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ULIS IN FOCUS

The Quarterly News Bulletin of the University of Languages and International Studies - VNU, Hanoi, Vietnam



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FROM THE EDITORS

Our dear readers,



The second quarter of 2020 has gone by. Three months full of events and activities. Most notably, the University successfully organized the 19th ULIS Party Congress, while various communication actions were conducted for student recruitment to all training levels. Other highlights include the Annual National Conference on "Linguistics, Language Teaching and International Studies in Vietnam"; good precaution against the Covid-19 pandemic maintained; the University's work plan timely adjusted to fit the general context; 04 action programs to implement the Resolution of the 19th ULIS Party Congress to be developed; successful completion of the academic year 2019-2020 despite numerous difficulties, ensuring that QH.2016 students graduate on time, etc.

In the third quarter of 2020, the University continues to ensure successful recruitment of students to undergraduate programs, improve ULIS Wifi system, adjust the curricular of in-service English courses, and organize ULIS annual review conference of the 2019-2020 academic year.

This summer, ULIS will have to say goodbye to K50 graduates and welcome K54. We wish all teachers, students and partners good health and enjoyable time with excitement and fun at ULIS.

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I/ PROMINENT ACTIVITIES OF ULIS LEADERS

1. Meeting with seniors of Microsoft Vietnam

On May 19th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held the meeting with seniors of Microsoft Vietnam to review activities during the Covid-19 pandemic and discuss potential cooperation activities between the two sides.

At the beginning of the meeting, representatives of functional departments introduced and shared general information of ULIS, especially its training activities.

At the meeting, President Do Tuan Minh, on behalf of the University, presented a letter of gratitude to Mr. Phung Viet Thang – Microsoft Vietnam's Sales Director for the support and assistance of Microsoft Vietnam for the University's activities during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Representing Microsoft Vietnam, Mr. Phung Viet Thang, was very impressed with the University's online activities and fully supported ULIS ICT ideas. Also in the meeting, Mr. Le Phan Long, Education Solutions & Customer Manager of Microsoft Vietnam delivered a presentation about the education transformation framework at a higher level.



Read more HIERE

2. Meeting with Director of Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the International Organization La Francophonie

On May 27th, 2020, ULIS held the meeting with Mr. Chékou Oussouman – Director of Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the International Organization La Francophonie.



At the meeting, President Do Tuan Minh said that ULIS was honored to welcome Mr. Chékou Oussouman – Director of the Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the International Organization La Francophonie.

Mr. Chékou Oussouman extended his thanks to the warm welcome from ULIS and expressed his pleasure to visit the University. He also expressed his desire to actively support ULIS's French training through activities such as job recommendation, internship opportunities, training support and French culture promotion, amongst others.

II/ COOPERATION & DEVELOPMENT

1. MOU signing ceremony and commencement of in-service course in English for 28 students of Hanoi University of Home Affairs

On May 28th, 2020, at Hanoi University of Home Affairs, the signing ceremony of cooperation agreement between ULIS – VNU and Hanoi University of Home Affairs (HUHA) and commencement of the in-service course in English for 28 lecturers of HUHA were held.

At the ceremony, leaders of the two universities signed an official memorandum of understanding to establish a long-term relationship in promoting their educational cooperation.

Delivering his speech at the ceremony, President Do Tuan Minh spoke highly of the potential cooperation between the two universities. The President shared his desire to cooperate with HUHA in foreign language training and other cooperative activities.

On behalf of Hanoi University of Home Affairs, President Nguyen Ba Chien said that this partnership would definitely help the two universities develop stronger. "HUHA's aspiration to improve the capacity of its staff in carrying out international tasks has been expressed through the signing ceremony today," he added.

Also in the cerermony, the representatives of the two universities presented bachelor's degrees in English to

28 lecturers of HUHA and awarded certificates of merit to high achievers.



Read more HERE

2. Promoting cooperation with the Embassy of France

On May 26th, 2020, ULIS – VNU held the meeting with the Embassy of France in Vietnam led by Mr. Étienne Rolland-Piègue – Counselor for Cooperative and Cultural Activities.



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At the meeting, Mr. Étienne Rolland-Piègue spoke highly of the University's French training activities. Acknowledging the strong cooperation between the Embassy and ULIS, he also proposed a number of cooperative activities that could be carried out between the two sides in the coming time with the aim of enhancing this relationship.

