

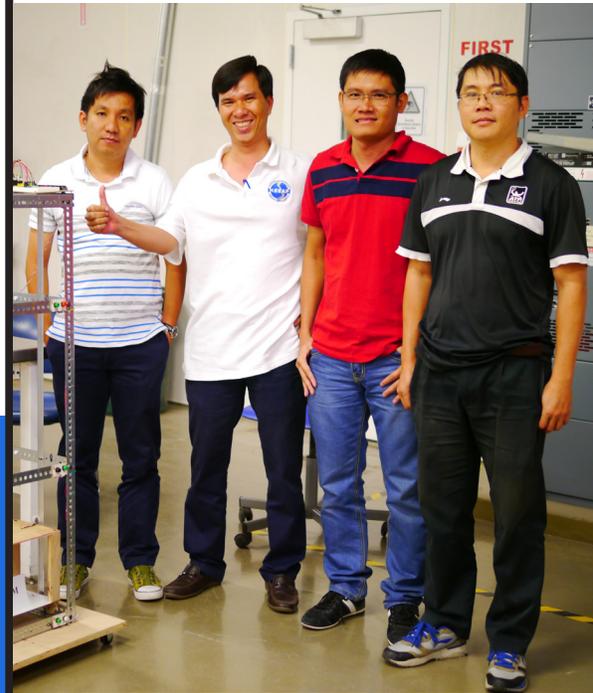


HIGHER ENGINEERING EDUCATION ALLIANCE PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER
2014 QUARTER 2

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HEEAP Vocational Faculty Development Training - May 2014



The first HEEAP Vocational Faculty Development training of 2014 began on May 19. Seventeen faculty members from three different vocational schools in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam were selected to participate in the four-week program held at Arizona State University. Over the four weeks, the faculty members were put to rigorous work in developing techniques to enhance their classroom skills.



The training alternated between two ASU campuses. At the main campus in Tempe, the faculty members worked with Dr. David Benson, HEEAP Academic Director, learning new instructional methods and multidisciplinary approaches for engineering instruction. Additionally, an important goal of the

training was the development of English language skills. The faculty worked with Mr. Scott Welsh, from ASU's American English Cultural Program (AECPP), focusing on team work and creating presentations in English to test their communication and group collaboration skills.



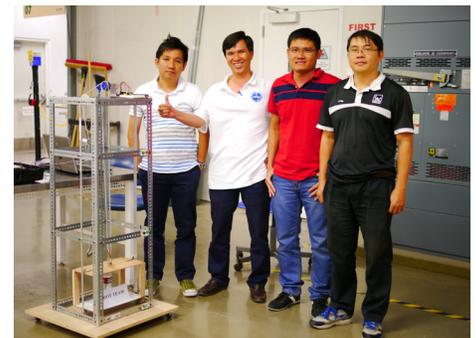
While the faculty practiced their soft skills at the main campus, they put their technical knowledge to test at the Polytechnic campus. For two weeks, the HEEAP faculty participated in an applied project at the Polytechnic campus, where they worked in teams to build a mock elevator using Arduino programming. This portion of the training was facilitated by ASU professors Dr. Scott Danielson, Dr. Kathy Wigal and Mr. Scott Pollat, demonstrating how to integrate applied project experiences

across engineering course curricula.

A faculty from the Industry University of Ho Chi Minh City, Nguyen Phuong Bac, commented on the elevator project, "Working with people you don't know is difficult because you have to trust their work ethics," he said, "you can't check each person's work all the time, so it's important to have good teamwork." The development of group collaboration skills is a critical component of HEEAP training. Modern engineering education must focus on training graduates to succeed in the workplace with both technical and soft skills.



The HEEAP vocational faculty development training introduced new active learning and teaching methods as well as development of soft skills to the 17 participating faculty members. The faculty completed the training by presenting their HEEAP project proposals, detailing plans for updating one of their current courses with the new teaching methodologies they learned during the training.



To view more pictures of the HEEAP vocational faculty development training on our Flickr page: [CLICK HERE](#)

VULII Deans Institute and Quality Assurance Institute

The May Deans and Quality Assurance Institute workshop series consisted of two types of in-country workshops. These workshops bridged the academic program and quality assurance perspective, to promote the seamless collaboration needed to achieve institutional goals and ensure high quality academic programs. Academic program teams participated in these co-institute workshops. The teams included deans, lead faculty and QA professionals from each institution and a variety of academic program areas (engineering, technology related, science and mathematics, business, and other supporting academic areas). The teams participated in hands-on activities designed to help them implement continuous improvement processes, learn new assessment and evaluation techniques, and prepare for accreditation and certification as appropriate to their academic program area.

In Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang,

Hanoi and Can Tho a total of 202 administrators, faculty members and QA professionals participated in institution-specific, one day workshops providing customized coaching tailored to each institution's academic program objectives and outcomes supporting accreditation (AUN-QA or ABET).

On May 19-20 in Ho Chi Minh City a total of 75 administrators, faculty members and QA professionals participated in a general a two-day workshop for all VULII institutions. This workshop focused on developing detailed assessment and evaluation processes for the assessment of program outcomes, and the evaluation of those data towards program quality improvement, as required for accreditation (AUN-QA or ABET). In addition to continued leadership development training, the roles of QA professionals and academic leadership and the need for seamless collaboration of all members of the academic program team were emphasized.

