

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

VIETNAM PROJECT • OFFICE OF COORDINATOR

November 5, 1958

Miss Hannah Hunt
School of Library Science
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Miss Hunt:

I have contacted all the universities on the suggested list of schools immediately upon my return to East Lansing.

The responses have primarily been quite discouraging. It would seem that most of these schools are offering work on the graduate level only.

I am hopeful that perhaps Mr. Gardner will have some useful suggestions to make. Several of the schools have still not replied and perhaps one or more of these may agree to accept Loc and Kim Sa as special students.

Sincerely yours,

EC:ms

Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant

GEORGE PEABODY COLLEGE
PEABODY LIBRARY SCHOOL

NASHVILLE 5, TENNESSEE

October 23, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Vietnam Project
Office of Coordinator
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham:

Thank you for your letter of October 21st.

Although we should be pleased to consider Miss Tram Thai Kim Sa and Miss Vo Hong Loc for admission as special students at Peabody Library School, I fear that the program would be no simpler for them here than at Western Reserve University. We accept very few undergraduates or special students, since our program is and has been for twenty-six years a graduate professional one leading originally to the fifth-year degree of B.S. in L.S. and since 1949 to the M.A. (L.S.).

The courses available in the Winter Quarter (January 5--March 12) are:

- 502A Bibliography of the Humanities
- 502B Bibliography of the Social Sciences
- 504B Technical Processes II
- 540 Library Backgrounds
- 542 Library Trends
- 560 Seminar in Cataloging and Classification

From your description of the educational backgrounds of the students it seems that our program may be too advanced. Under separate cover I am sending you a Library School Bulletin which outlines in detail our program and our courses of study.

At present time twenty-six per cent of our Library School student body is from foreign lands including oriental lands such as Thailand, Free China, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Okinawa. However, they arrived in time for our four basic courses offered in Summer and Fall Quarters.

If you believe, as a result of your knowledge of these students and from Professor Hunt's recommendations, that they would be able to adjust to our program, kindly inform me.

Cordially,

William A. FitzGerald

William A. FitzGerald
Director

cc: Professor Hannah Hunt

KANSAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
EMPORIA, KANSAS

October 24, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham,
Administrative Assistant
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham:

Your letter concerning Misses Tran Thai Kim Sa and Vo Hong Loc was received this morning, and we have given rather careful consideration to their problem.

It is likely that we could permit these girls to enroll here for the second semester, but doubtful that they could come at the mid term this semester because not all of our courses are similar enough to the ones they are now taking to make such a transfer possible. At the same time I should point out to you that our Library School is also a graduate school, and that if these girls are having difficulty at Western Reserve, they would probably have difficulty here also.

If you wish to consider further the possibility of their entering here in the second semester, I should be glad to have you write again.

Sincerely,



Irene Hansen
Department of Library Science

IH:rw

SIMMONS COLLEGE

BOSTON 15, MASSACHUSETTS

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

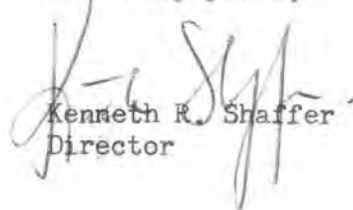
October 27, 1958

Dear Miss Cunningham:

I have your letter of October 21, and I must discourage you in terms of a transfer of the two Korean women whom you have written about. We can not take on, as special students, women who do not meet our degree requirements, and furthermore, it would seem rather obfuscating for them to take basic courses after they have had the specialized courses at Michigan.

We have three Korean graduate students here at the moment, and I am sorry to have to report for the reasons above that it would not seem practicable to encourage the two women as far as the resources at Simmons are concerned.

Sincerely yours,


Kenneth R. Shafer
Director

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Vietnam Project - Office of Coordinator
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

LIBRARY SCHOOL

October 27, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Vietnam Project
Office of Coordinator
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham,

If I am correct, Misses Kim Sa and Loc are interested in being admitted to the undergraduate library school courses. As Director of the Graduate Library School, I have no authority regarding the admission of undergraduate students. They should apply to the office of Admissions, University of Minnesota.

I know that they cannot be admitted at mid-quarter, and if they are admitted for the winter quarter it will carry no implication that they will later be admitted to the Library School.

