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November 30th - December 1st, 2015: Dr. Quach Hoai Nam –Vice Rector attended a meeting with the Governing Council of the International Linkage Program on Tropical Fisheries (ILP) at Sam Ratulangi University, Manado, Indonesia. At the meeting, the Governing Council formally approved Nha Trang University (NTU) and Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand) to become members of the network.

ILP is a network of five universities from Japan, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia. It facilitates the exchange of students and teachers between member universities. This participation is of enormous significance to NTU, opening opportunities to attract international students to study at NTU and enabling NTU’s students to study in other countries.

An official accession ceremony will be held on February 29th 2016 at NTU with the participation of representatives of the ILP program and NTU.

VISIT FROM WUHAN UNIVERSITY, CHINA

Wuhan University, founded in 1893, is a key comprehensive university of Chinese Ministry of Education. Wuhan University has 29 affiliated institutes, 105 undergraduate programs, 217 master’s programs, 143 doctoral programs, 15 postdoctoral programs and 15 key national programs. There are more than 3,000 professors and associate professors in total of 5000 teaching staff. There are 45,000 students, including 12,000 graduate and PhD students and more than 600 international students.

November 26th, 2015: Two representatives of Wuhan University (Mr. Wu Youmin, Teaching Affairs Director of School of International Education and Mr. Zhou Fusheng, Admission Director of School of International Education) visited and worked with NTU’s leaders. The two parties exchanged and discussed possibilities for cooperation, especially in joint training.

The Wuhan University’s representatives also introduced scholarships to study in China and in Wuhan University to the staff and students from the Faculty of Foreign Languages. The visit officially laid the foundation for a new collaborative relationship between the universities.
ULSAN UNIVERSITY’S VISIT

November 12th, 2015: Delegations from Ulsan University, South Korea and Vietnam Hyundai Vinashin visited NTU and worked with the Transportation Engineering Faculty, NTU. Ulsan University has cooperated with NTU for four years. They assisted the Transportation Engineering Faculty of NTU in training 2 doctors and 20 students from Shipbuilding Engineering.

During this visit, the two parties discussed implementation plans on training and scientific research in 2016, showing an expectation of long-term cooperation between the two universities. Interviews were also conducted to select students in Shipbuilding Engineering major to train in Korea under the cooperation agreement signed between the two parties.

VISIT FROM SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY & THE UNIVERSITY OF SUNSHINE COAST, AUSTRALIA

October 30th, 2015: Within the framework of cooperation between NTU and Australian Universities of the Regional Universities Network (RUN), representatives of Southern Cross University and the University of The Sunshine Coast – (two out of the three universities from RUN with strong backgrounds of aquaculture) met with representatives of Faculties and Institutes of NTU.

At the meeting, Dr. Kirsten Beckendorff (Deputy Director of the Marine Ecology Research Center, Southern Cross University) provided valuable information for future cooperation possibilities such as the ASEAN Aquaculture Innovation program, the new ACIAR 2017 project and various opportunities for graduate studies.

Many potential cooperation projects among the parties have also been proposed, such as collaborative research on mangrove snapper, research on the extraction and use of marine biological compounds, more efficient application of aquaculture waste from molluscs in Vietnam and collaborative research on the organism’s response to the impact of climate change through gene expression. In addition, the two parties also agreed on training in functional genomics and allowing NTU’s staff and students to carry out some experiments at the Laboratory of the University of the Sunshine Coast.
SIGNING A COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIAN CPA

The event drew the participation of representatives of CPA Australia and NTU, many delegates from the leading auditing firms in Ho Chi Minh City and 78 Australian qualified CPA students. The agreement marks the first step in a cooperation relationship between NTU and Australian CPA, confirming the roles and responsibilities of the two parties, especially in training and enhancing mutual benefits. It helps to open up opportunities to study and provides international exchanges for the staff and the students of NTU. This is also a favorable condition for extending the CPA’s reputation in NTU.

SIGNING COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH BUSINESSES

December 12th, 2015: NTU held a panel discussion among the university, students and businesses. Vice Rector – Dr. Quach Hoai Nam and representatives of departments, students and more than 30 businesses attended the seminar.

During the seminar, the entrepreneurs provided many suggestions regarding the curriculum, practice issues and soft skills training for students. In addition, the parties also discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the University and businesses, thereby providing students with practical knowledge and job adaptability after graduation. On behalf of the University, Vice Rector Quach Hoai Nam expressed thanks to the businesses and took into account their suggestions. He expected that the entrepreneurs keep cooperating and supporting the University in training and offering students practical experiences.

