

Fulbright

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Newsletter FSPPM Spring 2020

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From the Editorial Board

Dear valued readers,

We are delighted to see you again in the Spring Newsletter of Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management (FSPPM). As you might know, from early days of 2020, the world and Vietnam in particular is facing an unprecedented challenge, COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, the outbreak has halted and delayed many exciting events of our school as we put priority to our students, faculty and staffs' safety and health while complying with Directive 16 of the government on social distancing.

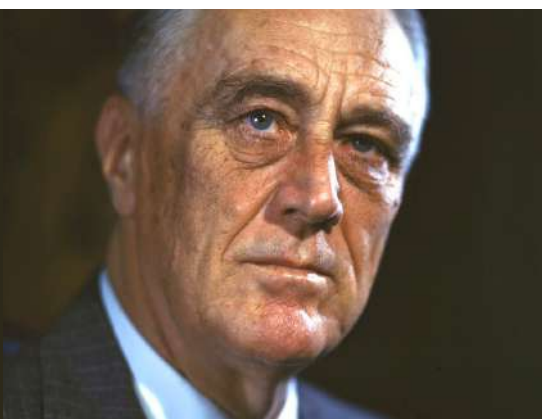
Despite constraints during social quarantine, the first quarter of 2020 is an eventful period for the school. Upon celebrating 25th anniversary of Fulbright-Harvard partnership, Fulbright School is honored to welcome Dean of Harvard Kennedy School and his colleagues in their business trip to Vietnam. The Newsletter also elaborates on the school's activities in international cooperation, research, publication and regional development projects.

At the invitation of government agencies such as Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, General Consulate of French in HCMC, our faculty members participated and enunciated their perspectives on various conferences.

Furthermore, in this quarter, 2019 Annual Accreditation Maintenance Report by Fulbright School has been accepted by Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) – NASPAA in March. In addition to that, 33/36 MPP 2020 PA students have successfully defended their master's thesis and qualified for graduation in this July. More details on these exciting events can be found in 2020 Spring Newsletter.

We hope you may find this issue a good read with helpful information. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends, colleagues or those who are interested.

Thank you and see you in 2020 Summer Newsletter.



“ The only thing we have to fear is fear itself. ”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

32nd President of United States


Master in Public Policy: Open for Application

Master in Public Policy by Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management (Fulbright University Vietnam) is now open for application in 2 concentrations: Policy Analysis (100% scholarship) and Leadership & Management (50% scholarship). Scholarships are granted by Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

Admission quota for Policy Analysis concentration is 40 students (prospective students are policy makers and consultants; university lecturers; research fellows; managers in NGOs or private sector).

Admission quota for Leadership & Management concentration is 40 students (prospective students are mid and senior managers in public agencies, corporations, NGOs and NPOs).

For more information about admission procedures of Master in Public Policy cohort 2020-2022, please click:

 <https://bit.ly/2XhAhbP>

To apply for the program, please click:

 <https://fspm.fulbright.edu.vn/don-du-tuyen/>



25th Anniversary of Harvard Kennedy School and Fulbright School



The 14th of January marked the 25th year relationship of Fulbright School and Harvard Kennedy School. Among distinguished guests attending the ceremony was Professor Douglas W. Elmendorf, Dean of Harvard Kennedy School. Throughout 25 years, Harvard Kennedy School is among the most long-standing academic partners and avid supporters of Fulbright in every of its undertakings from very first days until now. The Ceremony welcomed about two hundred FSPPM alumni representing 24 classes from FETP and FSPPM, featuring the public lecture on world economy by Prof. Elmendorf, a panel discussion on climate change in Mekong Delta and a Gala Dinner.

During 16th – 18th January, as part of the visit of Harvard Kennedy School delegation to Vietnam, FSPPM lecturers including Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh and Mr. Nguyen Quy Tam participated in a series of meetings with Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee and Party Committee, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Public Administration and Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc. These meetings opened new opportunities for public policy research and education collaboration between Fulbright School and important partners in the Government and Vietnam political system.