Sincerely yours,

DK Berninghausen
David K. Berninghausen
Director

dkb - dja

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

DIVISION OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

October 27, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham, Administrative Assistant
Vietnam Project - Office of Coordinator
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham:

I am very much interested in the two students from Vietnam who are now at Western Reserve University. I wish there were some way in which these students could be accommodated here, but judging from the information in your letter, it appears that this will not be possible. Our program is essentially a graduate program leading to the M.A. degree in Library Science. Therefore, we require a Baccalaureate degree for admission. We also require for admission three undergraduate prerequisites: L.S. L220, Introduction to Reference Materials (2 credits); L.S. L423, Selection and Use of Library Materials (3 credits); and L.S. L483, Library Cataloging and Classification (3 credits). In the courses 521 and 537 which the Vietnamese students are currently studying at Western Reserve it appears that they will cover all or more than we require in L220 and L483. Therefore, there is very little more which we can offer them at the undergraduate level. Presumably they are not studying a course such as L. S. L423. We have two additional courses open to undergraduates, L456 and L494, but these would not be sufficient to fill out a year's program, or even a semester of work. Also, this very limited introductory program would not prepare them for a professional position in a library abroad where they will be looked upon as leaders in the profession.

This past summer we graduated three students who returned to Bangkok where they are serving as librarians at Thammasat University, Institute of Public Administration under an ICA Contract with Indiana University and the government of Thailand. One of these students completed a Master's degree in Public Administration in addition to the M.A. in Library Science. The other two completed minors in Government and Public Administration, which applied on their M.A. degrees in Library Science. The latter type

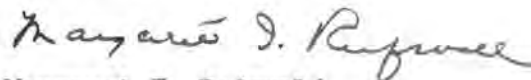
Miss Elsie Cunningham
10/27/58
Page 2

of program would seem to be appropriate for the Vietnamese students, if I am correct in assuming that they will work in a public administration library, but the prerequisite would be a Bachelor's degree in government or the social sciences, and this I presume is not going to be possible for them to attain.

Experience has shown that even those foreign students who enter with an undergraduate degree and high academic qualifications have great difficulty in completing the full graduate program; they require 18 months to 2 years of study to complete the degree. Therefore, it would not be in the interests of the Vietnamese students if we were to admit them as special students in our graduate program. They would be frustrated and miserable at having to compete with students so far beyond them, and failure to pass the courses would be the likely though most unfortunate result.

The enclosed Bulletin describes our program in full. Again may I say I am very sorry that we cannot accomodate your students.

Sincerely yours,



Margaret I. Rufsvold
Director

MIR/eb

Enclosure

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

MAILING ADDRESS: MSU - USOM
AMERICAN EMBASSY
SAIGON - VIETNAM

CABLE ADDRESS: MICHGOVBUR

GENERAL OFFICE:
137, DUONG PASTEUR

TELEPH. NUMBER: 22.022-21.528
SAIGON: 383-384

November 7, 1958

TO: Elsie Cunnigham

FROM: Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director *HLW*

SUBJECT: No. 54 - Re Your Memo of October 28
Library Participants

I found the letter from Miss Rufsvold on Indiana University's training of librarians to be extremely interesting. While the need for trained librarians in Vietnam is certainly critical, this will not in the future be an area in which we will send participants. USOM and USIS have responsibility for training and developing library facilities in Vietnam and will send trainees in connection with their programs.

Dick Gardner felt that training in Library Science at the University of the Philippines is extremely good.

HLW:nqx



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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
LIBRARY SCIENCE

October 30, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Vietnam Project
Michigan State University
East Lansing Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham:

In reply to your letter of October 21 concerning the Misses Loc and Kim Sa, I must advise you that our staff does not feel that a transfer to this Department would be in their best interest.

According to your letter, one or both of the young women has made a beginning in two or more of the courses which we teach at the undergraduate level here. And it would hardly seem advisable for them to enter in the middle of our semester's work. Secondly, in the spring semester we will not be teaching courses for which they will be eligible, since most of our undergraduate less specialized offerings are taught in the fall and summer sessions only.

I wonder if you have thought of applying for the young ladies at Kent State or perhaps Wayne University or Kalamazoo. I regret that we can be of no assistance in this matter and hope you will be successful in your search for further instruction for the two students.

