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PRESS RELEASE

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**LYNNE MCNAMARA PROMOTED TO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF VIETNAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Washington, D.C., February 9, 2007 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) announced today that Dr. Lynne McNamara has been promoted to Deputy Executive Director. Dedicated to international education for over 30 years, Dr. McNamara has lived and worked in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the United States.

McNamara first joined VEF in June 2004 as Senior Program Officer and was then named Director of Programs. Prior to joining VEF, she served as Director of International Programs for the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) in Adelphi, Maryland, after serving as UMUC's Director of Program Development in Asia from 1999. From 1992 until 1999, while on the faculty of Temple University Japan, she served as Director of Corporate Relations and created the Office of Career Development. From 1989 until 1992, Dr. McNamara was Academic Director of Arizona State University Japan. Before going to Japan, she was Academic Director of the USAID-funded English Teacher Training Program in Egypt (1987-89), administered by Fulbright. Earlier (1980-86), she established and directed the American Language Academy in Colorado. Prior faculty appointments include teaching Italian as well as English as a Second Language at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she received an outstanding teaching award and served as Director of the first semester study abroad program in Siena, Italy. Dr. McNamara holds a Ph.D. in Education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and an M.A. in Linguistics and B.A. in Italian, both from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Dr. Malcolm Gillis, Chairman of the VEF Board of Directors, said, “VEF is very fortunate to have Lynne McNamara serve as Deputy Executive Director

as she is an exceptional leader and manager of VEF personnel and programs.” In response to Dr. Gillis’s remarks, Dr. McNamara said, “I am honored by the trust that the Board has placed in my leadership and look forward to continuing to serve VEF and our superb Team toward outstanding success!”

Dr. McNamara has been instrumental in contributing to the remarkable development and numerous achievements of VEF. Among her many accomplishments, she successfully established the VEF Alliance, a partnership of over 100 leading universities in the U.S. that host the VEF Fellowship Program under a cost-sharing arrangement. In addition, McNamara initiated the new VEF Visiting Scholar Program, a training-of-trainers (TOT) program, that will send top Vietnamese with doctorates to the U.S. for up to one year for professional development training.

VEF (www.vef.gov) is a special initiative by the U.S. Congress to bring the U.S. and Vietnam closer through educational exchanges related to science and technology. The Foundation is in its fourth year of operations and incorporates assistance from the U.S. National Academies in developing and executing VEF programs. As its flagship activity, the VEF Fellowship program has placed nearly 200 Fellows at more than 50 top U.S. graduate institutions, mostly for doctoral degrees. VEF Fellows are required to return to Vietnam after completing their academic programs in the U.S.

VEF (www.vef.gov) is governed by a Board of Directors whose thirteen members consist of three U.S. Cabinet members, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, and Secretary of Treasury Henry Paulson; U.S. Senators John Kerry and Chuck Hagel; U.S. Representatives George Miller and Chris Smith; and six Presidential appointees (Dr. Malcolm Gillis, Zingler Professor of Economics, Rice University; Trung Dung, Founder and Chairman of BlueKey Services; Frank Jao, President and CEO of Bridgecreek Development Company; Dr. Marilyn Pattillo, Professor of Clinical Nursing, University of Texas at Austin; Dr. Van-Toi Vo, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Tufts University; and Richard Wall, J.D., Managing Partner, O’Donnell, Waiss, Wall & Meschke).

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