Thanks to the support of the Embassy of France in Vietnam, especially for the activities of the French Space at ULIS, President Do Tuan Minh expressed his desire to continue conducting many cooperative activities between the two sides to make contributions to the promotion of the French language and culture in Vietnam.

3. Can Tho Catfish Basketball Club presented 5,000 antibacterial masks to ULIS

On April 27th, 2020, ULIS - VNU received 5,000 antibacterial masks from Catfish Basketball Club.

At the ceremony, representatives of Can Tho Catfish Basketball Club presented 5,000 masks to representatives of the University.

Speaking on behalf of the club, Mr. Le Xuan Minh shared that Can Tho Catfish was very honored to contribute to supporting the prevention of the Covid-19 pandemic at ULIS. Speaking highly of ULIS's contributions to the country's education, he expected that the University would continue to grow strongly in the future.



Vice President Nguyen Xuan Long extended his thanks to Can Tho Catfish Club and expressed his happiness over achievements of the club over time. He also hoped that the two institutions would have more cooperative activities in the near future.

Read more HERE

4. Closing ceremony of the Vietnamese language and culture course for officials of Lao National Assembly in 2020

On May 8th, 2020, ULIS – VNU held the closing ceremony of the Vietnamese language & culture course for 10 officials of Lao National Assembly.

Delivering his speech at the ceremony, Vice President Lam Quang Dong congratulated the 10 students on their completion of the course. Speaking highly of their learning efforts, the Vice President hoped that the students would continue to learn Vietnamese to devote to Lao National Assembly and their country.

Sharing difficulties in training during the Covid-19 pandemic, Ms. Trinh Giang Huong, Director of the Organization and Personnel Department of Vietnam National Assembly acknowledged the enthusiasm and innovation in teaching of the University and the study efforts of all the students.



At the ceremony, Vice President Lam Quang Dong and Ms. Trinh Giang Huong, representing the two institutions, presented the certificates of course completion to the 10 students.

International students shared experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the study and general activities of not only Vietnamese students but also foreign students at ULIS. However, the enthusiastic support from the University has created an unforgettable experience for international students. Let's find out how international students feel these days.

LA LAP SOAI – CHINA

We are international students. Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, we could not return home this Lunar New Year. However, during this period, ULIS has showed us warmth and care.

During the outbreak of Covid-19, we were deeply moved at several visits by ULIS leaders and teachers. Although we could not return home, we still felt warm like home.

The teachers also supported us a lot in our campus life. During the Covid-19 pandemic, no restaurants were open and food was limited, but the teachers provided us with a lot of food such as eggs, chung cakes, milk and others. In addition, they promptly kept us updated. We are very thankful for their enthusiastic help.

Although we could not go to class, we are now used to the habit of learning online. This is a new method and no one has studied this way before. Our teachers must also try to get used to with this method. The pandemic has not been completely over. Therfore, to protect our health, we still have to study online. We hope the pandemic to end sooner so that we can meet our friends and teachers earlier.

In Vietnam, many people care about us. We feel very happy, satisfied and thankful.

KIM TAEWOO – KOREA

I came back to Hanoi at the end of February. When I first heard that the pandemic also hit Vietnam, I was quite scared. The Government of Vietnam has prevented the pandemic through a 'home-based isolation' approach. I thus studied all of my subjects online. Moreover, I won't go out unless I have to buy necessities like food. Despite difficulties, I am still happy and active in my study. ULIS teachers were helpful and the dormitory managers also bought me food and water.

I would like to extend my thanks to ULIS teachers for their dedication.



KHOANH KIEU NKHAT KHA – UKRAINE

I am Khoanh Kieu Nkhat Kha, an international student from Ukraine. I am currently a member of 18E15, majoring in the English Language. During one and a half years of studying at ULIS, I had many

difficulties with general subjects because I did not know how to register. Gradually, I got used to studying with the schedule arranged by the University. I now understand how to register for courses on the portal and follow my schedule.

After Tet holiday, all students should have gone to school to continue their programs. However, because of the pandemic, we could not go to school. Anyhow, we could still continue to study online through Zoom and Microsoft Teams. I feel that online learning is quite effective because:



• Students who live far away can attend classes on time without fear of being late due to traffic jams.

• I found it interesting and focused when studying online because it feels like I am learning face to face with my teachers without being afraid of missing any important information and no one is bothering me when I'm online.

