

Fulbright

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Newsletter FSPPM Summer 2021

Inside this issue

1. From Editorial Board
2. Highlights
3. News and Updates
4. Upcoming Events

From the Editorial Board

Dear cherished friends,

Since day one of FETP project (the predecessor of FSPPM), we decided that our curriculum must be grounded on Vietnam's real context and learning is not bounded within classroom walls. In early April, MPP 2022 cohort (in both concentrations LM and PA) jointly went on their first fieldtrip outside the campus to the central coast of Vietnam. We understand good public policies should be embedded in local understanding and the trip offered great opportunities for future leaders and policy makers to validate their presumptions relating to the growth dynamics of central provinces (i.e., Hue and Chu Lai).

Through conversations with government and business leaders in the localities, MPP students understood the outcomes of one policy can be affected to certain extent by its implementation settings and for a policy to bring out desired effects, concerted efforts among various stakeholders are required. On the other hand, during these conversations, local governments can tap into the pool of innovative capabilities of MPP students for cutting-edge solutions to address problems facing their provinces.

Amidst the grave conditions of Covid-19 pandemic in HCMC, our faculty once again pushed forward the physical boundaries of classrooms by moving policy seminars to virtual platforms through which knowledge can reach broader audience more safely. The flagship panel discussion on Covid-19 vaccination strategies hosted by FSPPM senior lecturers and a public health expert, Dr. Nguyen Thu Anh, set the ground for insightful discussion concerning immunization measures to protect community well-being. Other virtual seminars on Mekong Delta development and digital expo initiatives have been well received by audience for aspiring policy research.

Starting from early May, MPP 2023 admission cycles has begun and there have been online coaching sessions and demo classes in which candidates can explore the program and receive customized advice from admission team. Stay tuned for more exciting events for a successful application to become a Fulbrighter!

We wish you great health and strength in this challenging time!
Sincerely,

Editorial Board

Highlights

Panel Discussion on COVID-19 vaccines

A webinar titled "Expanding the Access to Covid-19 Vaccines and the Responsibilities of the State" was moderated by Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Duy Nghia, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh and the invited panel member Dr. Nguyen Thu Anh, Director of Woolcock Institute of Medical Research Vietnam that attracted nearly 700 participants. Leading experts gave in-depth analysis from epidemiological, legal, economic, and public policy perspectives on Vietnam's vaccination strategy in the context of the fourth wave of Covid outbreaks that requires the Vietnamese government to find new approaches to the pandemic. Among other things, they discussed the need for Vietnam to map out a long-term vaccination and immunization plan.

[More information about the panel discussion on COVID-19 vaccination.](#)



Hue – Chu Lai Fieldtrip

The MPP2022 students continued their two elective courses, *Policy Implementation* and *Regional and Local Development*, in which they undertook a field trip to a city or province in Vietnam. Thua Thien Hue province was chosen for Regional and Local Development course, and Chu Lai – Quang Nam province was for Policy Implementation, under the supervision of FSPPM's faculty members. During the field trip, students had the chances to meet and discuss with provincial leadership, visited industrial zones and learned about local development policies. The requirement by the lecturer at the end of the course includes writing a policy analysis on the results of provincial competitive position and making policy recommendations towards economic development.

[More information about Hue – Chu Lai Fieldtrip](#)

MPP 2023 Admission Cycle Begins

The official MPP2023 admission period has started from 3rd May 2021. In order to balance between revenue generation and public service mission, we have not only revised our scholarship policy and admissions criteria but also increase the expected number of enrolments. In order to achieve this goal, the proposal of scholarship and enhancing English entrance requirement has been submitted and approved by the University's leadership and announced to public in the admission campaign. The deadline for application will be on 5 September 2021 followed by the admission interview on 11-13 September. The new cohort of MPP2023 is expected to start from 17 October 2021.

[More information on MPP 2023 Admission Cycle](#)



Outreach

FSPPM has provided local governments with outreach programs to develop research, training, consulting and partnership activities. In this quarter, FSPPM's outreach team continues putting effort into three important research projects, below are key projects activities in Quarter 2/2021:

VINIF project with the following completed tasks in Q2/2021:

- Completion the coding and testing of reconstructing the bus timetable for a given day from location data of actual bus movements in Ho Chi Minh City in that day. Analysis and a manuscript for publication of the intra-day and inter-day variabilities of the bus network operation are underway.
- Completion of the coding and testing the construction of a synthetic population for Ho Chi Minh City. This is a 1 to 1 model of the whole population in HCMC based on 2019 census data and is an important input to estimating the travel demand of the HCMC population. A manuscript for publication is underway to report on the algorithm to reconstruct this synthetic population.

The Vingroup Innovation Foundation approved the report for phase 2 and released funding for phase 3 of the project.



UNDP – CPII Project

FSPPM faculties Nguyễn Quý Tâm and Huỳnh Nhật Nam participated and shared their perspectives in engaging with Vietnamese local governments in the Masterclass organised by the “Teaching Public Service in the Digital Age”. The Masterclass attracted over 30 academics and practitioners from 16 countries to share lessons-learned from and planning for and case studies of teaching the digital competencies syllabus.

