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THE ROLE OF THE HARVARD-YENCHING
INSTITUTE IN INNOVATION IN HIGHER
EDUCATION IN VIETNAM: 1990-2015

Edward Baker | Harvard-Yenching Institute

The Role of the Harvard-Yenching Institute in
Innovation in Higher Education in Vietnam: 1990-2015

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Development and Integration
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Edward J. Baker, Associate Director (Retired)
Harvard-Yenching Institute

It is with a great sense of pleasure and mutual accomplishment that I join you in celebrating Vietnam's 40 years of "Reunification, Development and Integration." I bring you greetings from our friends at the Harvard-Yenching Institute: Director, Professor Elizabeth Perry; Assistant Director for Finance & Administration, Susan Scott; Assistant Director for Academic Programs & Planning, Ruohong Li; Activities Coordinator, Elaine Hall-Witham; and Executive Assistant & Program Manager, Lindsay Strogatz.¹

In the late 1980s I could not have imagined that in 2015—or at any other time—I would be standing in front of you here in Vietnam speaking about educational innovation in Vietnam, much less that I would be speaking about 25 years of the Harvard-

¹ I am grateful to these HYI colleagues for their assistance in preparing this report. I am also particularly indebted to Dr. Nguyen Nam, former grantee and former employee of the HYI, for his generous aid with this report.

Yenching Institute's involvement in that innovation.

I. Overview of the Harvard-Yenching Institute

As we pause to reflect on these 25 years, I think it is worth briefly reviewing the history and mission of the Institute:

The Harvard-Yenching Institute (HYI) was founded in 1928 with funding provided solely from the estate of Charles M. Hall, the inventor of a process for refining aluminum and the founder of the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA). Although the Institute has close ties with Harvard University, it is a legally and fiscally independent public charitable trust. Mr. Hall's charge to the trustees of his estate was to promote higher education in Asia and to that end the trustees of his estate partnered with Harvard University in order to fulfill the Harvard-Yenching Institute's mission as stated in its Articles of Incorporation, "to conduct and provide research, instruction and publication in the culture of China and/or elsewhere in Continental Asia and Japan and/or Turkey and the Balkan States in Europe, by founding, developing, supporting, maintaining and/or conducting one or more educational institutions and/or by supporting in whole or in part, co-operating with or joining or affiliating with other institutions now in existence or hereafter formed..."

In the 1930s, the Institute supported the development of what became the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at Harvard and founded the Harvard-Yenching Library as well as the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*. During the 1930s and 40s, the Institute provided direct support to Yenching University, because of its focus on the humanities, along with five other colleges in China, Fukien, Lingnan, Nanjing, Shantung Christian and West China Union Universities, and Allahabad Agricultural Institute in India.²

² <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/history>

In the wake of the Chinese revolution in 1949 and the consequent severing of diplomatic relations between the United States and China, the Institute's long-standing relations with Chinese universities were severed. While continuing to support the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, the Harvard-Yenching Library, and the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, in 1954 the Institute, under the leadership of Professor Edwin O. Reischauer, established the Visiting Scholars Program and began inviting young professors in the humanities and social sciences from leading universities in Taiwan, Korea, Japan and Hong Kong to spend an academic year at Harvard. Also, since the 1950s, the Institute has offered doctoral scholarships for study at Harvard and other leading universities to young scholars in the humanities and social sciences nominated by those same universities, as well as leading Thai universities.

With the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the US and China in 1979, the Institute began to renew its relations with leading universities in China and during the 1980s many Chinese scholars were invited to participate in the Visiting Scholars and Doctoral Scholarship Programs.

To summarize, the mission of the HYI has been and is to "...support doctoral scholarships, visiting fellowships, academic publications, advanced training programs, conferences and other scholarly initiatives—in Asia, at Harvard University, and elsewhere—intended to promote graduate and post-graduate research in Asian studies and to increase scholarly communication among Asian scholars and between them and their counterparts

in other regions of the world.”³ Although the Institute has a special commitment to promoting the study of Asian culture, its support extends to all fields of the humanities and social sciences. Through these programs “over 1000 faculty members from Asia have received Institute fellowships and over 300 doctoral students have received their degrees with Institute support.”⁴

II. The HYI’s Involvement in Vietnam

Since Vietnam is an important part of the East Asian cultural sphere, Vietnamese participation in the programs of the HYI would have been quite natural and appropriate, but, because of the political, military and diplomatic circumstances of the time, participation by Vietnamese academic institutions did not materialize. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, a few doctoral scholarships were granted to Vietnamese students who would later become preeminent scholars in the field of Vietnam studies. They included Professor Hue-Tam Ho Tai (Ho Hue Tam, Harvard University), Professor Ngo Vinh Long (University of Maine), and Professor Luong Van Hy (University of Toronto).⁵

³ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/sites/harvard-yenching.org/files/uploaded-documents/2013%20HYI%20Brochure.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/history>