NASPAA Accreditation

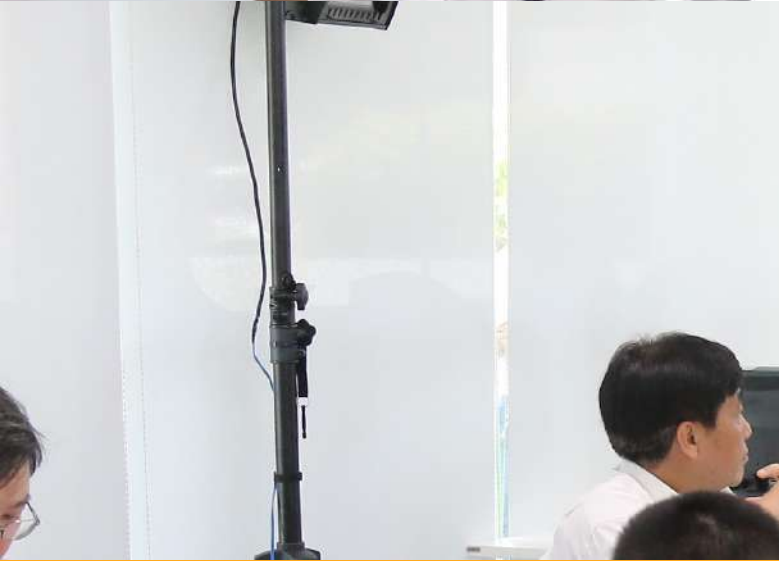
On 5 February, the Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) - NASPAA has accepted and approved for the School 2019 Annual Accreditation Maintenance Report. By maintaining accreditation, the MPP program of Fulbright School has demonstrated its ongoing improvement and strong commitment to quality public services education.





MPP 2020 (Policy Analysis) Thesis Defense

In March, thirty-three out of thirty-six MPP2020-PA (Policy Analysis concentration) students successfully defended their master's theses and met graduation requirements for the master's degree. Graduation thesis is a policy analysis assignment requiring students to demonstrate their understanding of theoretical concepts, collect and analyze empirical data to support their hypotheses and conclusions. Of the 33 students, 8 (24%) passed with High Distinction, 11 (33%) passed with Distinction



News and Updates

Outreach

FSPPM's research is particularly relevant to local government entities. To ensure that local officials benefit from faculty research findings, FSPPM offers provincial governments several tailored outreach programs that aim to foster research, training, consulting, and partnership activities.

- As part of the research project Restructuring the Economic of An Giang Province: Creating a Breakthrough towards the Sustainable Economic Development, on 4 January, FSPPM joined forces with An Giang People's Committee to organize the conference to obtain insights for the project. The project is expected to be an insightful resource for the province's development strategies in the upcoming period 2021-2030. The final research report of the project was completed and waiting for the approval of An Giang Provincial People's Committee.
- On 4-5 January, FSPPM together with the Center for Science and Technology Development (CENSTED), an organization of Vietnam Education Foundation Alumni and the United States Embassy Hanoi, co-organized a short course on Wind Turbine Modelling. The course was open to selected individuals working in academia, government officials, industries, turbine operators from wind project developers, and students interested in wind power research and development.






Research

Over the last quarter, despite disrupted business due to the pandemic, the faculty remains actively engaged in research and scholarly activity that has an impact nationally as well as regionally.

The paper *Electricity Price and Residential Electricity Demand in Vietnam*, published in *Environmental Economics and Policy Studies Journal* by **Dr. Le Viet Phu**, accessed via

 <https://rdcu.be/b1nk0>

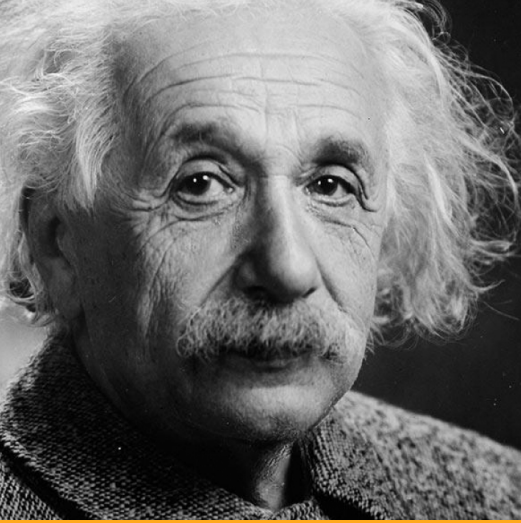
The book *Agriculture, Livelihoods, and the Environment in the Lower Mekong Basin*, 2019. SIRD, Malaysia, edited by **Dr. Le Viet Phu**, accessed via