• While teaching and studying online, teachers have created the best possible conditions for students. It seems to me that they have put great efforts into the lessons. I also find that online learning is not as tiring as it is in face-to-face classes.

I have had an enjoyable online learning experience because I must complete my exercises to meet my deadlines in a constant manner. My thanks will definitely go to all of my teachers who made it possible for me and my friends to learn and pass all the subjects.

LI LIN – CHINA

In the past two months, Covid 19, a new pandemic, unexpectedly appeared in our life and rapidly spread around the world. As a result, some factories are closed, some companies are indebted and some people have passed away forever after days of strong resilience against the desease.

Perhaps, 2020 is an extraordinary year and the people living in this year are also an incredible generation.

In this situation, life of every single person changed greatly. We, Vietnam-based international students, are not exceptions when we cannot stay with our families and do nothing but encourage our parents to stay optimistic.

Because of this pandemic, Hanoi is quite deserted. Not many people come to schools. Yet the landscape of ULIS remains as it has always been.

Honestly, I am very fortunate to have experienced difficult days with the help of ULIS and social organizations. We receive many gifts. ULIS teachers are also very concerned about our physical and mental health, which helped us solve problems during this period. Therefore, I can have a deep understanding about the solidarity of Vietnamese people, which enables the country to effectively control the spread of this pandemic.

Summer has come. The weather of Hanoi begins to turn hot and our lives gradually return to 'a new normal'. This good result has been made possible by efforts of the entire people and society of Vietnam. Once again, I would like to extend my thanks to ULIS teachers and the people I met in Vietnam this time around.

China and Vietnam are friendly neighbors. As a Chinese student studying at ULIS, I hope the friendship of the two countries will be deeper and sustainable for years to come.





III/ PROMINENT ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY

1. 2020 National Conference "Researching and Teaching Foreign Languages, Linguistics and International Studies in Vietnam"

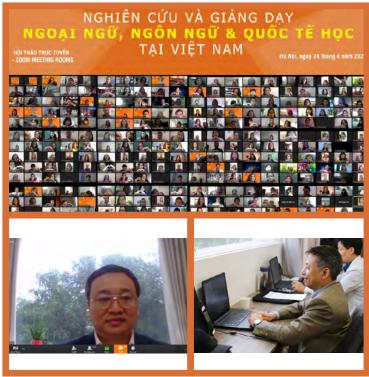
On April 24th, 2020, the University of Languages and International Studies – Vietnam National University, Hanoi (ULIS – VNU) held the 2020 National Conference "Researching and Teaching Foreign Languages, Linguistics and International Studies in Vietnam" on an online platform. This is an annual activity co-organized by ULIS-VNU, the University of Foreign Language Studies – The University of Da Nang (UFLS – UDN) and University of Foreign Languages, Hue University (HUCFL).

Addressing the opening of the conference, President Do Tuan Minh said that this year's conference was held at a very special time, as the whole country and the world were working together to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. The President extended his thanks for the preparation efforts of the Organizers and technical support team over the past month.

On behalf of VNU leaders, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vu Van Tich – Director of Science and Technology Department highly appreciated the significance of this Conference.

This year, the conference received over 130 quality papers by scholars from numerous agencies, universities and research institutes along the country.

At the plenary session, 3 keynote speeches were presented, namely:



- "Studying Intercultural Communication: Which approach?" by Prof. Nguyen Hoa;
- "Language of Science Textbooks in Vietnamese Secondary Schools: A Transitivity Analysis of 7 Lessons (texts) of Biology 8" by Prof. Hoang Van Van; and
- "Innovating teaching methods in educational discourse in Vietnam" by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Van Canh.

After the plenary session, 16 parallel sessions went on with the participation of all the delegates and 75 papers were presented in total.

The 2020 National Conference "Researching and Teaching Foreign Languages, Linguistics and International Studies in Vietnam" came to an end after a dynamic working day and attracted the participation of over 700 delegates.

2. Tribute ceremony for ULIS readers in the 2019-2020 academic year organized

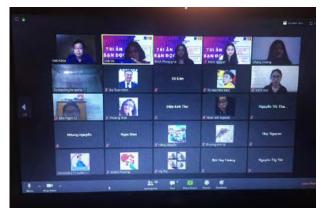
On April 10th, 2020, the Center for Information Technology, Communication and Learning Resources, ULIS – VNU organized the tribute ceremony for ULIS readers in the 2019-2020 academic year.