⁵ Prof. Tai <http://history.fas.harvard.edu/people/hue-tam-ho-tai>,

Prof. Ngo <http://umaine.edu/history/faculty/ngo-vinh-long/>,

Prof. Luong, <http://anthropology.utoronto.ca/people/faculty/hy-van-luong/>

Although there had been a few contacts between the HYI and Vietnamese academia in the late 1960s, these contacts had not resulted in any direct involvement of Vietnamese institutions in the programs of the HYI. Nevertheless, by the end of the 1980s, stirred in part by the disintegration of the USSR and the Socialist Bloc—formerly strong supporters of the Vietnamese government—the US and Vietnamese governments began gradually to explore the possibilities of normalizing their relations. Moreover, in the aftermath of the June 4, 1989 Tiananmen Democracy Movement, Chinese universities had become hesitant to nominate scholars for the Institute’s Doctoral Scholarship Program, apparently because it would keep young scholars away from home for a substantial number of years. Professor Patrick D. Hanan, the Director of the Institute mentioned these factors to the HYI Trustees at their May 1990 meeting and raised the possibility of inviting some scholars from Vietnam to take part in the Institute’s programs. By the end of the discussion “...it was agreed that the HYI should begin the process of attempting to bring a few scholars each year from Vietnam.”⁶

A few days later we contacted Mr. Tommy Vallely, Director of the Vietnam Program of the Harvard Institute for International Development. He reacted enthusiastically and urged us to meet with Dr. Vo-tong Xuan, the Vice Rector of Cantho University who happened at that moment to be visiting the HIID. The next day Professor Hanan and I sat down to lunch at the Harvard Faculty Club with Professor Xuan to discuss whether it would be possible

⁶ Harvard-Yenching Institute Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, May 14, 1990 p. 2478

for the HYI to involve Vietnamese universities in the kinds of programs that we had long conducted with universities in other East Asian countries. By the time we had finished lunch, we had agreed with Dr. Xuan that the project was feasible and had drawn up a list of key academic institutions in Vietnam for the HYI to contact. For his part, Dr. Xuan agreed to contact the institutions and the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training and work to persuade them of the usefulness of this project. He more than kept his promise and we received positive responses from all the institutions we contacted in Vietnam. May's vague idea had become a concrete plan and by September 1990 I was on my way to Vietnam to conduct interviews. Dr. Xuan and Mr. Vallely continued to play key roles in our efforts for years thereafter as the HYI's programs developed.

It is important to keep in mind that in 1990 the US had an embargo in place against Vietnam that would remain in place for another 4 years and that it would be 5 years before our two nations established diplomatic relations. At that time we could not be certain that either government would allow such exchanges, any more than one could be sure that the governments of the US and North Korea would allow such arrangements today. When I contacted the US Department of State to ask, I found it impossible to get a clear answer to the question of whether it would be all right to go ahead with such a project or even to elicit an expression of interest. However, it seems that both governments saw such exchanges as being in, or at least not contrary to, their interest because they did not interfere, although either could easily have put a stop to the project. More important was the fact that the Vietnamese government regularly issued the visas needed for my visits to Vietnam to conduct interviews and the US

government regularly issued the visas needed by the scholars we selected to spend a year or more in the U.S. Otherwise the two governments let the HYI and the Vietnamese institutions develop their own relationships.

One of the practical burdens imposed by the lack of diplomatic relations was that it was impossible to get a visa to travel to Vietnam in the US, but necessary to go to the Vietnamese embassy in Bangkok to apply. Each time I went I waited in nervous anticipation that my visa might be denied, but each time it was issued. More troublesome was the fact that the Vietnamese scholars we invited had to take the documents we sent them to the US Embassy in Bangkok to apply for their visas. Fortunately Mr. Vallely introduced us to Ms. Minh Kaufmann of the Mennonite Central Committee, who ran an office in Bangkok to promote academic exchange with Vietnam. Minh was a key ally, helping and advising me on how to deal with the Vietnamese government and universities and caring for and advising the Vietnamese scholars during their stopovers in Bangkok. This need to get visas in Bangkok still obtained after the US dropped the embargo in 1994 and only changed in 1995 when diplomatic relations were established. Fortunately for the HYI and the Vietnamese scholars, after diplomatic relations were established, Minh moved her operation to Hanoi where she continued to play a vital role.

In the fall of 1990 I interviewed 36 candidates at three universities—Cantho, Hanoi, and Ho Chi Minh City and the selection committees invited four scholars to come in the fall of 1991—two as Visiting Scholars and two as scholarship students. This was the beginning of a stream of Vietnamese scholars that has continued to the present. In the second year we added the

National Center for Social Sciences—now called the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) and later added Hue and Dalat Universities. At the present time the Vietnamese partner institutions of the HYI are Vietnam National University-Hanoi, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities-Ho Chi Minh City, the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Institute of Social Sciences-Ho Chi Minh City.⁷

It is noteworthy that throughout my years of involvement with Vietnamese participation in the programs of the HYI, the HYI benefited frequently from the wise counsel of Professor Hue-Tam Ho Tai. The Institute and the grantees also benefited greatly from the moral and psychological support of Ms. Phan Chan (Phan Thi Ngoc Chan), Librarian for the Vietnamese Collection, Harvard-Yenching Library. Chan and her parents always had the door open and the rice cooker on at their apartment near Central Square in Cambridge.