VULII Rectors Leadership Institute

Two rectors from vocational colleges attended the American Association of Community Colleges annual meeting in Washington DC. They had an opportunity to learn about current issues, challenges, and achievements of individual institutions as well as the community college sector overall. The rectors were especially impressed that Vice President Joe Biden addressed the conference and spoke movingly of the importance of community colleges for America's future.

The rectors also visited one of the campuses of Northern Virginia Community College to meet with Dean Michael Ghorbanian and several faculty. After the AACC conference, Prof. Dan Shunk led a one-day workshop on leadership in implementing their institutions' strategic plans.

CTTC English Club

The HEEAP 2013 cohort developed an English Club for Cao Thang Technical College students as part of their HEEAP Project. The purpose of the club is to enhance technical literacy for the workforce. On April 24, 2014, the English Club opened a student workshop titled "Small Talk." With more than 100 participating Engineering students, the workshop taught the participants basic English skills. Along with students, there were also faculty members present. The workshop was led by Ms. Bich Anh and Mr. Philip.

For more pictures of this activity, please [CLICK HERE](#)



HVCT Technical English Club Project



The Ho Chi Minh Vocational College of Technology kicked-off their Technical English Club, on March 16th, 2014. Organized by the HEEAP 2013 cohort, the Technical English Club held their first seminar on April 12th, and will continually meet every Sunday. The purpose of the English Club is to establish a strong relationship between confidence and accuracy when conversing or speaking in a large group. Certain practices require the students to be

participating in a mock situation where they will have to use English to convey their message. The groups are divided into small manageable teams to practice oral English skills. Even though the English Club is a young project, many students participated in the first meeting, allowing the project to keep growing in the future.



Visit the HEEAP Flickr page to see more images: [CLICK HERE](#)

Welcome to Quang Vo



Please join HEEAP in welcoming the newest addition of our team, Mr. Quang Vo. He will serve as the Learning Management System Instructional

Administrator and will be based out of the Ho Chi Minh City office. He will be working closely with the HEEAP institutions to develop the Pearson platform. He has more than seven years of experience leading cross-cultural and functional teams in various industries, including BNP Paribas, the largest investment-banking group in France and the French Institute of Petroleum. Quang has a strong background in computer science, especially in software development and content management system. He received his MBA in Finance from the University of Rochester (New York, USA). Quang is originally from Vietnam but spent over 15 years living in France and the USA prior to returning to Vietnam in 2013. In his spare time, he enjoys photography and strategic games.

CTTC Introduces New Teaching Methods

Along with the wide success of the Cao Thang Technical College Olympic Competition of Computer Skills, the HEEAP 2013 cohort also organized two workshops on March 19th and 25th. The workshops were structured to help spread modern teaching techniques to professors at CTTC. After the HEEAP training in 2013, group from CTTC proceeded to increase the amount of teachers using different methods to engage their students while enhancing their soft skills. The first workshop was presented by Vu Yen Ni to the Computer Department. On the following week, another workshop was held at the Mechanical Automobile Department; the presentation was led by Nguyen Thi Thanh Hai.



For more pictures of this activity, please [CLICK HERE](#)

National Instruments launches Innovation Design Competition for Young Entrepreneurs in Vietnam

Earlier this year National Instruments launched the National Instruments Innovation Design Competition for Young Entrepreneurs in Vietnam. Developed in collaboration with the Higher Engineering Education Alliance Program (HEEAP), the competition aims to advance innovation and entrepreneurship among young engineers in the country. HEEAP worked with local institutions to advertise the competition to Vietnamese college students.

“We are truly proud of this project and are delighted to strengthen our partnership with HEEAP and Vietnam’s leading engineering schools. We look forward to recognizing the most innovative, most relevant projects that solve real-world problems and benefit communities,” said Chandran Nair, Managing Director of National Instruments – Southeast Asia.

This was the first time the competition was held in Vietnam. National Instruments sponsors this yearly competition through its Planet NI program. The mission of Planet NI is to empower engineers in emerging countries to achieve sustainable prosperity by providing increased access to NI technology.

Eleven finalists were chosen to move on to the next step of the competition. Planet NI representatives will select the top two projects and choose one winner from the finalists which includes teams from Can Tho University, Cao Thang Technical College, Industrial University of Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi University of Technology, Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology.

Developers of the most innovative project prototypes that address challenges in the local communities of Vietnam stand to win exciting prizes including an opportunity to present their research at the global NI Week Conference in Austin, Texas USA.

“In Vietnam and the rest of Southeast Asia, there are a host of community-based challenges that our young engineers can help solve. The ingenuity and feasibility of the ideas of this year’s finalists, from simple and affordable medical devices to the use of sensors to prevent road accidents, are immensely encouraging,” Nair added.

The following proposals were submitted to the competition:

- 1.) Automatize the Tower Dryer TS40
- 2.) Motorbike Remote Monitoring System
- 3.) Intelligent Intersection Railway Stations
- 4.) Checking Students Card Instruments
- 5.) Develop Controller for 5-DOF Robot by using NI Labview
- 6.) Food Dehydration Control System
- 7.) Computer Aided Detection for Abnormal Tissue in Medical Image
- 8.) Low Cost Interactive Whiteboard based on NI myRIO
- 9.) Wireless Transceiver for Biomedical Sensors
- 10.) Develop Advanced Control for Agriculture Product Drying System
- 11.) Monitoring and Management System for Shrimp Farm

Upcoming HEEAP events

- o HEEAP Vocational Faculty Development Training, September 8- October 3, 2014
- o **Coming this Fall:** HEEAP Advancing Women in Engineering Fellowship Program to study at Arizona State University-Details to follow