The online ceremony featured various fascinating activities: a seminar on "Sharing experience in reading and writing book introductions", prizes awarded to active readers in the fourth quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020, and discussions with readers.

In the seminar, the speakers shared their experience on reading and writing book introductions. They are very keen on reading books to serve their study, academic research and entertainment.

The ceremony later honored students who had actively used the library services.

The last part of the ceremony was for discussions and exchanges. Students were very eager to share their own experience in reading as well as their thoughts and suggestions to library services.



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3. The 19th Party Congress of ULIS -VNU, tenure 2020-2025

After a period of proactive preparation, on May 7th – 8th, 2020, the 19th Party Congress of ULIS – VNU, tenure 2020-2025 took place at Nguyen Van Dao hall. The Congress aimed to gather ULIS top-minds for reviewing the implementation of the Resolution of the 18th ULIS-VNU Party Congress, tenure 2015-2020, electing the 19th ULIS Party Executive Committee, electing delegates to attend the 6th VNU Party Congress and making intellectual contributions to the Draft Documents of the Party Congresses at upper levels.

The Congress took place within 3 sessions. At the Congress, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the 18th Party Corps, Mr. Do Tuan Minh – Secretary of ULIS Party Executive Committee, ULIS President presented the Political Report.

The report clearly stated that in the tenure 2015-2020, ULIS-VNU Party Corps basically achieved the set goals and successfully completed the implementation of the Resolution of the 18th Party Congress. The Party Committee directed all activities of the University in a comprehensive manner.

These achievements were attributed to the effective guidines from VNU Party Corps and others, the support and cooperation of



departments inside and outside VNU. The University's Party Cell had a high sense of responsibility and provided drastic and effective directions for all activities with the determination and exemplary roles of numerous party members.

In the tenure 2020-2025, the goals of the Party Corps is to improve the leadership capacity of the Party Cell at all levels; develop ULIS-VNU in a sustainable way to become a practical research-oriented and prestigious university in the region in the fields of foreign language education, linguistics, international studies and related social



sciences and humanities, making positive contributions to the country's development.

Speaking at the Congress, Mr. Nguyen Kim Son – Secretary of VNU Party Cell, VNU President acknowledged, praised and congratulated achievements of the 18th ULIS Party Corps.

The Congress discussed and approved the Political Report of the 18th Party Corps' Executive Committee, and elected the Executive Committee of the 19th tenure, which consisted of 15 members, before electing the Standing Committee, the Inspection Committee, Secretary and Deputy Secretary of ULIS Party Corps.

The Congress listened to comments from affiliated cells under ULIS Party Corps on scientific research, training, student affairs, domestic cooperation, etc. The Congress also elected the delegation to attend the 6th Congress of VNU Party Corps and made contributions to the Draft Documents of higher Party Congresses.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the 19th Party Corps, tenure 2020 – 2025, Mr. Do Tuan Minh thanked Mr. Nguyen Kim Son – Secretary of VNU Party Committee and VNU President for his guidance. He affirmed that the entire ULIS Party Corps would unite and persist with its goals to promote the spirit of Autonomy – Creativity – Efficiency and successfully implement the tasks set out in the Resolution of the 19th Congress.

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4. Seminar on "Solutions for online assessment at ULIS-VNU"

In order to organize examination and assessment of all modules in the second semester of the 2019-2020 academic year, on April 12th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held an online seminar under the topic "Solutions for online assessment at ULIS-VNU".

Right from the first weeks of social distancing due to the complicated situation of Covid-19 pandemic, ULIS lecturers instantly conducted online teaching via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet or similar softwares to ensure everything went on as 'the new normal'.

When the end of the second semester of the 2019-2020 academic year was drawing near, such online training necessitated online examination and assessment which met the same basic requirements as those of the offline mode, including high confidentiality, strong interaction and high efficiency.

The seminar lasted more than 4 hours, attracting nearly 250 teachers. In the seminar, all speakers shared the current methods of online assessment, together with their practical implementation experience at the University.

Concluding the seminar, President Do Tuan Minh highly appreciated the organizers' efforts, particularly the quality of all the presentations. Aiming to reduce students' workload, requirements and expectations, he asked functional departments to join training units in building and issuing guidelines on the organization of simple, effective and feasible online examination and assessment.

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5. Seminar "Flexibility on family management"

On April 11th, 2020, ULIS – VNU held an online seminar on "Flexibility in family management."