To strengthen the cooperative relationship, the University has signed a memorandum of cooperation with more than 30 firms in general training and soft skills training, facilities for practice, internships and recruitment. The Vice Rector also awarded certificates to businesses for their contribution to training affairs and the development of the University.
SIGNING AN MOU WITH KIEN GIANG UNIVERSITY

In the 5th International Fisheries Symposium in Malaysia, Dr. Khong Trung Thang – Vice Rector of NTU signed an MoU for NTU to become an associate member of ASEAN-FEN. According to the MoU, NTU will work with other members on matters of fisheries and aquaculture education and research. ASEAN-FEN members will organize or participate in conferences, provide educational opportunities for the members and public, develop and promote research initiatives, provide and coordinate infrastructure and personnel for research on fisheries and aquaculture, develop and promote student and staff exchange programs, support and facilitate research projects of scientists and students from member institutions.

The ASEAN Fisheries Education Network (ASEAN-FEN) is established by agreement of its principal members namely Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (Malaysia), Universiti Sains Malaysia (Malaysia), Can Tho University (Vietnam), Nong Lam University (Vietnam), Kasetsart University (Thailand), Prince of Songkla University (Thailand), Rajamangala University of Technology Srivijaya (Thailand) and Universitas Air Langga (Indonesia) for the purpose of supporting and enhancing the fisheries and aquaculture through education, research, and public outreach in the region. The ASEAN-FEN supports and facilitates the activities of educators, scientists, and agencies responding to local, regional, national, and international issues on fisheries and aquaculture.

SIGNING AN MOU WITH KIEN GIANG UNIVERSITY

December 9th, 2015: The MoU signing ceremony between NTU (NTU) and Kien Giang University (KGU) was held at NTU. Assoc. Prof. Trang Si Trung – Rector and the leaders of Departments of NTU together with Assoc. Prof. Thai Thanh Luom – Rector and other delegates from KGU discussed proposals for promoting bilateral relations between the two universities. The two sides agreed to sign a cooperation agreement in training, scientific research, technology transfer and other related areas with an emphasis on research and training cooperation, particularly on graduate education.

Kien Giang University was founded in 2014 on the basis of NTU’s division in Kien Giang. The university is in the process of building and completing its organizational structure, staff, faculties and facilities. Therefore, the expansion of comprehensive cooperation between the two universities is an opportunity for mutual support, experiences exchange, and promoting the development of each university.
With typical intersection and appropriate structural design, Viet Anh ship 2015 has assurance on parameters of speed and stability, in particular the shaking fits with fisherman’s fishing manipulation (cycle of ship shaking $\tau \sim 6s$). The vessel has the ability to operate safely in 7th scale waves. This is the result of UNINSHIP’s innovation on composite ship design.

The launch of Viet Anh ship 2015 is a positive sign that shows UNINSHIP’s achievement in building composite fishing vessels in Vietnam, bringing a bright future for the fishermen and fishery service industry in Vietnam.

THE WORKSHOP “TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN MARINE AQUACULTURE IN THE SOUTH CENTRAL OF VIETNAM”

December 24th, 2015: The Institute of Aquaculture, NTU organized a seminar “Towards a sustainable development in marine aquaculture in the South Central of Vietnam”. Attending the workshop were representatives of governmental agencies, businesses, and researchers in the field of aquaculture.

Despite the recent strong growth of aquaculture activities in the South Central regions, this economic sector is facing many risks and challenges from environmental conditions and diseases. The workshop was organized to strengthen regional cooperation in research and application in hatchery production and grow-out technology, nutrition and food, disease control, environmental management and fisheries resources. The overarching goal was to actively utilize the potentials and advantages of the local regions for a sustainable development in marine aquaculture. The workshop reports achievements in aquaculture and recommends cooperation between the parties in the future.
December 10th, 2015: A delegation from NTU attended the International Symposium for Collaboration in Marine Science and Technology hosted by Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology on Umitaka-Maru ship in Nha Rong Wharf, Ho Chi Minh City, with representatives from universities from Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Japan. The symposium is an opportunity for the partners to introduce their universities’ strengths and their cooperation potential, especially in research and training for students and staff in Marine Science and Technology major among the universities of Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore as well as Tokyo University of Marine Science & Technology.