III. The History of the HYI's Fellowship Programs in Vietnam

Since the fall of 1991 the HYI has invited a total of 36 Visiting Scholars from Vietnam to spend 11 months at Harvard pursuing the research projects in the humanities and social sciences that were part of their applications.⁸ They have been selected by a

⁷ For a list of all HYI partner institutions in Asia see <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/partner-institutions>

⁸ The names of the Visiting Scholars are too numerous to mention here, but they are included in a list in Appendix A of this paper. Since we do not have

committee of Harvard faculty members from candidates nominated by our partner institutions and interviewed in English by a representative of the HYI. Ms. Tran Thi Phuong Hoa (VASS, History of Vietnamese-European cultural interaction) is currently in residence in Cambridge with the VS Program. On this occasion it seems appropriate to mention that Professor Vo Van Sen, Rector of USSH-HCMC, was a HYI Visiting Scholar in 1992-93. Vice-Rector Nguyen Van Tai, who unfortunately passed away some years ago, was also a Visiting Scholar in 1992-93

Since the fall of 1997 the HYI has invited 10 scholars to our Visiting Fellows Program that provides "...advanced Ph.D. candidates at our partner institutions an opportunity to conduct dissertation research at Harvard University for three semesters (17 months). Applicants do not have to be working on Asian studies topics to be eligible. However, preference is given to those in East Asian Studies whose research would benefit from the resources of the Harvard-Yenching Library...." ⁹ Candidates for this program are also nominated by their home institutions, interviewed by a representative of the HYI, and selected by a committee of Harvard faculty members.

complete information on these grantees please, send any further information you have to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz <strogatz@fas.harvard.edu> so that it can be incorporated into the HYI database.

⁹ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/visiting-fellows-program>. A list of the Visiting Fellows is also included in Appendix A. Again please send additional information to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz <strogatz@fas.harvard.edu>.

The HYI has also offered several categories of scholarships to support graduate study in the humanities and social sciences to scholars from our partner institutions. Of special note are five students, who were supported in the Harvard Doctoral Scholarship Program between 1994 and 2008, and finished their PhDs at Harvard: Bui Thi Phuong Lan, VNU-Hanoi (History of American Civilization, 2003), Le Minh Tuan, VASS (Political Economy, 2003), Vu Minh Khuong, VASS (Political Economy, 2004), Nguyen Nam, USSH-HCMC (East Asian Languages and Civilizations, 2005), and Tran Ngoc Anh, VASS (Public Policy, 2008). As many of you know, Dr. Nam worked for the Harvard-Yenching Institute for several years and is now back at USSH-HCMC.¹⁰

The Non-Harvard Doctoral Scholarship Program supported 37 grantees between 1991 and 2013.¹¹ These students generally were supported for 3.5 years and studied at a number of different universities in several countries, but mostly in the US. They studied in a wide range of fields of the social sciences and

¹⁰ Dr. Lan is now Vice-Director of the Institute of American Studies (VASS); Dr. Tuan is working for the World Bank in Washington, DC; Dr. Khuong is teaching at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, and Dr. Anh is teaching Public & Environmental Affairs at the University of Indiana. In addition Ms. Le Thi Hang from VNU-Hanoi was a grantee from 1991 to 1993 and received her LLM from Harvard Law School.

¹¹This program has been discontinued for all countries since 2013. The names of the scholarship students are also included in the appended list. Again please send further information to Ms. Strogatz <strogatz@fas.harvard.edu>.

humanities. As in the case of the other programs discussed above, the candidates were nominated by our partner institutions, interviewed by a representative of the HYI, and selected by a committee of Harvard faculty members. They came from Cantho, Hanoi, HCMC, and Hue Universities and VASS and the Institute of Social Sciences-HCMC. Professor Luong Van Hy was especially helpful in mentoring several of these students who studied at the University of Toronto.

As we proceeded with these fellowship programs, we came to realize that our Vietnamese partner institutions had some needs in fields that the HYI did not normally support. Consequently we made two exceptions—the Teaching of English as a Second Language and Library and Information Science—because these fields seemed directly related to those institutions’ ability to make good progress in the humanities and social sciences that the HYI did traditionally support.

Because of the long, close relationships between Vietnamese academia and Russian and Eastern European academia, there were many Vietnamese academics with good command of Russian and other Eastern European languages, but, when the HYI began to work in Vietnam, there was a severe shortage of scholars with a sufficient knowledge of English to participate in the programs of American universities. This led us to conclude that it would be worthwhile to invest in the training of specialists in the Teaching of English as a Second Language (TESL, also known as Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages [TESOL] and English as a Second Language [ESL]). The first of these students went to Boston University in the fall of 1991 and studied for an MA in the TESOL program headed by Professor Steven Molinsky.

Altogether, before this program was discontinued at the end of the 1998-99, 18 scholars received their master's degrees in TESL: 7 scholars from four universities (Cantho, Hanoi, HCMC, and Hue) studied TESL at Boston University and 11 from five institutions (Cantho, Hanoi, HCMC, Hue, and NCSSE) studied in the University of Massachusetts-Boston "Bilingual/ESL Studies" program (later called "Applied Linguistics") under the direction of Dr. Donaldo Macedo (arranged through the good offices of Mr. Kevin Bowen, Director of the UMass-Boston's William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences and Mr. Nguyen Ba Chung of that Center).¹² These well-trained English teachers have made substantial contributions to the marked improvement in English language education in Vietnam.

Since it was apparent that academic libraries in Vietnam needed improved staff training, especially in Information Technology (IT), the HYI decided to make a second exception for this field because it is so important for all other academic fields. After deciding it could support a librarian training program for 3 years, the HYI sounded out Dean Robert Stueart of the well-known Simmons College School of Library and Information Science. Dean Stueart was immediately and enthusiastically interested in setting up such a program and designated Professor Patricia Oyler of the Simmons faculty, to develop and run the program. The librarians were nominated by their libraries (The National Library, the General Sciences Library in HCM City, the National Center for

¹²The names of these teachers are also included in the appended list. Again please send further information to Ms. Strogatz <strogatz@fas.harvard.edu>.

