

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf
FROM: Dr. Guy H. Fox *GHF*
SUBJECT: Ruben's letter about Xuyen

DATE: 27 January 1961



Here are several comments regarding Ruben's letter of January 20, to Mr. Le Canh Xuyen. But first let me say I greatly appreciate Ruben's efforts in behalf of our Ph.D. participant program and hope you will pass on my thanks to him.

1. I see little reason why Ruben, with his exceedingly busy schedule, should have to spend his time on Xuyen's academic program. That's asking too much of Ruben. Besides, as long as Xuyen is taking a normal load and is making normal progress, it would seem preferable for the academic program to be worked out between the participant and his faculty advisor.


2. Therefore, with regard to pars. 2, 5, and 6 of Ruben's letter, I suggest that Ruben tell Xuyen to work out such matters with Goodrich. It is up to Xuyen and Goodrich to make out a schedule which will meet the requirements for a degree. The language requirements, the statistics, and any others must somehow be met for the Ph. D.

3. In connection with the p. a. requirement, I suspect Xuyen is dragging his feet. Of course it is true that Columbia does not have a system of "majors" and "minors." Neither do many other schools. But many many, if not most, schools have a system of fields. If I remember correctly, Columbia has a system of two required fields, and two other "major" fields which are subject to examination. They also have two other "minor" fields not subject to prelim exams -- making a total of six. Goodrich at Columbia should be contacted to determine if, at this late date in Xuyen's studies, he will have time to complete a field of public administration without setting his graduation back. Our decision to exempt him from the public administration should depend upon Goodrich's answer.

Dr. Musolf
re: Ruben's letter about Xuyen

4. Re: par. 4. The answer would seem to be that the grant can be renewed so long as he is making satisfactory progress, that is, so long as he is making graduate level grades in a normal graduate program. He should be allowed approximately a year after prelims for his dissertation.

5. Re: par. 7. I do not believe we should offer post doctoral work. If he wants teacher training, he should work it into his program now.


Dr. Guy H. Fox
Chief/ PAD

GF/rbm

