

August 3, 2006

Japan-Vietnam Friendship Initiative: Summer Workshop 2006

Keio University will host summer workshops in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in August and September 2006 for university students and business people in Vietnam. Three distinguished Keio professors from various fields and an expert on Vietnam-Japan business relations will give lectures on science and technology, business management, and Japanese language study, tailored to the Vietnamese audience. This will be the first ever academic event in Vietnam hosted by a Japanese university, and Keio University will take the opportunity to promote and strengthen the academic links between the two countries.

Keio University is a modern comprehensive institution of higher education whose 150-year history makes it one of the oldest in Japan. The university offers a wide range of research and educational opportunities in areas from arts and social science, to technology and medical science. Keio has recently strengthened its focus on international cooperation through the establishment of the Organization for Global Initiatives (OGI) in 2005. The OGI is focusing its efforts on increasing cooperation with neighboring Asian countries.

Keio University has several existing exchange agreements with Vietnamese higher educational institutions. The majority of these partnerships are in the IT field, and most are between individual faculties and graduate schools. Successful and active academic and research exchange with one of the departments of science and technology, Hanoi University of Technology', led to a university-wide partnership being signed between the two institutions in September 2005. It is Keio's belief that academic exchange between Vietnam and Japan will continue to grow even more active in the future.

Keio University will celebrate its 150^{th} anniversary in 2008. One of the main themes of the Commemorative Project is to enhance and promote Keio's global dimension. This workshop is a part of Keio's ongoing international outreach efforts.

Phan Boi Chau, a well-known Vietnamese activist for the Dong-Du Movement in the early 20th century, founded the Dong Kinh Nghia Thuc (Tokyo Gijuku), a school in the Eastern Capital (Hanoi) in 1907. It is said that he took the name from Keio University (Keio Gijuku) in Japan because he was deeply inspired by Keio's mission. Nearly a century after the founding of Phan Boi Chau's school, Keio University will hold this workshop in an aim to increase, strengthen and promote the academic links between Vietnam and Japan. It is our hope that all audience members, including local business people, academic researchers and students, will actively participate in the sessions and exchange their thoughts and ideas with the lecturers.





Hanoi (at the VJCC)
August 28 – 16:30 to 20:00
August 29 – 16:30 to 20:00
*Officially supported by the Japanese Embassy in Hanoi in cooperation with the VJCC

Ho Chi Minh City (at Open University) August 31 – 14:00 to 18:00 September 1 – 8:30 to 10:30

*Co-hosted by Ho Chi Minh City Open University and officially supported by the Japanese Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City

- * For program schedule, please refer to the attached outline
- * This release is being sent to media representatives in Vietnam. Attendance at the workshop and following reception is welcome with advance registration (please fax or e-mail the attached form using contact information below). If you are interested in interviewing one of the lecturers, please contact our office.

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