

TO: Lloyd Musolf
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
SUBJECT: Ph.D. Participants #522
DATE: July 1, 1960

According to reports from the Ph.D. participants, there activities for the summer are as follows:

Luong Nhi Ky: One course in "European Diplomatic History Since 1933" with Professor Ehrmann.
Tran Ngoc Phat: Two reading courses -- One in Political Thought with Professor Hartz and one in Constitutional Law with Professor Sutherland.
Tran Qui Than: Preparing for his preliminaries which have now been postponed until early fall.
Cao Toan: A course in the programming of the IBM 650 which is jointly sponsored by Columbia University and IBM.

Arrangements are being made for the political science people to attend the association meeting in New York in September.



Mr. Kalman Dienes, Chief
Public Administration Division, USOM

July 7, 1960

Dr. Lloyd D. Masolf, Chief Advisor

Financing of Ph.D. Participants After June 30, 1962

As agreed at a recent Planning Group meeting, I am furnishing as much information as we now have about participants who will probably be in the United States at the time our contract ends and whose continued stay in the United States will need financing from USOM.

I am enclosing a copy of an announcement of an examination for three participant positions. As you will see, this announcement was made by the Government of Vietnam in the Vietnam Press on July 5.

We plan to have one of the three candidates trained in sociology, a second in public administration, and a third in public and business administration. The training in business administration would allow for the fact that the Government of Vietnam has various mixed corporations.

As soon as the successful candidates for the three positions have been selected, we shall notify you. Meanwhile, I hope that you will take the necessary steps to assure that the three positions are included in any preliminary outline of USOM expenditures for the fiscal year extending from July 1, 1962 to June 30, 1963.

IDM/dcm

CC: Dr. Guy Fox
Coordinator

Enclosure

P.S. There is a possibility that three additional Ph.D. participants will be selected in six months or so. Again, their financing after mid-1962 by USOM would be requested. As soon as we have firm information about the second three participants, we shall let you know.

TO: Lloyd Musdf
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
SUBJECT: Potential Ph.D.s #528 Ref: Musdf to Dines dtd July 7, 1960
DATE: July 11, 1960

Is it possible to process the papers of any participant selected for an NIA grant after the deadline date of July 30th by the beginning of Fall Semester 1960? If Luyen's case is any criterion of the length of time and the amount of redtape involved, it would seem that we will not actually be sponsoring any more Ph.D.s before 1961.

You mention the possibility of 3 additional Ph.D. participants in a postscript. In what fields do you expect to sponsor these three Ph.D.s Dr. Austin would like to see some, if not all, of the future Ph.D.s come to MSU.

July 12, 1960

TO: Lloyd Musolf
FROM: Nancy Maddalozzo
SUBJECT: Potential Ph.D.'s #530

Please find enclosed a thermofax of a letter we have received with respect to the second semester grades of Mr. Do Quang Nam, one of the potential Ph.D.'s.

Also enclosed is a letter of recommendation from Mr. Carson at the University of Pennsylvania in behalf of Mr. Pham Chung.

44-14

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

July 22, 1960



Dr. Ruben Austin
Vietnam Project
Campus

Dear Ruben:

I wonder what we can do about the PhD participant program in the Vietnam project. I am sure that you are as bothered by it as I am, especially in view of the review of the individual cases which came through from Saigon in recent planning group minutes.

Since there seems to be general agreement that several of the present participants will not return to the Institute, should we not move immediately to cancel them from the program? I see no reason to spend any money on potential PhD's unless we are confident that they will live up to their obligations clearly stated and agreed to before their departure from Saigon.

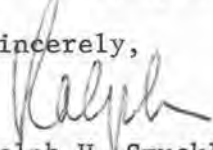
In view of what seems to be a general concensus in the case of several of the participants, I recommend that the current status of each be reviewed here or with the individual student at his school, and that those who are not prepared at this moment to assure us of their full intent to honor their obligations be immediately dropped from the participant program.

I see very little benefit to having the participant sign a promise before leaving Saigon since he is already required to sign an indication of his willingness to return and serve with the government before leaving on the participant program. Therefore, it is up to the government of Vietnam to see that the assignment remains as arranged at the outset, that is, to the NIA rather than to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Economy Department, or any other. We must take a firm position on this here and in Saigon.