Completion of the design and testing of a questionnaire for in-depth interview of the leadership in provincial government of Thừa Thiên Huế, Quảng Ninh, Hà Giang, An Giang and Tây Ninh. The interviews were scheduled to take place in the first weeks of July 2021.

Completion of the 1st draft of the scoping study report on the findings from field study to 5 provinces FSPPM conducted in December 2020 and April 2021, ready for submission to UNDP for review.

Successful launch of the CPII Digital Expo and its website cpiivietnam.org. The Digital Expo aims to be a living platform and a much-needed mechanism to assist provincial governments to encourage, harvest, and share innovative solutions proposed by local citizens to tackle local challenges. As of 30 June, after 2 months of the official launching, the Digital Expo received over 80 initiatives from people and organizations from all parts of the countries that are eligible for display on the Expo's website. Three to five or these initiatives will be selected by and receive funding from UNDP for piloting starting September 2021.

Hau Giang Development Strategy

FSPPM has negotiated and gained a consulting service contract with Dat Xanh Group on Hau Giang development strategy project in April 2021. The first two site surveys have been done in mid and last week of May right after the contract signed. Project team has spent time in June to prepare the first draft report which was submitted to Dat Xanh and Hau Giang authorities at the end of June. The final report is expected to submit in July as agreed with the contractor.



Policy Seminars

On 20 May, a policy webinar “Enhancing competitiveness of Mekong Delta toward sustainable development” was conducted by Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh – Dean of FSPPM with more than 150 participants, which has kicked off the series of policy webinars and admission events. Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh analyzed economic achievements and bottlenecks of Mekong Delta in the past decade and discussed current and upcoming opportunities and challenges facing this area.

At the beginning of June, a webinar was presented by Dr. Huynh Nhat Nam – FSPPM’s lecturer. As a co-chair of “Citizen Powered Innovation Initiative” project – a cooperation between UNDP and FSPPM, Mr. Nam, in his talk, shared about project implementation and milestones and some remarkable initiatives from local governments across Vietnam.

The talk show with Mr. Nguyen Ngoc, a renowned writer, journalist, educator, and cultural researcher, discussing the thoughts and ideological legacies of Phan Chau Trinh (also spelled Phan Chu Trinh) – an early 20th-century Vietnamese nationalist. The sharing, “Khai dân trí – Chấn dân khí – Hậu dân sinh” (expand people’s knowledge - revitalize people’s will – enrich people’s lives), was organized in Hoi An gathering both current MPP2022 and alumni.

As part of the Public Management, Dr. Le Nguyen Minh Quang, guest speaker was invited to talk with MPP22-PA students and faculty in topics “Challenges in applying best practices in private sector to public sector”

TOA ĐÀM PHAN CHÂU TRINH NHÂN VẬT - TƯ TƯỞNG - DẤU ẤN - THỜI ĐẠI

Diễn giả: Nhà văn Nguyễn Ngọc



External Relations & Partnership Development

Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, FSPPM Dean, was invited to a recent conference hosted by HCMC People’s Committee to formulate development strategies for the city from 2021-2030. Among other speakers attending the conference, Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh identified fundamental problems and important considerations for leaders in devising development strategies for the coming period towards 2045. His speech is grounded on three overarching themes: positioning the city, growth incentives, and mindset looking for breakthrough accompanied by an in-depth analysis of how to address three underlying bottlenecks facing the city in infrastructure, institutional reforms, and human capital.

Assoc/Prof. Pham Duy Nghia delivered research paper and note on (i) Vietnam Lay Judges, and (ii) Legal Aspects of Vaccination Program at conference organized by the Supreme Court. These two cases will be used in Law and Public Policy Courses for MPP2023

In this quarter, Dr. Le Thai Ha participated in three webinars related to the YSEALI’s inaugural seminar. The first webinar is: “Information Session – YSEALI Academy at Fulbright University Vietnam’s Energy Economics and Policy Seminar” held on April 22, 2021. The second webinar “Information Session - Energy Economics and Policy Seminar’s Curriculum” is held on May 10, 2021. The third webinar is “Meet the Fellows & Demo Teaching” held on June 14, 2021.

Dr. Le Viet Phu organized a panel and a lecture on energy policies for the first seminar series organized by YSEALI academy.

On 14 April, Mr. Do Thien Anh Tuan attended a conference on the Development Strategy Planning in Binh Thuan. The event is organized by the Vietnam Institute for Development Strategies (VIDS), MPI and Binh Thuan People’s Committee.