Social Sciences and Humanities and the libraries of Cantho, Hanoi, HCM City, and Hue Universities), interviewed by a representative of the HYI, and selected for the program by a joint HYI/Simmons committee. During the 3 years, 1993-1996, that the HYI supported this program 18 Vietnamese librarians earned Simmons MS degrees in Library and Information Science.¹³ The librarians studied for a summer and an academic year at Simmons in Boston and then finished up with a course taught by Professor Oyler in Vietnam. Simmons and Professor Oyler later continued training for another 37 Vietnamese librarians. Thanks to the commitment and hard-work of Professor Oyler and, of course, the hard work of the librarians, the academic library situation in Vietnam has been completely changed. For example, all of the libraries are now using compatible IT systems, including a classification system based on the Dewey Decimal system developed by Professor Oyler and the librarians. Her disciples now form the core of the academic librarian profession in Vietnam.

IV. HYI Support for Other Vietnamese Academic Activities

Han-Nom Studies

¹³The names of the librarians are also included in the appended list. Again please send further information to Ms. Strogatz <strogatz@fas.harvard.edu>. The alumni of this program have produced a book containing a great deal of information and many photographs: *Simmons GSLIS Alumni from Vietnam, 1993-2013: Celebrating 20 Years Preserved in Memories, Kept Alive in our Heart, Unceasing Inspiration for Life*, Simmons GSLIS, 2013.

Between 1997 and 2007 the Institute supported five conferences related to Han-Nom studies. Under the leadership of Director Tu Wei Ming and Rectors Nguyen Quang Dien and Ngo Van Le, the Institute and USSH-HCMC jointly sponsored three conferences on “Confucianism in Vietnam” at USSH in July 1997, November 1998, and July 2001. The fourth and fifth conferences involved scholars from several countries and were held in Hanoi in cooperation with the Institute of Han-Nom Institute Studies of VASS under the leadership of Director Trinh Khac Manh. “The fourth conference [which] targeted the Han-Nom materials preserved at the IHNS, ...[represented] a new development in this conference series with 36 papers presented in three panels (December 16-18, 2004). The fifth conference, ‘Studying Confucianism in Vietnam from an Interdisciplinary Perspective,’ was held at the IHNS in Hanoi in November 2007 with 45 selected papers presented in 4 panels. The *Bibliography on Confucianism in Vietnam* (756 pages) was published on the occasion of the fifth conference.”¹⁴

In another important contribution to Han-Nom studies the HYI funded the IHNS website < <http://www.hannom.org.vn/>> which was inaugurated in March 2006. “[T]he website provides downloadable and keyword-searchable full-text access to the *Journal of Han-Nom Studies* (1984-2013,...). Within [the first] 9 months..., the website received more than 114,000 hits. With...HYI support, [the IHNS has uploaded] the catalog of Han-

¹⁴Nguyen Nam, “Harvard-Yenching Institute’s Contributions to the Development of Higher Education in the Humanities and Social Sciences in Vietnam (1991-2008),” an internal HYI report

Nom books currently preserved at the institute and overseas libraries and [made] it available on [the IHNS] website with multi-venue searchable tools. [The IHNS has also digitized] a few selected important Han-Nom texts and upload[ed] them to the website. This website has [made] significant contributions to the promotion of Han-Nom studies in Vietnamese universities.”¹⁵

In an effort to make the Institute of Han-Nom Studies more accessible to the Vietnamese scholarly community, from 2005 to 2009 the HYI and IHNS granted scholarships to provide outstanding Vietnamese Han-Nom scholars with the chance to conduct their research at the IHNS library and in consultation with IHNS scholars, scholarships to allow scholars to familiarize themselves with the IHNS on line database and to support scholars collecting Han-Nom materials preserved in libraries abroad. Almost all the grantees of this scholarship were professors and lecturers from nation-wide universities and colleges. An annual average of three recipients from universities and research institutes in central, southern and northern regions far away from Hanoi received this scholarship designed to promote the openness of Han-Nom heritage preserved at the IHNS. They have gone on to make substantial contributions to Han-Nom studies.

Other HYI-Sponsored Workshops and Conferences

Between 2006 and 2014 the HYI sponsored three conferences at Harvard and six conferences in Vietnam on topics in the humanities and social sciences related to Vietnam. For a list of these conferences see Appendix B of this report. For other HYI events, past and future, see <http://www.harvard->

¹⁵ *ibid.*

yenching.org/search/content/events.

Vietnam Publication Series

“Responding to the urgent need for an interdisciplinary, high-quality, peer-reviewed and independent academic publication in Vietnam, the Harvard-Yenching Institute now supports a scholarly series that concentrates on various disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. The first three-year plan of the series includes volumes on anthropology, literature, sociology, history and archeology, philosophy and religion, and cultural studies. Six books...dedicated to these disciplines will be printed in Vietnamese. The first book in anthropology, *The Transformation of Religions and Religious Beliefs in Vietnam Today* [ed. Le Hong Ly and Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham], came out in November 2008. The second book in the series is titled *Literary study in Vietnam: Possibilities and Challenges*, [ed. Le Hong Ly, Tran Hai Yen, and Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham] and was published in November 2009. The third book in the series, published in 2011, is titled *Historical Heritage and New Approaches...*[ed. Le Hong Ly, Le Thi Lien, and Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham]. The fourth book, *Cultural Heritage in Vietnamese Contemporary Society* (ed. Le Hong Ly and Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham) was published in 2014.”¹⁶ English abstracts and tables of contents (in Vietnamese and English) of these books are available through this website.