In my opinion this is now the most important aspect of our work with the NIA. It does not make sense merely to select additional PhD participants, through procedures that cannot be much better than those used in the past, without insisting that those we now have do their utmost to fulfill their obligation to us, the NIA, and the GVN.

I would be glad to discuss this, but I do feel that immediate and firm action is necessary if not already past due.

Sincerely,


Ralph H. Smuckler
Associate Dean
International Programs

RHS:vh

Copy - Lloyd Musolf

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE: July 22, 1960
FROM: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *LD*
SUBJECT: Future Ph.D. Participants



Referring to Elsie Cunningham's memorandum of July 11, there are several points that might be made about Ph.D. participants. Our latest information indicates that the applications of the candidates for the three participant slots announced by GVN on July 5 will be examined in early August. The deadline for applications is July 30 and the NIA wants to move swiftly thereafter. As you will recall, the credentials of applicants now in the States will be considered along with the applications of candidates in Vietnam.

Elsie has raised the point of whether there may be a delay similar to that in the case of Xuyen. We do not anticipate such a delay and are hopeful that the participants might be sent in January or February.*

Another issue that has been raised concerns the university at which training of these participants will occur. If any of the three participants are selected from among applicants now in a relatively advanced stage of Ph.D. study we would anticipate that these participants would complete their Ph.D. at the university at which they began their Ph.D. study. Referring again to Xuyen, no one, of course, expects him to transfer to MSU at this time. Where a participant is only at the M.A. level in an American university, or where a participant is being selected from among applicants in Vietnam, we shall encourage very strongly the idea of such participants obtaining their Ph.D. at MSU. We feel that MSU academic departments, without coddling Vietnamese participants, should be in a position to give them more sympathetic attention than universities having no connection with the Vietnam Project.

Elsie also asked about the fields of study for the three additional Ph.D. participants that may be selected over and above the three for whom an announcement has already been made. At present we do not know the fields of study. We expect to have information on this point after we have made a thorough survey of present participant fields of study and the needs of the NIA for the future.

IDM/dw

* As to those selected from among applicants in the U.S. we shall try our best to get them accepted for the Fall term. Direct contact with Secretary of State Thuan may be our only recourse.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY *Sub*

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE: July 25, 1960
FROM: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *LDm*
SUBJECT: Trinh Van Chan



With reference to your EL-43, we are already expediting the selection of the current group of three Ph.D. participants. There are some severe obstacles to expediting the process. As you know, prospective participants now living in the United States are applying, along with candidates from Vietnam. It is because we recognize the possible financial difficulties of state-side applicants that we are particularly anxious to get participants selected. It should be said that among the five-or-so state-side candidates being seriously considered there are one or two who look better than Chan. The most outstanding candidate, however, now is affiliated with Hue University, and we would have to require that he change affiliation to the NIA before we could sponsor him. As you will recall, we are trying to tighten up on the post-training affiliation of participants.

As July 31, the end of application time, has not yet arrived, we do not know how many candidates will apply from Vietnam. The NIA indicates that it wishes to process all applicants speedily after July 31, but if there are numerous applicants a lengthy process may be involved.

With respect to adding Chan to the list of participants, one other point should be mentioned. NIA and MSU have worked closely in jointly selecting participants, and any choice must take the NIA's preferences fully into account.

Notwithstanding all the above factors, be assured that Chan will get full and early consideration.

IDM/dw

cc: Dr. Guy Fox

July 26, 1960

TO: Lloyd Musolf
FROM: Ruben V. Austin
SUBJECT: Future Ph.D. Participants

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Concerning your memo on future Ph.D. participants, naturally we would not consider having a Ph.D. candidate transfer to M.S.U. if his doctoral work is already underway at another institution as it would jeopardize his academic status.

The overall problem of Ph.D. participants in evaluating their work and their serious intentions to return is something that will continue to concern our office.

By now you have received our cable on Mr. Trinh Van Chan. As you know, it is hoped that the Vietnamese Studies Group on campus will develop projects and activities which will have long academic value. It is felt that Mr. Chan can contribute greatly in such areas of work as furthering the dictionary project, translation of materials, and analyzing specific documents which may be of interest to staff members who are working on projects related to Vietnam. Please find enclosed another letter of recommendation on Mr. Chan.

52-13