At the conference, researchers presented many reports about the various problems facing food technology and river basin ecosystems and rehabilitation. Dr. Huynh Nguyen Duy Bao – Lecturer of the Faculty of Food Technology of NTU made a presentation on “Novel approach for minimizing oxidative deterioration in aquatic foods: Application of Natural antioxidants from edible mushrooms.”
Implementing the cooperation plan with the network of Vietnam - Belgium universities, from November 24th - 26th 2015, NTU hosted an international conference VBFoodNet 2015 with the topic “Towards a more efficient use of natural resources”. This conference is within the VLIR project (VLIR Network Vietnam). Over 150 delegates, including scientists, researchers, managers (domestic and foreign) coming from many universities, research institutes, food safety agencies and some companies of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Australia, the Embassy of Belgium in Vietnam, etc. attended the conference.

During three days of the conference, the participants focused on the exchange of research results and research orientation in 5 key areas: bioactive compounds and innovative feed and food products, emerging food formulation and processing techniques, food storage and stability, food quality and safety management and analytical tools for feed & food characterization. The conference has succeeded in providing a forum for domestic and international professionals to exchange new knowledge and experience in food technology, as well as to facilitate collaborations in research, investment and technology transfer between Vietnamese and Belgian universities.

On this occasion, the Deputy Head of Mission Ambassador, Head of Development Cooperation, Mr. Geert Vansintjan, has met with NTU’s leaders and representatives of some universities from Belgium. Mr. Geert Vansintjan stressed the importance and potential of cooperation between Vietnam and Belgium, particularly between Belgian universities and NTU in the field of fisheries. Representatives of Belgian universities appreciated the support of NTU for the VBFoodNet 2015 conference, and recognized NTU as an active member of the VLIR project. They also believed in the strong cooperation potential between NTU and the Belgian universities in the future. Mr. Vansintjan has kindly supported finance for some activities of the conference.

THE VSTEP PROCESS CONFERENCE (THE NATIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROJECT 2020)

November 24th, 2015: In coordination with the University of Foreign Languages - Vietnam National University, Hanoi, NTU organized a workshop on transferring the VSTEP Process., Prof. Dr. Nguyen Lan Trung – a representative of the National Foreign Language Project 2020, leaders of NTU and English teaching staff attended the workshop.

At the conference, Mr. Nguyen Lan Trung presented an overview of the English tests for Vietnamese adults from levels 3 to 5 (VSTEP) according to the Vietnamese Framework of English proficiency. Test registration process and VSTEP format were also presented. The participants have had the opportunities to exchange and discuss issues and concerns when implementing the evaluation process.
November 23rd, 2015: The Youth Union of NTU held a photo exhibition opening ceremony, and awarded winners of the NTU Photo Contest “NTU - One moment, one view” and a writing contest “Gratitude to teachers”. Attending the ceremony were the leaders of the university, faculties and sponsor representatives.

Three weeks after the launch of the contests, many students and staff had enthusiastically entered their works. The Photo Contest “NTU - One moment, one view” received more than 250 high quality works, showing the beautiful landscape, architecture and people of NTU. The organizers selected 40 works for the exhibition and awarded winners in various categories: the first prize for the most voted photo via social networks belonged to Le Tran Phuc; The first prize in the professional photography category about architecture and landscape belonged to Nguyen Tho Minh Huan and the first prize in the professional photography category about people belonged to Truong Trong Anh.

The Writing Contest “Gratitude to teachers” attracted more than 80 articles showing the students’ affection and profound gratitude to their teachers. The organizers gave the first prize for the most loved article via social networks to Nguyen Thi Trang (a student from the Institute of Biotechnology & Environment) and the first prize, given by the jury committee, to Vo Hoang Thuc Lan (a student from the Faculty of Economics).

EXHIBITION OF VIETNAM HERITAGE PHOTO AWARDS

From October 29th to November 3rd, 2015, 100 best works selected from 4,740 works of Vietnam Heritage Photo Awards 2015 were displayed on the campus of NTU.

There were over 100 works selected from 4,740 works for the exhibition with the theme “Binh Thuan – a Green Focus”. The competition focused on four main themes including nature, tangible heritage, intangible heritage, and the daily life of Vietnamese particularly in Binh Thuan province.