Book Reviews¹⁷

¹⁶ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/vietnamese-publication-series>

¹⁷ A list of book reviews and working papers on Vietnam can be found at <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/category/feature-regions/vietnam>

On its website the HYI publishes a series of book reviews entitled “New Frontiers in Asian Scholarship” which “highlights recent Asian-language books and important articles published in East and Southeast Asia, relating to the humanities and social sciences with an emphasis on Asian culture”. To keep in touch with this series of reviews of books on Vietnam see the website where the entry “New Frontiers in Asian Scholarship” can be searched by “Region” and “Field”.¹⁸

Working Papers¹⁹

The HYI also publishes on its website a series of “...working papers by HYI affiliated scholars on topics in the humanities and social sciences. We welcome submissions from all HYI-affiliated faculty and fellowship grantees (including graduate students). Scholars are invited to post papers either in English or in an Asian language.” The website entry for the Working Papers can be searched by “Region” and “Field”. Both abstracts and PDFs of the full papers are available on the website.²⁰ This report will be available at this website as a “working paper”.

Donation of Books on Chinese Studies to USSH

When Dr. Nam and Professor Perry had a conversation about the development of Chinese Studies at USSH in late 2010, Professor Perry mentioned that a portion of Professor Paul Cohen’s book collection was ready to be donated and suggested that this would help to overcome the shortage of research materials at USSH in

¹⁸ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/new-frontiers-asian-scholarship>

¹⁹ see note 16

²⁰ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/working-paper-series>

that field. Dr. Nam consulted with Rector Sen who welcomed the donation, if funds could be found to pay for shipping the books. The HYI agreed to pay for the shipping and for the preparation of a list of the books to be submitted of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. The list was prepared by Ms. Nancy Hearst of the Fairbank Collection of the H.C. Fung Library at Harvard and some graduate students. Professor Stuart Schram also added some of his books to the donation. After the books arrived in HCMC in late 2011, the USSH shepherded them through the regulatory process at the Ministry. A total of 1,966 titles were received and are now in use as a special collection at the USSH Library.

V. Current Scholarship Programs

In addition to the ongoing Visiting Scholars and Visiting Fellows Programs, the HYI invites participation by scholars from Vietnam in the following scholarship programs:

HYI-Regional Studies-East Asia A.M. Program²¹

“The Harvard-Yenching Institute's RSEA fellowship is for Asian nationals who plan to return to Asia to teach upon completion of their graduate studies. This is a multi-year full fellowship that covers the two-year master's degree ONLY in Harvard's RSEA program. Please note this grant is awarded for consecutive years of study only. The program must be completed within two years. Nominations for this fellowship are made solely by the Regional Studies--East Asia admissions committee. In addition to

²¹<http://isites.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do?keyword=k77240&pageid=icb.page510805&pageContentId=icb.pagecontent1091798&state=maximize>

direct applicants to the RSEA program, nominees may include applicants to [Harvard] PhD programs who are not directly admitted to a doctoral program, but are judged to be potentially competitive for admission to a doctoral program (not necessarily at Harvard) after completing an MA degree in the RSEA program. Applicants who hold degrees from English-medium universities located outside of Asia are ineligible.” For information on applying to the RSEA A.M. Program, visit <http://gsas.harvard.edu> and click on ‘Apply’ in the upper right hand corner.” For more information on the HYI-RSEA Fellowship, please visit the HYI website at: <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/east-asia>

JOINT DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS WITH NUS AND HKU²²

“This program allows for candidates to pursue a PhD at either the National University of Singapore or the University of Hong Kong, with 10-18 months of dissertation research at Harvard University. Candidates must be from HYI partner universities or research institutes in Southeast Asia.

- **NUS-HYI JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR PHD STUDIES**

Overview

The National University of Singapore - Harvard-Yenching

²² These descriptions are quoted from a summary prepared by Ms. Lindsay Strogatz. For further information on the NUS-HYI Program and the HKU-HYI Program visit the websites cited in the Overviews.

Institute Joint Scholarship Program (JSP) is for young faculty at [HYI partner institutions](#) in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia to complete a PhD at the National University of Singapore, with 12-18 months of dissertation research at Harvard University. Candidates' research should focus on East and Southeast Asian Studies, either with a disciplinary or interdisciplinary approach, and with the expectation that they will enroll in NUS's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/nus-hyi-joint-scholar>

Note: [The first recipient of this fellowship, Mr. Nguyen Quang Dung, a graduate in Oriental Studies of USSH-HCMC, began his studies at NUS in 2011 and is currently doing dissertation research at the HYI in Cambridge.]

- **HKU-HYI JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR PHD STUDIES**

- **Overview**

The University of Hong Kong - Harvard-Yenching Institute Joint Scholarship Program (JSP) is for young faculty at [HYI partner institutions](#) in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia to complete a PhD at the University of Hong Kong, with 10 months of dissertation research at Harvard

University. Nominated faculty should be working in the humanities and social sciences with an emphasis on history, culture and society. Scholars whose focus of research is comparative, and includes one or more Asian countries, are especially welcome.

