

Grand Opening Ceremony of the Upper Iowa University's Vietnam Branch at DTU

Professor William R. Duffy II, President of Upper Iowa University in the US, came to DTU on June 18th, with colleagues, to cut the ribbon to open the Upper Iowa Representative Office and On-Site Study-Aboard program at the DTU Nguyen Van Linh campus. The ceremony was the culmination of the agreement of December 3rd, 2014, to develop a program to award UIU degrees locally, to bring Vietnamese students the chance to obtain an American degree, at reasonable cost, at home here in Danang.



Cutting the ribbon

“Before coming to DTU, we went to Hong Kong to award degrees to 77 students and 238 in Malaysia”, said Professor Duffy. “By collaborating with DTU, we hope that the 158 year-old educational tradition of Upper Iowa University can be effectively extended to provide DTU students with a high quality, economical program here in Vietnam. We believe that, with the Upper Iowa motto ‘Changing Lives, One Student at a Time’ and, with their current enthusiasm and cooperation, that we will be able to educate generations of talented and well-rounded students. It is an honor for Upper Iowa University to work with DTU, and the opening of our new office marks a new level in our partnership.”



Professor Duffy and Distinguished Teacher Le Cong Co, with leaders of UIU and DTU

Founded 158 years ago, UIU has become the second largest university of the state of Iowa. It has 26 campuses throughout the US, in Hong Kong and Malaysia. The partnership with DTU was initiated by a Singaporean academic, Mr. Victor Lim, and started to take shape after the first visit of DTU Vice-Provost, Dr. Le Nguyen Bao, to Iowa University in June 2013.

Recognizing the educational quality and solid infrastructure at the first and biggest private university of Central Vietnam, UIU chose DTU as its Vietnamese partner to introduce their On-Site Study-Abroad program there. According to the agreement, students will study a full four years at DTU and receive a degree from UIU, US. Programs offered are Business Administration, Financial Management, Information Technology and Information Systems. Students will be taught solely in English, with over 60% of the lecturers from UIU and the remainder from abroad or Vietnam.

Through this program, students will study in Vietnam and receive a US degree, with North Central Regional Accreditation, which is the highest American all-school accreditation system. Students will be able to travel during a "Discovery Semester" to study in the US, Hong Kong, or Malaysia. They will be able to improve their English and discover different cultures. Armed with an international Bachelor's degree, graduates will be qualified to plan careers anywhere in Vietnam or overseas.

Distinguished Teacher Le Cong Co, DTU President and Provost, stressed: *“DTU is collaborating with well-known American universities and transferring curricula to provide access to advanced international academic programs in Danang. We continue to make breakthroughs in enabling students to study in Vietnam and obtain American degrees through this type of collaboration. This is also a new step in the improvement of education and in the expansion of our international partnerships. The fact that UIU is opening a Representative Office at DTU will be a solid foundation for a long-term partnership. It will open new avenues for future collaboration between our two universities. ‘The First Step is Always the Most Difficult’, but with the combined efforts of both universities, I believe that our On-Site Study-Abroad program will succeed and expand.”*

(Media Center)