This is the second time NTU organized the Vietnam Heritage Photo Awards exhibition. This is a good opportunity for NTU’s students and staff to enjoy the beauty of culture and nature of Vietnam, and increasing their love and pride to the country. The exhibition will be continued in Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang, Hanoi and some locations overseas.
Dr. NGUYEN THE HAN AND Dr. LE MINH HOANG ATTEND 2nd CONGRESS OF VIETNAMESE YOUNG TALENTS

From December 11th - 13th, 2015, Dr. Nguyen The Han (Faculty of Food Technology) and Dr. Le Minh Hoang (Institute of Aquaculture) of NTU and more than 360 delegates who excel in all fields from all over the country attended the 2nd Congress of Vietnamese Young Talents with the theme “Vietnamese young talents join hands to build the country”. The Congress was organized to assess the work and situation of Vietnamese young talents between the period of 2010 - 2015, determining the directions of young talents for the next five years.

Within the framework of the congress, the Vietnam young talents had met with Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung – Chairman of National Assembly to discuss and recommend policies for young talents. Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung also recognized the talents and their contributions to the country, believing that they will join hands together to develop and protect the country.

Dr. DO THI THANH VINH BECOMES A MEMBER OF ASIA-PACIFIC EXPERT COUNCIL OF FRANCOPHONE UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION

November 7th, 2015: A meeting of the Asia-Pacific Expert Council of AUF in Luang Prabang, Laos elected new members of Region Expert Council for the period 2016 - 2018. In this election, Dr. Do Thi Thanh Vinh, Dean of the Faculty of Economics, NTU, was honored to be a new member of the Council for the period from 2016 to 2018. Dr. Thanh Vinh will be responsible for consulting in the field of Economics - Administration - Tourism to the members of AUF in the region.

The Francophone University Association (Agence universitaire de la Francophonie – AUF) is an international association comprising of universities, academic networks and scientific research centers with 812 members from 104 countries that use the French language. Its mission is to support scientific excellence with a view to fostering societal development. In the Asia - Pacific region, AUF operates in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Vanuatu with 72 universities and research institutes.
Implementing a project assigned by the National Foreign Language Project 2020, NTU has organized a training course for English teachers from December 25th - 30th, 2015. The training focused on action research and team teaching with foreign teachers. Representatives of the Project 2020's administration board, leaders of NTU, Vietnamese and foreign experts and 120 English teachers from high schools, colleges and universities in the Central regions and Highlands have attended the training. The training aimed at strengthening research capacity with a focus on action research and enhancing skills to team teach with native English speaking teachers. The participants had the opportunities to review key ideas and learn advanced research skills of action research, explore new ideas and contemporary paradigms in EFL teaching worldwide, as well as exchange expertise and share experience for problem solving in real teaching scenarios. They have also discussed to recommend a course of action for school administrators to create support or policy change to promote action research and innovative practice in EFL teaching and learning.

Over the two days of the meeting, several activities were carried out in parallel on different issues of the project. Specifically, in the meeting of the Steering Committee, the members listened to 2014 activity reports, the progress of the programs in 2015 and planned activities for 2016 in both projects regarding Aquaculture and Food Technology. Many issues of concern were discussed such as the MSc and PhD programs, admission requirements and the lecturer’s selection criteria for the Master degree program in Food Technology, feedback on staff’s professional development and many other important issues.
Well before the event, tens of thousands of pupils and students waited to meet and interact with Vietnamese famous singers like Ho Ngoc Ha, Toc Tien, Son Tung M-TP and other singers in “The Voice Vietnam 2015”. In response to the student's affection, in spite of the rain, the singers still sang with their whole hearts and energy to create a vibrant musical feast. The vocalists, with different styles, made the show more interesting, mixing with the trendy electronic sound of DJ Wang Chen and other members from Saigon DMC.

October 19th, 2015: The Summer Volunteer Campaign Gala 2015 was held by NTU’s Youth Union and Student Association in the campus of NTU. Mr. Vo Hoan Hai – Secretary of Khanh Hoa Youth Union, Dr. Quach Hoai Nam – Vice Rector of NTU and volunteers attended the event.

Three main activities in the Summer Volunteer Campaigns presented at the Gala 2015: Students with the national high school exam, Green Summer Campaign and Go-to-school Support Campaign. More than 1,000 young members participated in many useful activities. They mobilized free accommodation, meals, and drinks for contestants (worth more than 335 million VND). They helped to build organic vegetable gardens at Anh Dao Charitable House (Ninh Hoa town) and a playground for children in Ta Luong village (To Hap town, Khanh Son district). They also installed a solar energy system, clean water storage and built soccer and volleyball fields in Diep Son island (Van Thanh commune, Van Ninh district - worth more than 300 million VND). This campaign is a good chance for young people to mature and devote their youth to the society.

“FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE”
BLOOD DONATION DAY 2015

December 6th, 2015: The NTU's Youth Union collaborated with the Khanh Hoa Red Cross Association, Khanh Hoa Youth Union, Khanh Hoa Hematology – the Blood Transfusion Center and Prudential Vietnam Life Insurance Company held a Blood Donation Day 2015.

With the message “For a Bright Future”, more than 600 staff and students participated in the Blood Donation Day 2015 and donated 300 units of blood.

After tours in Ho Chi Minh and Can Tho, on the evening of November 29th, the event “Green Day - OPPO Neo7” was held on the campus of NTU with the participation of nearly 20,000 students.
VIETNAM TEACHER’S DAY NOVEMBER 20TH

On the occasion of 33 years of Vietnam Teacher’s Day (20/11/1982 - 20/11/2015), from November 9th – 19th 2015, NTU’s Staff Union organized a Sports Competition. This created a useful playground to improve health and to strengthen the relationships among staff.

There were a total of 4 sports (mini football, tug of war, sack jumping, and badminton) categorizing in 8 events for men, women and men-women combined. After 10 days of competition, the organizers awarded the winner teams.

GIVE PRESENTS TO TEACHERS, STUDENTS IN DAK NONG PROVINCE

October 23rd, 2015: a delegation of NTU visited Luong The Vinh Primary School, Dak Mol wards, Dak Song district, Dak Nong province. In this visit, the NTU’s representatives gave 25 million VND for building public houses for teachers and 25 presents (200,000 VND/present) to teachers and pupils in poor families. This is an activity that expresses the sympathy and humanity of NTU towards disadvantageous communities.

SPORTS COMPETITION FOR UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

The Sports Competition hosted by NTU took place at NTU from November 24th - 28th, 2015. Nine universities and colleges in the South Central and Highlands participated in the event. More than 150 staff and students competed in two sports with 7 sets of medals in mini soccer for men and badminton for men and women.

At the end of the event, the organizers awarded the winners. NTU achieved 3 gold medals in badminton men’s doubles (under 40 years old), mini football men for students and mini football men for staff.
New courses

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER COURSE

International Summer Course is an interesting educational activity organized by Nha Trang University for many students from foreign countries including the United States, South Korea, the Czech Republic, Thailand, etc. These special programs provide unique educational experiences to participants in an exclusive context bestowed by the natural beauty of Nha Trang Bay, its vibrant culture, and friendly inhabitants. The courses focus on Tropical Marine Aquaculture, Tropical Marine Biodiversity and People and Livelihoods in South Central Vietnam. The content of the courses is designed based on the request of the learners. Please check the following link for more details.

http://www.ntu.edu.vn/internationalsummer/index.html

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MARINE ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

International master program in Marine Ecosystem-Based Management and Climate Change is offered at NTU. The program is of high quality, applying current world knowledge in marine ecosystems management and climate change. This program is a collaboration involving several well-known universities (University of Tromso and University of Bergen, Norway; University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka) in addition to affiliated universities (Auburn University, USA; Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia and others in Asia Pacific). This 2 year master’s degree program is taught in English and the diploma is granted by NTU. Tuition waiver and discounts up to 50% of dormitory fees are available for any candidates. Full scholarships are available for excellent applicants and those from minority groups. The scholarship consists of a monthly allowance and a yearly allowance for books and materials.

- **Eligibilities:** Applicants are required to have Bachelor degree(s); A minimum of TOEFL iBT 60, IELTS 5.0 or equivalent. English requirement is waived for candidates with BA degrees taught in English or those from countries speaking English as a native or official language.

- **Evaluation procedure:** Vietnamese applicants will take an NTU's admission test. International applicants will be evaluated based on application profiles.

- **Starting date for study:** March 7th

- **Contact:** Nha Trang University, 02 Nguyen Dinh Chieu St., Nha Trang, Vietnam.
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Upcoming events

1. **Opening of the international master’s program on Marine Ecosystem-based Management & Climate Change (March 16th, 2016)**

2. **The accession ceremony admitting NTU to the international linkage program on tropical fisheries (February 29th, 2016)**