<http://www.harvard-yenching.org/hku-hyi-joint-scholar>”

VI. Conclusion

This paper combines an overview of the history of the Harvard-Yenching Institute's support for innovation in higher education in Vietnam from 1990 to 2015 and information on the current HYI programs involving Vietnam. It seems that the Harvard-Yenching Institute, Vietnamese academic institutions and Harvard University have all benefited from their cooperation. Vietnamese participation in its programs has surely contributed to the Harvard-Yenching Institute's mission of "...promot[ing] graduate and post-graduate research in Asian studies and [increasing] scholarly communication among Asian scholars and between them and their counterparts in other regions of the world."²³

²³ <http://www.harvard-yenching.org/sites/harvard-yenching.org/files/uploaded-documents/2013%20HYI%20Brochure.pdf>

Appendix A: Lists of Scholars in HYI Programs

Please note that these tables are a work in progress. If you have any corrections, additions or suggestions please send them to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Appendix B: HYI-Sponsored Workshops and Conferences

<http://www.harvard-yenching.org/search/content/events>

Appendix A, Table 1: HYI Visiting Scholars 1991-2015

Please send any corrections or additions to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Years	Scholar's Name	Home Institution	Field
1991-92	Nguyen Nam	USSH-HCMC	Vietnamese literature
	Nguyen Giao	USSH-HCMC	American literature
1992-93	Do Duc Dinh	NCSS	economics
	Ngo Si Hong	NCSS	archaeology
	Nguyen Van Tai	USSH-HCMC	economics
	Vo Van Sen	USSH-HCMC	Vietnamese history
	Hoang Vu Cuong	NCSS	economics
1993-94	Phan Dang	Hue	Han-Nom studies
	Tran Thi Bich Ngoc	ISS-HCMC	Vietnamese history
1994-95	Nguyen Huu Thong	Hue	ethnology
	Nguyen Viet Cuong	ISS-HCMC	ethnology
1995-96	Le Cung	Hue	history
1996-97	Huynh Thi Ngoc Tuyet	ISS-HCMC	history
	Ngo Xuan Binh	NCSSH	American economic history
1997-98	Le Dinh Ba	Dalat	ethnography
	Nguyen Thi Ngan Hoa	USSH-HCMC	women's studies
1998-99	Ngo Thi Tuan dung	NCSSH	social psychology
1999-00	Nguyen Nhat Tuyen	NCSSH	women's studies
	Nguyen Ngoc Dung	NCSSH	CP Vietnam history
2000-01	Nguyen Phu Thai	HCMC	economics
	Tran Quang Minh	NCSSH	economics
2001-02	Truong Thi Kim Chuyen	HCMC	geography
2002-03	Nguyen Van Minh	NCSSH	anthropology
	Thach Huon	Cantho	law
2003-04	Nguyen Giao Doi	NCSSH	archaeology
	Tran Thi An	NCSSH	folklore
2004-05	Le Thuy Khuong	VNU-Hanoi	history
	Tran Thi Hai Yen	NCSSH?	Vietnamese literature
2005-06	Nguyen Hoang Giang	VNU-Hanoi	sociology
	Vo Thi Hoang Ai		
2006-07	Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham	VASS	cultural studies
2007-08	Nguyen Kim Son	VNU-Hanoi	literature
	Do Thu Hien	VNU-Hanoi	literature
2013-14	Nguyen To Lan	VASS	comparative literature
	Nguyen Tuan Cuong	VASS	literature
2014-15	Tran Thi Phuong Hoa	VASS	history

Appendix A, Table 2: HYI Visiting Fellows 1997-2015

Please send any corrections or additions to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Years	Scholar's Name	Home Institution	Field
1997-99	Tran Thi Phuong Phuong	USSH-HCMC	Russian literature
1997-99	Doan Thi Loan	USSH-HCMC	Vietnamese literature
1998-00	LeThi Lien	NCSSH	archaeology
1999-01	Nguyen Thanh	Hue	Vietnamese literature
1999-01	Ngo Thi Kim Dung	ISS-HCMC	sociology
2000-02	Tran Thuan	Hue	English linguistics
2007-08	Nguyen Ngoc Tho	USSH-HCMC	cultural studies
2008-09	Tran Thi Phuong Hoa	VASS	history
2008-10	Dinh Hong Hai	VASS	anthropology
2014-15	Vu Dong Luan	VNU-Hanoi	history

Appendix A, Table 3: HYI Non-Harvard Doctoral Scholarship
Grants 1992-2012

Please send any corrections or additions to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Year Entered	Scholar's Name	Home Institution	Field	Studied at	Degree
1992	Hoang Vu Cuong	NCSS	economics	SUNY-Buffalo	
	Nguyen Hung				PhD-
1992	Tuong	USSH-HCMC	linguistics	Boston U.	2003
	Do Thi Thanh				
1993	Huong	NCSS	psychology	Boston U.	
					PhD-
1993	Duong Ngoc Dung	USSH-HCMC	religion	Boston U.	2001
				U. of N.	PhD-
1993	Le Ngoc Hung	VNU-Hanoi	sociology	Carolina	1997
	Vu Thi Thanh				
1993	Huong	NCSS	linguistics	Toronto U.	
				U. of	PhD-
1994	Nguyen Van Thang	NCSSH	ethnography	Washington	2001
			Vietnamese		PhD-
1994	Tran Thi Bich Ngoc	ISS-HCMC	history	Brandeis	2005
1995	Nguyen Song Thao	NCSSH	economics	Boston U.	
				U. of	
1995	Phan Ngoc Chien	ISS-HCMC	anthropology	Washington	
					PhD-
1996	Nguyen Thi Hien	VNU-Hanoi	folklore	Indiana U.	2002
					PhD-
1996	Truong Huyen Chi	VNU-Hanoi	anthropology	Toronto U.	2001
				U. of	PhD-
1996	Vu Thi Kieu Dung	VNU-Hanoi	sociology	Michigan	2002
1997	Le Kim Sa	NCSSH	economics	Brown U.	
	Nguyen Thi Thanh				PhD-
1997	Binh	NCSSH	sociolinguists	Toronto U.	2002
	Nguyen Thi Thanh				
1997	Thuy	VNU-Hanoi	SE Asian studies	Cornell U.	
				U. of	
1998	Dao The Duc	NCSSH	religion	Washington	
	Nguyen Bao Thanh				
2000	Nghi	USSH-HCMC	sociology	Boston U.	
	Dang-Hoang Hai			U. of	
2001	Anh	VNU-Hanoi	economics	Minnesota	
2001	Le Thi Nguyet Chau	Cantho	Law	Groningen	

