

Asia Connection Inc.
P.O. Box 260475
Tampa Florida 33685
22 March 2010

Michelle Liu
Department of English
Box 354330
University of Washington
Seattle WA 98195-4330

Dear Ms. Liu,

I'm sending you this letter because I thought you might take an interest in the following:

Dr. Patricia Smith, a University of Washington Medical School alumna who died in 2004, had an illustrious career as a medical missionary in the Central Highlands of Viet Nam from the late 1950s up until the end of the war in 1975. She devoted herself to the health and welfare of the tribal minority peoples of the highlands and touched many lives — not only the thousands of patients she treated but also hundreds of people who served as volunteers at Minh Quy Hospital, which she founded in 1959.

A number of us who worked with Pat at one time or another are interested in having a biography produced; yet while we have a lot of written archives and photographs and anecdotal accounts of our collective "Minh Quy experience," none of us has the literary skills or research background to write a biography that would do justice to this remarkable woman and her work. A lot has been written about Pat and the hospital (I'll enclose some articles) but to my knowledge there's never been a definitive study of her life.

Do you think that a graduate student or perhaps even a faculty member in your department might be willing to take on such a project? You're the only person I've approached on this matter (after doing a random search of the U. of W. English department on the Internet); if it's not something that you think you could be involved in, I'd greatly appreciate it if you could share this inquiry with any of your colleagues who might take an interest.

Thanks for your attention —

Yours sincerely,

Bill Rose
Chairman, Asia Connection Inc.

P.S. - Additional background material is available on our web site, www.asiaconnectioninc.org