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For the Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City, the year 2010 - the last year of the implementation of the Mid-term Strategy (2006-2010), has ended with remarkable achievements, laying a solid foundation for a new development stage.

After 15 years of construction and development, a system of leading Vietnamese universities has been firmly set up with a pool of reputable scientists and faculty members, good students and modern campuses. More importantly, such a system exists a high degree of autonomy and accountability, capable of equally integrating into other universities in the region and beyond. Committed to standardizing the quality for an international integration, VNU-HCM has conducted a strict scheme towards regional (AUN) and international educational standards. The university-wide arrangements for curricula, facilities, faculty and academic administration have made a difference in the mindset, academic activities and educational outcomes. The affiliates have passed the internal assessment of VNU-HCM and the external assessment of Vietnamese education system as well as of the region. There are three undergraduate programs of VNU-HCM which successfully meet the ASEAN standards, including: the Information Technology programs at the University of Science and International University, and the Electronics and Telecommunication program at the University of Technology. The greater achievement, however, is the awareness and acknowledgement of the necessity for a quality assurance and assessment among VNU-HCM. A quality culture is becoming a character of VNU-HCM.

The value of a university is recognized by its initiatives and contributions to the treasure of knowledge, science and community service. Towards the vision of establishing a leading research university in basic science, natural science, social sciences, humanities, technology, management and healthcare, VNU-HCM have implemented long-term scientific research programs which gather excellent groups of researchers and contribute to the establishment of specialized centers of research. The number and the quality of scientific publications for the past five years have reinforced the value of VNU-HCM, through which the science strengths such as biotechnology, cell technology, electronics-automation, microelectronics, nano-composite materials and Southern
Vietnamese study (including literature, culture, anthropology and archeology), etc. are also acknowledged.

In addition to the acclaimed values of science and educational quality, VNU-HCM has promoted the development of social and international relations in a sustainable and effective way. The University has affirmed its accountability with Ho Chi Minh City, the South Eastern region, the Mekong Delta, Central Highlands and the South Central Coast through programs for scientific applications and human resource development.

Taking advantage of its own resources as well as international cooperative programs (JICA-Japanese, CIDA-Canada, Sweden, U.S.A...) and joint research and education with leading research institutes of the U.S.A (e.g. UCLA, Duke, Rutgers, Illinois, etc.), France (e.g. Paris Tech, CEA, Orsay University, etc.) and Japan (e.g. Tokyo, Waseda, etc.), VNU-HCM has confirmed its active and strategic integration.

The mentioned achievements would not be gained without the efforts of the whole system.

Looking towards the future, VNU-HCM Council has circulated the Strategic Plan 2011-2015 whose objective is "to offer the best conditions and environment for the affiliates to fully develop their competitive advantages in a diverse but intertwined system".

The VNU-HCM Strategic Plan 2011-2015 has identified significant strategies applicable to the system. These strategies are developed to overcome the current weaknesses, offer the best environment for the affiliates' development, take advantage of the strengths and create the added value through synergy.
- Synergy management is the first strategy in order to enhance the power of synergy, offering a good mechanism and collectiveness among VNU-HCM.
- The second strategy is to establish VNU-HCM culture which is seen as a driving force for the consolidation and development of VNU-HCM. The affiliates will grow based on this culture while maintaining their own strengths and traditions.
- The third strategy is the improvement of the educational quality to meet international standards, which reflects VNU-HCM's dedication to fulfilling the demands and missions as expected by the nation.
- Development of a strong university with quality research is the forth strategy for VNU-HCM scientists.
- The fifth strategy focuses on developing the resources of VNU-HCM, from human resource to financial conditions.

In order to fulfill the strategic plan, how to manage and get people fully involved in the strategies is the concern of VNU-HCM leaders and its affiliates. To this end, the following breakthroughs have been determined: improvement of management, construction of facilities, and most importantly, development of human resources who are capable, well-qualified and dedicated to the education and training.

The strategic plan represents the will, goals and tasks of VNU-HCM in the next five years.

2011 marks the first year of the implementation of a strategy which affirms the brain power of VNU-HCM. The accomplishment of the 2011 plan is definitely an important task, representing VNU-HCM's commitment with the society towards a leading university of Vietnam. In order to fulfill the commitment, the first and foremost condition is that we must possess and join in building an environment for intellectuality and scientific innovation. Moreover, consolidation and synergy are also required to make best use of the potential and strong energy of VNU-HCM.

As such, VNU-HCM's theme for 2011 is AUTONOMY AND SYNERGY. The theme name is not new, but it reflects new awareness and new altitude. Now let's start the year 2011, the first year of growth and affirmation!

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Phan Thanh Binh
VNU-HCM Council Chairman and President
Overview

"...Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City. The marvelous buildings and facilities have reflected its current scope and scale as well as the future outlook..."

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet
5th February 2005
VNU-HCM Board of Presidents

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Phan Thanh Binh, President
2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Huynh Thanh Dat, Standing Vice President
3. Dr. Nguyen Duc Nghia, Vice President
4. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Quang Minh, Vice President
Milestones 2010
1. Visit to VNU-HCM led by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan for a comprehensive assessment of the Vietnam National University model.

2. Visit to VNU-HCM by Ms. Truong Thi Mai, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Chairman of National Assembly Committee for Social Affairs.

3. Visit to VNU-HCM by Mr. Nguyen Quoc Trieu, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Health Minister.

4. Celebration of VNU-HCM’s 15 years of construction and development.

5. Opening ceremony of two national key laboratories: "Digital Control and System Technology" Lab and "Polymer and Composite" Lab.


7. Workshop on Vietnam-Canada joint education and research.

8. Kovalevskia Prize awarded to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Phan Thi Tuoi.

9. Implementation of autonomy and accountability in VNU-HCM.

10. Seminar for VNU-HCM administrators, faculty and students on "Youth Generation: Vision and Leadership" facilitated by Prof. Klaus Schwab, Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF). During this event, the honorary doctorship in economics was awarded to Prof. Klaus Schwab by VNU-HCM President in recognition of his valuable contributions to the global economy development.

11. VNU-HCM's participation in the CDIO Initiative as the 56th member.


15. Symposium on Thang Long-Hanoi’s millennium.

16. "Hero of Labor" Award granted to the University of Science.

17. UNDP’s Equator Prize 2010 awarded to Phu An Bamboo Village.

18. 32-bit processing chip VN1632 using IBM 0.13um successfully launched by IC Design Research & Education Center, marking a new development of Vietnam’s chip technology.
