

## The 2017 Youth Month Ceremony and the Launch of the Startup Movement

On February 26th, DTU held a ceremony to celebrate the 2017 Youth Month and the launch of the Student Startup Movement. It was an occasion for all union members and DTU students to honor the memory of the young, courageous people who fought and sacrificed their lives protecting the Fatherland and also to launch the Student Startup Movement. Participating in many new and exciting activities, students began a new mission to commemorate their youth and enthusiastically join hands to recognize their continuing responsibilities in the community.



*The University Union Executive Committee and the Startup Center sign an agreement for the organization of student activities*

After the ceremony, the DTU union members participated in several activities, including Green Sunday, garbage collection at the beach and a cultural festival, aimed to increase their awareness in their communal environmental responsibilities. In addition to volunteer activities, DTU also holds contests to help students found their own startups, such as the Startup Wheel, the Social Venture Plan and startup training programs.

*“In October 2015, DTU founded the Startup Club and Innovation Incubator, but the startup spirit has not yet really influenced the lives of all students,”* said Mr. Nguyen Kim Giang, Vice-Director of the Startup Center, Vice-Director of the International HR Development Center and acting Vice-Dean of the DTU Vocational College. *“With today’s launch of the Student Startup Movement, DTU wants to renew its*

*efforts to encourage more students to quickly create their own startups. They will now be able to quickly share their business startup ideas without having to go through complicated procedures filling in application forms, registering and detailing their projects. After sharing their concepts, the appropriate research can be broadly developed on a large scale and only then will the necessary steps to formalize the project be required. DTU has invested two billion VND to promote the student startup movement and will roll out extra support, such as setting up groups of experts, connecting with other specialists, reaching out to local businesses to market products, and so on. DTU currently has two projects in the National Startup Finals: Smart Bee Glasses, for the visually impaired, and Easy Comp, a machine which processes organic waste into fertilizer. With these successes so far, the startup spirit now needs to propagate throughout the university.”*



*The International School won first prize with its “Dye from Natural Ingredients” project*

The organizers kicked off their new campaign with a contest to share startup ideas fast. Students from the nine faculties presented their projects. These were “The English Learning Club” from the Faculty of Tourism, “Growing Mushrooms at Home” from the Faculty of Pharmacy, “The Insect Farm” from the Faculty of Foreign Languages, “Dye from Natural Ingredients” from the International School, “Clean Vietnamese Chicken Eggs” from the Faculty of Business Administration, “A Food Shipping Company” from the Faculty of Electricity and Electronics, “A Cafe with a Children’s Playground” from the Faculty of Accounting, “Making Weights from Paper” from the Faculty of Medicine and “Filtering Grease from Restaurant Wastewater” from the Faculty of the Environment. The organizers awarded first prize to “Dye from Natural Ingredients”, worth 500,000 VND.



*DTU students talk with foreign lecturers and learn about the Faculty of Tourism Club*

*“Today, everyone is worried about clothes dyes of unknown origin that can harm their health,” explained Pham Thi Ly Na of the International School class K20 PSU QTH1 and leader of the “Dye from Natural Ingredients” project. “This is why we are proposing making dyes from natural ingredients, which are very simple, just leaves, flowers and fruit. After rinsing and boiling to extract the color, the fabrics are soaked in dye. We still plan to do further research however, to create natural dyes with higher color durability in a large variety of beautiful colors.”*

Activities included a tug-of-war, the sale of soft drinks and an introduction to the DTU Tourism Club (DTC) from the Faculty of Tourism. The festival fired up the enthusiasm of the DTU students and encouraged them to plan more new and exciting activities this year.

*(Media Center)*