2001	Nguyen Vu Hoang	VASS	anthropology	Toronto U.	
2001	Nguyen Kim Ha	VASS	sociology	Toronto U.	
2001	Nguyen Thanh Liem	VASS	sociology	Brown U.	PhD-2004
2001	Pham Quynh Phuong	VASS	folklore	Latrobe U. of Texas- Austin	PhD-2005
2001	Tran Vinh Du	VNU-Hanoi	economics	U. of Delaware	
2002	Tran Thuan	Hue	linguistics	U. of Hawaii	
2003	Nguyen Thien Hao	VASS	regional planning	American	
2004	Nguyen Hong Chung	VNU-Hanoi	civilization	Brown U. of Delaware	
2004	Nguyen Manh Hung	VASS	political science	Cal Western	
2004	Thach Huon	Cantho	law	LS	
2010	Nguyen Cong Thao	VASS	anthropology	U. of Hawaii	
2010	Nguyen Hoang Giang	VNU-Hanoi	sociology international	U. of Washington	
2010	Nguyen Thanh Trung	VNU-Hanoi	relations	U. of Virginia	
2010	Phan Dieu Ly	VASS	Sociology	U. of Hawaii	
2010	Phung Minh Hieu	VNU-Hanoi	History	U. of Hawaii	
2010	Tran Minh Hang	VASS	Anthropology	Australian NU	
2012	Hoang M. To Nga	VNU-HCMC	Psychology	U. of Minnesota	

Appendix A, Table 4: HYI TESL Grantees 1991-1999

Please send any corrections or additions to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Year Entered	Scholar's Name	Home Institution	Studied at
1991	Truong Vo Dung	Cantho	Boston U.
1993	Nguyen Huynh Dat	USSH-HCMC	Boston U.
1993	Lam Quang Dong	VNU-Hanoi	Boston U.
1994	Nguyen Thu Huong	Cantho	Boston U.
1994	Ton Nu Nhu Huong	Hue	Boston U.
1995	Hoang Xuan Hoa	VNU-Hanoi	Boston U.
1995	Nguyen Thi Kieu Thu	USSH-HCMC	UMass-Boston
1995	Nguyen Thi Kim Thu	USSH-HCMC	UMass-Boston
1995	Pham Hoa Hiep	Hue	UMass-Boston
1996	Phan Thi Hoang Yen	VNU-Hanoi	UMass-Boston
1996	Phan Thi Kim Loan	USSH-HCMC	UMass-Boston
1996	Tran Thuan	Hue	UMass-Boston
1997	Nguyen Mai Hoa	VNU-Hanoi	Boston U.
1997	Chau Thien Hiep	Cantho	UMass-Boston
1997	Tran Quoc Hung	Cantho	UMass-Boston
1997	Trin Quoc Lap	Cantho	UMass-Boston
1998	Luu Anh Tuyet	NCSSH	UMass-Boston
1998	Ton Nu Nhu Ngoc	Hue	UMass-Boston

Appendix A, Table 5: HYI-Simmons Library and Information Science Grantees 1993-96

Please send any corrections or additions to Ms. Lindsay Strogatz strogatz@fas.harvard.edu

Years	Scholar's Name	Home Institution
1993-94	Tran Min Thanh	Cantho
1993-94	Quan Mai Binh	VNU-Hanoi
1993-94	Nguyen Minh Hiep	USSH-HCMC
1993-94	Nguyen Thi Van Anh	NCSSH
1993-94	Duong Thi Van	Nattional Library-Hanoi
1993-94	Nguyen Thien Can	General Sciences Library-HCMC
1994-95	Diep Kim Chi	Cantho
1994-95	Nguyen Huy Chuong	VNU-Hanoi
1994-95	Nguyen thi Ngoc Phuong	USSH-HCMC
1994-95	Nguyen Viet Ha	NCSSH
1994-95	Dang Thi Mai	Nattional Library-Hanoi
1994-95	Nguyen thi Bac	General Sciences Library-HCMC
1995-96	Huynh Thi Trang	Cantho
1995-96	Tran Thi Phuong	VNU-Hanoi
1995-96	Hoang Thi Thuc	USSH-HCMC
1995-96	Huynh Thi Can	Hue
1995-96	Chu Tuyet Lan	NCSSH
1995-96	Kieu Van Hot	Nattional Library-Hanoi

Appendix B:

Prepared by Ms. Lindsay B Strogatz, Executive Assistant & Program Manager, Harvard-Yenching Institute

HYI-SPONSORED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES, 2006-2014

At Harvard:

Chinese Literary Migration in Asia: Three Kingdoms from Translation to Local Culture Construction

May 15-16, 2014, Common Room, 2 Divinity Ave.

A workshop sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute; organized by Dr. Lan T. Nguyen.