 <https://app.box.com/s/tzalyjrz6vua2waeys3yd941xyemqevl>

The book *Multilevel Democracy: How Local Institutions and Civil Society Shape the Modern State*, Cambridge University Press by **Dr. Yooil Bae**

The paper *Financing Renewable Energy Development: Insights from 55 Countries* (co-authors with Nguyen, Canh, and Park, Donghyun), *Energy Research and Social Sciences* (SSCI, Scopus Q1) by **Dr. Le Thai Ha** (accepted, in press)

The paper *The Impact of Financial inclusion on CO2 emissions: Evidence from Asia* (co-authors with Le Ha-Chi, and Taghizadeh-Hesary Farhad), *Finance Research Letter* (SSCI, ABDC: A, Scopus Quartile: Q2) by **Dr. Le Thai Ha** (accepted, in press)



“ Life is like riding a bicycle.
To keep your balance,
you must keep moving ”

Albert Einstein

Conferences and Seminars

- Author's Workshop: In February, FSPPM hosted a two-day workshop for the authors of the book *Vietnam: State, Economy, Society in a Shifting Global Environment* to present and discuss their research before the book is officially published. This book is a collaborative research project among researchers from Harvard University, Copenhagen Business School, Leiden University and Fulbright School, FUV. The activity is a part of a series of three workshops, the first one of which took place at Stockholm University at the end of 2019, the second was at Fulbright University Vietnam in February, and the third will be organized at Harvard University in June 2020.
- Dr. Le Thai Ha, FSPPM Research Director, participated in the by-invitation-only workshop held on 8 January in Ho Chi Minh City by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) regarding the Revised Draft Law on Environmental Protection. During the workshop, Dr. Thai Ha provided the detailed feedback on several aspects of this revised draft law particularly on the areas related to the use of economic tools in environmental protection and the buildup of carbon market in Vietnam.
- On February 14, Mr. Xuan Thanh met with the French Ambassador to Vietnam and the French Consul General in Ho Chi Minh City to discuss the potential impact of the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement and recent political developments in Vietnam.



- On 2nd January, Dr. Bae Yooil, FSPPM Lecturer presented the topic on *Great Urban Transformation: The Case of Hyundai City, Ulsan* in a public seminar organized by FSPPM.
- On 1st February, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh, FSPPM lecturer, invited by the Ministry of Labor, War Invalides and Social Affairs (MOLISA) attended a workshop on unemployment insurance. At the workshop, Mr. Thanh discussed the need for the Ministry's Bureau of Employment to integrate the social insurance and unemployment insurance information systems.
- Dr. Le Viet Phu, Dr. Le Thai Ha partnering with Professor David Dapice from Harvard Kennedy School completed a policy paper titled *Phase Change: Reducing Energy Intensity and Coal Use in Vietnam* under a project on Low-Carbon Pathways for Growth and Sustainability which investigates three countries, namely, Vietnam, India and Ethiopia. The paper is presented at a virtual workshop by Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) on 25th March.



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International Relations

On 9th January, FSPPM and the Institute for International Strategy and Information Analysis (IISIA) – a private think tank located in Japan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU offers a one-month internship program in Japan for FSPPM students.

Upcoming Events

Policy webinars

Policy webinars on Covid-19 pandemic by FSPPM faculty is scheduled biweekly from April to June. The policy series is a knowledge initiative aiming to disseminating expert analysis on government policy responses to the general public.

MPP Admissions

FSPPM plans to kick off their admission cycle for Master in Public Policy program in early April. This year's admission cycle is scheduled with academic seminars, workshops and events to help raise the public awareness about MPP program and benefits of pursuing public policy education at Fulbright School.

Among the big events for MPP admission, Open Day and Master Classes are expected to take place in June and July. In addition to information session on program and scholarship. Master Class provides excellent opportunities for applicants to experience real classroom settings, connect with Fulbright community and gain insiders' perspectives from current students and alumni.

Admission timeline:

- Open for application:** 6th April 2020
- Information Session (HCMC):** 27th June 2020
- Information Session (HN):** 18th July 2020
- Application deadline:** 9th August 2020

- Entrance exam:** 5th September 2020 (for Policy Analysis applicants)
- Interview:** 5-7th September 2020
- Results available:** 16th September 2020
- Inauguration day for MPP2022 cohort:** 26th October 2020