Yours sincerely,



E. J. Humeston, Jr.
Head

EJH:cf

Western Michigan University

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

October 30, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Michigan State University
Vietnam Project
East Lansing, Michigan

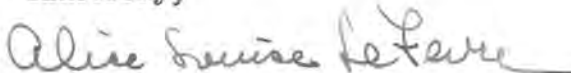
Dear Miss Cunningham:

Enclosed are application forms for admission as undergraduate students for the Misses Tran Thai Kim Sa and Vo Hong Loc. We could not admit these students at the mid-term but their applications, transcripts etc. may be sent to the Registrar for processing for the second semester. Students must have two years of college before taking courses in library science here. A course offered by the English Department in Children's Literature is a prerequisite but if they complete the one at Western Reserve satisfactorily we would accept it.

If the students cannot handle the English language satisfactorily they will find it pretty difficult to keep up work of this type. The readings are generally in technical language difficult for a foreign student to comprehend unless they have a good command of the language.

The application forms should be sent to Mr. Clayton Maus, Registrar. Our counselor for foreign students is Mrs. Isabel Beeler.

Sincerely,



Alice Louise LeFevre

ALF/pcc

SAN JOSE STATE COLLEGE

SAN JOSE 14, CALIFORNIA

October 31, 1958

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Miss Cunningham:

I am forwarding your letter concerning the Misses Kim Sa and Loc to Dr. Cummings in the Admissions Office, who will write you immediately concerning the necessary steps for admission to the college. The Librarianship Department would be very happy to have these two girls as special students.

The following courses are ones which we feel might be beneficial to them: Lib. 114, Curriculum Building Materials; Lib. 119, Book Selection; Lib. 138, Special Materials; and Lib. 228, Advanced Cataloging.

You probably know that our program is directed specifically toward the training of school librarians. However, the courses which I have listed are of a more general nature, and I feel sure that these two students would find much in them that would be helpful.

We already have other foreign students enrolled in our classes, so that they would not feel entirely strange. If there is anything further I can do to help in planning their programs, please let me know.

Very sincerely,

Dora Smith

(Miss) Dora Smith, Head
Department of Librarianship

DS:amr

CC: Dr. Cummings

November 6, 1958

TO: Howard Waltman, Participant Program Director.

FROM: Elsie Cunningham, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: On the Question of the Misses Kim Sa and Loc - (#46)

Reference your memo # 47, please find enclosed the "thermofax" from San Jose State College. This is the only positive reaction that I have had to the letters sent out asking an undergraduate level school for the Misses Kim Sa and Loc. Since Julianne Heyman suggested this and also thought that she could make arrangements for the girls to intern in San Francisco, I am going to pursue this in hopes that they may be able to transfer there at the beginning of the next term.

EC:ms

Enc.: S.J.S. Colgs' ltr.

P.S. Since writing this I have received your memorandum # 47 and will contact Richard Gardner concerning their future training. I have not, as yet, informed Western Reserve of this one affirmative reply.

November 11, 1958

TO: Howard Waltman, Participant Program Director

FROM: Elsie Cunningham, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Library Girls (Re: Memo 46) Memo # 49.

After sending out my memo # 46, dated November 6, 1958, regarding the Misses Kim Sa and Loc, I dictated a letter to Mr. Gardner. When I thought to look up his address I discovered that he is not due in Cleveland until January.

Under the circumstances I feel that I would have to be guided by the reaction of Miss Hunt to my latest letter. This would not include the information relative to the positive reactions I received from San Jose College and the last encouraging answer I received for Western Michigan College. I have just written to ask Kim Sa and Loc how they are progressing in their studies and I hope to have the answer in the next day or two.

EC:ms

SAN JOSE STATE COLLEGE

125 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET

SAN JOSE 14, CALIFORNIA

20 November 1958

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

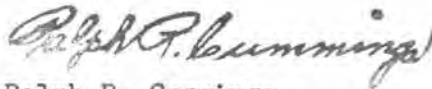
Dear Miss Cunningham:

Your recent letter regarding Miss Tran Thai Kim Sa and Miss Vo Hong Loc has been forwarded to us by Miss Dora Smith, Head of our Department of Librarianship.

We shall be happy to consider the admission of these students the Spring Semester, 1959, but first we should like each student to fill out an application form (enclosed) and to file official records of her previous schooling. While applications for the Spring Semester may be filed up to 16 January, we should appreciate receiving the records for these students as soon as possible so that we may do all we can to facilitate their admission.

On receipt of the applications and records, we shall send the students information regarding registration dates and procedures. If in the meantime there is anything else we can do to assist you, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Ralph R. Cummings
Associate Dean - Admissions & Records

RRC/lew