The seminar was organized to support delegates to fulfill the role of family management and education for children. Attending the seminar were nearly 200 participants, including representatives of the Governing Board, teachers and parents of students at UMS – ULIS.

At the seminar, Dr. Cherry Vu, an international consultant, who has helped many businesses and organizations successfully apply flexible thinking to management, shared the method of utilizing flexible thinking in order to regulate relationships and behaviors among family members.

This mindset is highly valuable for it is not only effective for businesses but also helpful for individuals to apply in all contexts of life. Dr. Cherry Vu made teachers laugh, learn and ponder about their own relationships, family, love and life. Teachers learned how to overcome challenges posed to parents when educating their children, how to change themselves, how to treat their children and how to apply the basic values of the True, the Good and the Beautiful to life to help their families.

The seminar attracted nearly 200 participants.

Read more HIERE

6. TOP 18 research projects conducted by ULIS students in the 2019-2020 academic year shortlisted

On April 15th, 2020, ULIS – VNU held an online conference to assess research projects conducted by ULIS students.

Students' research is an annual activity organized by the University to develop students' research capacity, helping them improve skills and explore topics of their interests. Normally, assessment and awards of students' research at ULIS-level are held in the ULIS Students' Festival of Innovation – Research – Entrepreneurship (FIRE). This year, due to impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, the activity took place in an online platform.

In the 2019-2020 academic year, 18 top research projects carried out by 37 students were shortlisted to the university-level round. This year's research topics were quite diverse, including language and culture teaching/ learning as well as applied linguistics.

While being the first of its kind, the 2019-2020 university-level online Student Research Conference received positive feedback.



7. Seminar "Mindfulness: Application in work and life"

On April 18th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held a seminar on "Mindfulness: Application in work and life".

Taking place on an online platform, the seminar was organized to help the university's lecturers gain more knowledge of Mindfulness, its development and application in modern life.

At the seminar, Ms. Ho Gia Anh Le – the keynote speaker talked about Mindfulness, the values of Mindfulness in education and modern life. Mindfulness has now been included in the curriculum of many major universities around the world. In addition, the speaker shared her story about applying Mindfulness to teaching children at the Happy School in Ha Tinh, where she is working as Chair of its Advisory Council.

The participating lecturers gave their views on Mindfulness and their experience in applying Mindfulness in practice. They all agreed on undeniably great values of Mindfulness.

Concluding the seminar, President Do Tuan Minh applauded that the seminar really yielded great results.

In the time to come, ULIS Happy Journey Club will be officially launched. This is a forum for staff and lecturers to share their experience about mindfulness and its application in teaching.

Read more HIERE

8. Opening ceremony of in-service course in English for managers of the University of Transport and Communications

On May 9th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held the opening ceremony of the in-service course in English for managers of the University of Transport and Communications (UTC).

On behalf of UTC, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyen Van Long made an opening remark, "We acknowledge that English will be the key for management, learning, teaching, research and technology transfer."

UTC expects the class to be highly effective and finish on time. After 2 years, UTC will have 47 teachers added to the team who are capable of handling the school's work related to foreign languages.



9. Commencement for students of in-service course in English at Vinh Phuc Center for Continuing Education

On 11th May, in Vinh Yen City, ULIS-VNU in collaboration with the Center for Continuing Education of Vinh Phuc Province held the closing ceremony of the in-service course in English for 33 students.

Speaking at the ceremony, Vice President Nguyen Xuan Long and Dr. Le Gia Thanh – Deputy Director in charge of Vinh Phuc Center for Continuing Education acknowledged the efforts of all the students for successfully completing the course.

On behalf of the 33 new graduates, Mr. Nguyen Duc Trung expressed his deep gratitude to the Governing Board of ULIS-VNU and Vinh Phuc Center for Continuing Education for providing them with the best conditions to study.



Read more HIERE

10. Seminar "Learner intake and care"

On May 14th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held a seminar on "Learner intake and care".

The speaker of the seminar was Dr. Hoang Thi Bao Thoa, admission expert and softskills trainer of VNU University of Economics and Business (UEB). She is also the representative of the USA's Hunter Global in Vietnam.



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At the seminar, Dr. Hoang Thi Bao Thoa shared her and UEB's experience in student admission, especially with fast-track and international partnership programs.

