

VEF's annual conferences are held yearly in the U.S. with the assistance of the U.S. National Academies. The purpose of the conferences is to bring the VEF Fellows and Scholars closer together in order to build a sustainable science and technology community for Vietnam in the future. Over 200 VEF Fellows and Scholars from more than 70 U.S. universities will be present at this Fifth VEF Fellows and Scholars Annual Conference. For more information on the Annual Conference, please visit the VEF website at www.vef.gov or the VEF Fellows Association (VEFFA) website at www.veffa.org.