Asian Varieties of Socialism: China, India, Vietnam

Co-sponsored by HYI & the Harvard Asia Center, organized by the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Monday, March 28, 2011, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Location: Lower Level Conference Room, Busch Hall/Center for European Studies

These days the rapidly rising nations of China and India are often contrasted as examples of "authoritarian" versus "democratic" paths of (capitalist or quasi-capitalist) development. But when their current political systems were first established, some sixty years ago, leaders in both countries were strongly attracted by the promises of socialism. The same was true of the reunified Vietnam in 1976, which – like China and India – subsequently embarked upon an impressive economic reform program. What did these various countries initially find so appealing about socialism? To what extent did their interpretations reflect Asian, as opposed to European, experiences and values? And what influence, if any, do such socialist legacies exert on contemporary practices in the three countries? This roundtable brings together an inter-disciplinary group of distinguished international scholars and public intellectuals – based in India, Hong Kong, Singapore and the US -- to offer their perspectives on these complex questions.

A Structured Conversation on the Humanities at Leading East Asian Universities

Date: May 9-10, 2008

Location: American Academy of Arts & Sciences, Cambridge, MA

In both East Asia and America, the idea of the university and the role of the humanities and social sciences is increasingly a topic of discussion. To that end, Dean Emeritus Henry Rosovsky and Professor TU Weiming, Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute, organized a structured conversation regarding the role of the humanities and social sciences in higher education in leading East Asian universities, held under the sponsorship of the Harvard-Yenching Institute. The participants represented seven regions in East Asia (Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Singapore) and the United States.

In Vietnam:

Cultural Exchanges between Vietnam and East Asia

Date: May 14-17, 2012

Location: Institute of Culture, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi

For Chinese, Lingnan refers to southern China. For Vietnamese, Linh Nam means “South of the border (with China)” in other words, the area now known as northern Vietnam. Whatever the exact geographical coverage of Lingnan/Linh Nam, it is clear that modern southern China and modern northern Vietnam share a common cultural heritage despite their divergent political histories after the tenth century.

During the 1950s, in both Vietnam and China the socialist state sought to radically transform local culture, by banning practices that were deemed superstitious and wasteful. Over the last three decades, economic reforms and political liberalization have led to the revival of traditional practices at the local level; in many cases, this revival is abetted by global actors such as UNESCO.

This workshop is intended to highlight some of the commonalities between the popular cultures of southern China and northern Vietnam and to compare the experiences of Chinese and Vietnamese in transforming, preserving and reviving local religio-cultural practices. Above all, it seeks to bring together scholars of Vietnam and China with the idea that they can benefit from such connections and comparisons.

Sociological Approaches to Contemporary Chinese Social Issues

A lecture series co-sponsored by the University of Social Sciences and Humanities - Ho Chi Minh City and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Date: October 3-8, 2011 (morning and afternoon sessions)

Location: The University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Due to their specific historical, cultural and socio-political backgrounds, contemporary Chinese and Vietnamese societies share a number of social issues in common. Boundary-crossing sociological approaches can help to understand these social issues within national, regional, and global contexts. The final session of the lecture series will consist of a roundtable discussion between Chinese and Vietnamese scholars.

Asian women and education: Asian, European and Other Perspectives

Hosted by the Vietnam Institute for European Studies

Co-sponsored by the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Date: June 3-4, 2011

Location: Institute of History, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, 1 Lieu Giai, Ba Dinh, Ha Noi

The workshop is a chance for scholars from Asia (Vietnam, China, Hongkong, Korea, Japan), Europe (Denmark, France, Russia) and America to discuss issues related to Asian women and education in historical, sociological, gender, ethnical and religious perspectives. The workshop aims at seeking answers for questions: How did Asian women access education/learning in the past and how can they at present? Can education change and improve women's lives in modern Asia? Can educated women change their economic, social, political status?

Literary Theories and their Application: A Lecture Series

Co-organized by the Vietnam Institute of Literature and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Co-sponsored by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

March 16-19 (mornings and afternoons), 2011

Location: Vietnam Institute of Literature, 20 Ly Thai To Street, Hoan Kiem District, Hanoi, Vietnam

This series of lectures will take place after the March 14-15 workshop, providing its participants with in-depth knowledge of specific issues in the field of literary studies (or comparative literature). Harvard University Professors Stephen Owen, David Damrosch, and Karen L. Thornber will participate. The lectures will furnish young researchers, who are the majority in Vietnamese research institutes and universities but have not

had a chance to study overseas, with excellent opportunities to approach new knowledge.

[Pre]Modern Asian Literature Read through Modern Western Theories: Applications, [In]Compatibilities, Challenges, and Opportunities

Organized by Vietnam Institute of Literature, Co-sponsored by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, the Harvard-Yenching Institute, and the Japan Foundation

Date: March 14-15, 2011, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Location: Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Hall #3D, 1 Lieu Giai Street, Ba Dinh District, Hanoi

Vietnamese Literature in the Regional and International Context of Cultural Exchanges

Date: 11/3/06 - 11/4/06

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

In order to examine Vietnamese literature as an object taking shape and developing within circumstances influenced by internal and external factors, as well as to consider current states of the field of Vietnamese literature studies, and create a forum for scholarly exchanges between Vietnamese and international researchers, the Institute of Literature and Harvard-Yenching Institute co-organized an international conference entitled Vietnamese Literature in the Regional and International Context of Cultural Exchanges. This two-day conference was held in Hanoi from November 3-4 2006.