In addition, the lecturers participating in the seminar practiced a group exercise to introduce 5 outstanding advantages of a training program. With comments from the speaker, all departments can use their propucts made in the seminar in ULIS comunication work on student admission.

11. ULIS commencement in March 2020

On May 18th, 2020, ULIS – VNU solemnly held the commencement in March 2020.

The ceremony was attended by Vice President Ngo Minh Thuy, representatives of ULIS departments, representatives of 79 graduates and their relatives.

In her opening speech, Vice President Ngo Minh Thuy extended her congratulations to all 79 graduates. She also presented the bachelor's degrees to those students.

This is the 1st commencement in 2020.



12. Commencement of in-service course in English for staff of Thuongmai University

On 21st May, ULIS-VNU in collaboration with Thuongmai University held the closing ceremony of the in-service course in English for 65 students.

Speaking at the ceremony, Vice President Ngo Minh Thuy and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Thi Bich Loan – Vice President of Thuongmai University acknowledged the efforts of all the students to successfully complete the course.

Also at the ceremony, representatives of the new graduates extended their thanks to the Governing Boards of the two universities, teachers and functional departments for offering all favorable conditions for them to successfully complete the course and hoped that the cooperation between the two universities would be more and more fruitful and sustainable.



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13. More than 40 lecturers participated in 2nd training course on Innovative and Entrepreneurial Educators

On May 28th, 2020, ULIS – VNU in collaboration with IDEAL held the 2nd training course on innovative and entrepreneurial educators for ULIS lecturers.

The training course was organized to help teachers / lecturers change their mindsets towards being ready to take challenges as an opportunity and tolerant of diversity and differences; develop the ability to inspire and advise students on starting a business; master teamwork skills and guide students to effectively work in teams; solve problems in education and in all other fields in line with the scientific order of design thinking; develop the capability to protect their own intellectual property rights and advise students on such rights.



Speaking at the opening ceremony, President Do Tuan Minh spoke highly of the success of the previous training course on "Innovative and Entrepreneurial Educators".

The second course on Innovative and Entrepreneurial Educators for ULIS lecturers took place on May 28th – 29th, 2020 and June 11th – 12th, 2020 with more than 40 participants.

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14. 4th industrial revolution, "say and do", "awareness and action"

On June 4th, 2020, ULIS – VNU organized a training session on 4th industrial revolution, "say and do", "awareness and action".

The training is part of a wide range of activities to foster leadership and management skills for ULIS's key staff.

The speaker of the training was Dr. Le Doan Hop, Honorary President of the Vietnam Digital Media Association; he was honored with the title of Outstanding Science and Technology Intellectual in 2019; former member of the 9th and 10th Party's Central Committee; former Minister of Information and Communications.

Nowadays, Vietnam and the world are amidst the 4th industrial revolution which has entirely transformed the way of life, work and communication of the mankind. The center of this is information technology and Internet of Things.

The 4th industrial revolution is a speedy, miraculous, spectacular phenomenon far beyond human imagination. Its presense has changed society in general and left strong influence on education in particular. Therefore, we need to take advantage of this opportunity for applications to life and work.

The program helped teachers get very valuable and practical information from a speaker with extensive knowledge and experience in the field of technology.



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15. Online training worshop on digital communication for ULIS staff held

In order to support its departments and staff to understand the current modern media trends, grasp effective communication skills on websites and common social networks, ULIS – VNU organized an online worskhop on digital communication on April 1st, 2020.

The honored guest speaker at the workshop was Mr. Vu The Cuong – a lecturer in Electronic and Multimedia Journalism at the Academy of Journalism and Communication.

At the workshop, the speaker shared knowledge about digital media in the context of the 4th industrial revolution with emphasis on social media and web-based communications. He also answered relevant questions.

Adderssing the workshop, Vice President Nguyen Xuan Long highly appreciated Mr. Cuong's sharing and suggestions and hoped that all ULIS staff would continue to learn and improve their skills in this field, contributing to the enhancement of ULIS trademark.

The workshop was attended and applauded by more than 80 people.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Lan Trung composed a song as a tribute to the frontline doctors in the fight against Covid-19 pandemic

"I have not left the hospital for home tonight As it is the frontline against Covid we have to fight"

– the lyrics of the song "Néu em chưa vé" "If I have not returned home" express the feelings of the medical staff on duty at the frontline fighting against COVID-19.

