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*Executive Director*

July 14, 2006

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am writing to share with you news of a change. I am leaving the Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) to return to the private sector. I have discussed my departure with the VEF Board of Directors and they have graciously supported my desire. Effective August 1, I will leave my post as the founding executive director of VEF.

During the last three years, with your help and support, I devoted myself to building a new shining bridge between Vietnam and the United States in science and education. The VEF Board, staff and I are proud of the nearly 200 Fellows we have at top U.S. universities and the foundation we have laid for innovative educational institutions in Vietnam. VEF is now a public success. It is time for me to step down so I can spend more quality time with my family, and continue to make a difference in a different way. The good works of VEF will go on. The Board has appointed Dr. Lynne McNamara as the Acting Executive Director and begun the search for my successor. I am confident that a new leader will be found to take VEF to a new height of success.

As I resume my business career, I will contribute to international education and the scientific linkage between the U.S. and Vietnam by serving as a special advisor to the U.S. National Academies. My commitment for education and for the U.S.-Vietnam relationship will not cease.

I hope we stay in touch. I would like to ask for your continuing support to VEF and its dedicated staff. I am forever grateful for your friendship and assistance. Without you, VEF would not be where it is today.

Sincerely,

Kien Pham  
Email: [KienPham@NeverChange.com](mailto:KienPham@NeverChange.com)

Cc: VEF Board of Directors  
VEF Staff