Like other places around the globe, the COVID-19 pandemic was becoming ever more complicated in Vietnam. All must join hands in the fight against the pandemic, especially the frontline doctors and medical staff, which gave an inspiration to

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Lan Trung – ULIS former Vice President to compose the song "If I have not returned home."

In a series of songs supporting the fight against COVID-19, "If I have not returned home" was a rare song that expressed the emotions of the medical staff who were fighting against the pandemic days and nights. Each line is filled with their hidden feelings. Because of the pandemic, they could not go home to their beloved.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Lan Trung said that this was also a song with specially deep emotion, a rare 'bass note' among his musical compositions. Talking about the context in which this song was composed, he said, 'I heard a song and saw a father holding his child and waving to a doctor or nurse who was standing in the quarantine area. At that time, a friend coincidentally sent me a poem with the first line "If I have not returned home" and that inspired me to take the guitar to compose this song.'

Doctors and nurses calling home, or falling asleep on tables are all impressive images that resulted in this song of his.

'The lyrics in this song are very concise yet encapsulate my feelings towards the "white-coat" soldiers. Some of my family's members and friends are doctors, so I listen to their own stories. I want us to express our gratitude to these people. Let's join hands in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Lan Trung added.



IV/ PROMINENT ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENTS

1. Closing ceremony of first Laotian language class and award ceremony of Laotian speaking contest

On May 18th, 2020, ULIS-VNU held the closing ceremony of the 1st Laotian language class and awarded prizes to prize-winners in the Laotian speaking contest.

At the ceremony, Ms. Nguyen Thi Van Chi extended her thanks to the students for choosing to study Laotian as the second foreign language. "I hope all of you will have a wonderful school year and inspire junior students to be more interested in learning Laotian language", she said.

Moreover, the teachers also awarded prizes to students who won the Laotian Speaking Contest held to celebrate the end of the first Laotian course.



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2. Over 40 staff participated in training session on communication writing and photography skills

On May 20th, 2020, ULIS – VNU held the training session on communication writing and photography skills for its staff.

This is the second session in a wide range of training courses on communication with the aim of developing professional skills for staff and making contributions to the promotion of communication effectiveness within the University.

Addressing the ceremony, Vice President Nguyen Xuan Long held the role of communication in high regard in the University's development. Therefore, he expected the staff to accumulate much knowledge from the training to apply to the communication work at their units, contributing to the development and promotion of ULIS profile.



At the training session, the speaker shared necessary knowledge about the skills in writing news and taking pictures for communication articles on websites.

The training session on the skills in writing articles and taking pictures for communication attracted more than 40 staff from all departments.

3. Director of Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the International Organization La Francophonie meets students of the Faculty of French Language & Culture

On June 3rd, 2020, ULIS – VNU was honored to welcome Mr. Chékou Oussouman – Director of Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the International Organization La Francophonie (OIF) to a meeting with students of the Faculty of French Language & Culture.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Dinh Hong Van, Dean of the Faculty, extended his thanks to Mr. Chékou Oussouman for visiting ULIS and having a meeting with students of the Faculty. This is an opportunity for students of the Faculty to learn about OIF and improve their French.

During the program, students were introduced to OIF and its 50th Anniversary.



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Prominent achievements in the second quarter of 2020:

– The National Conference on "Studying and Teaching Foreign Languages, Linguistics and International Studies in Vietnam" went online for the first time with 700 participants.

- Good precaution against the Covid-19 pandemic maintained; the University's work plan timely adjusted to fit the general context.

-04 action programs to implement the Resolution of the 19th ULIS Party Congress to be developed.

– Successful completion of the academic year 2019-2020 despite numerous difficulties, ensuring that QH.2016 students graduate on time.

- Preparation for enrollment at all levels.



Crucial tasks in the third quarter of 2020:

To be launched:

 The project "Reformation of students' academic activities in the period 2020-2025;

– 04 action programs to implement Resolution of the 19th ULIS Party Congress;

- the plan of ICT application in university administration and training in the period 2020-2025;

– A training course for all teachers;

– Another training course on ICT application to blended teaching and learning activities.

To be continued and/or organized:

- the training program to improve management and leadership capacities for key staff;

- improvement of ULIS Wifi system;
- student intakes at all levels;
- adjustment of the curricular of in-service English courses;
- expansion of students' space;
- ULIS annual review conference of the 2019-2020 academic year.





Center for Information Technology, Communication & Learning Resources