New and Updates

Research

Dr. Huynh Nhat Nam, co-author, published a paper on *"A comparative study of topological analysis and temporal network analysis of a public transport system"* at International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology.

www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S204604302100037X

During this quarter, four publications were accepted, 3 journal articles and 1 policy paper, conducted by Dr. Le Thai Ha, all of which are available online:

"Eatery, Energy, Environment and Economic System, 1970 - 2017: Understanding Volatility Spillover Patterns in a Global Sample" (co-author with Vo, Long), Energy Economics (SSCI, ABDC: A*, Scopus Q1), Volume 100, August 2021, 105391.

doi.org/10.1016/j.eneco.2021.105391

"Drivers of greenhouse gas emissions in ASEAN+6 countries: A New Look", Environment, Development & Sustainability (ESCI, Scopus Q2), In Press.

doi.org/10.1007/s10668-021-01429-6

"What Drives Energy Insecurity Across the World? A Panel Data Analysis" (co-author Park Donghyun), Energy Research & Social Science (SSCI, Scopus Q1), Vol.77, July 2021, 102093.

doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2021.102093



The Policy Paper *"Microfinance and Social Development: A Selective Literature Review"*, Background Note for: Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2021: Financing a Green and Inclusive Recovery, Asian Development Bank, April 2021.

www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/691951/ado2021bn-microfinance-social-development.pdf

Last but not least, Dr. Le Viet Phu, FSPPM lecturer, submitted a paper *"Non-linear temperature response of electricity load and implications for development planning policies in Vietnam"* examining the load response to temperature in Vietnam using an extended series of daily electricity records from 2011 to 2020.

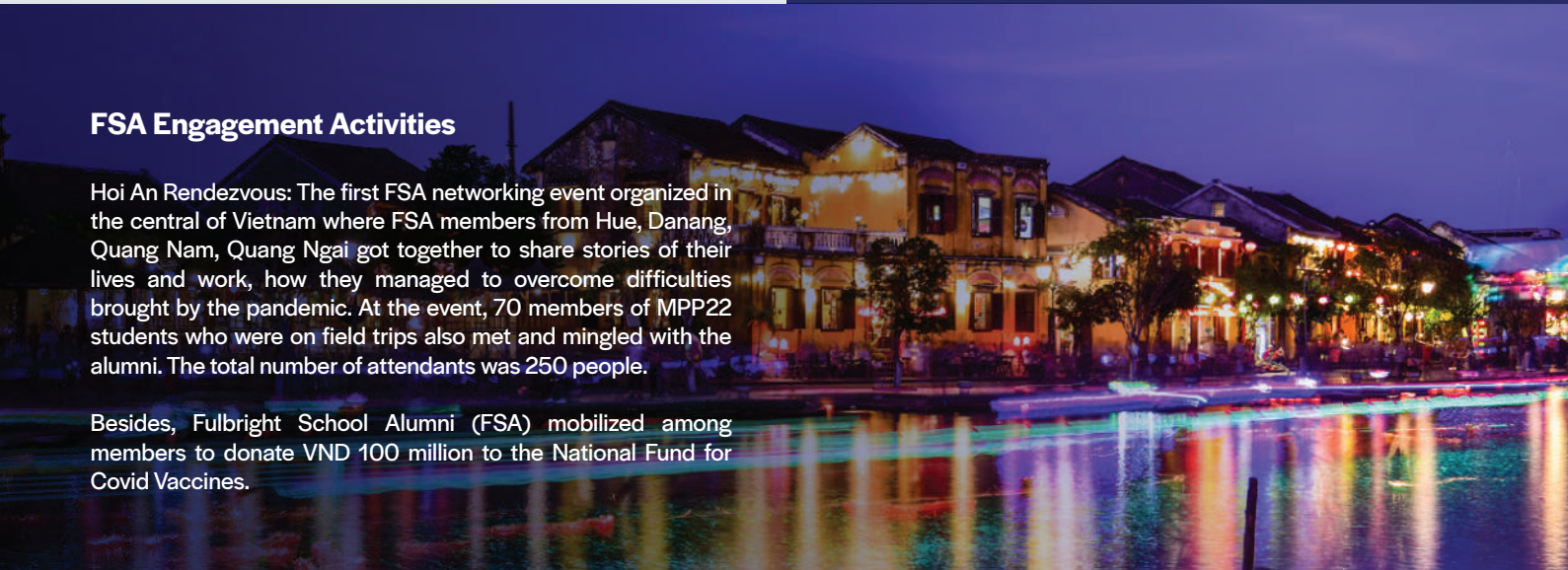
In this quarter, an on-going research *"The impact of power generation on urban air pollution in Vietnam"* is conducted by Dr. Phu.



FSA Engagement Activities

Hoi An Rendezvous: The first FSA networking event organized in the central of Vietnam where FSA members from Hue, Danang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai got together to share stories of their lives and work, how they managed to overcome difficulties brought by the pandemic. At the event, 70 members of MPP22 students who were on field trips also met and mingled with the alumni. The total number of attendants was 250 people.

Besides, Fulbright School Alumni (FSA) mobilized among members to donate VND 100 million to the National Fund for Covid Vaccines.



Upcoming events

Admission Activities

- 03 & 24/07**
Virtual Admission Consultation – Meeting with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Duy Nghia
- 17/7**
Virtual Demo Class – Dr. Le Thai Ha
- 31/7**
Virtual Demo Class – Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Duy Nghia
- 21/8**
Virtual Demo Class – Nguyen Xuan Thanh
- 05/09**
MPP23 Application Deadline
- 11-13/09**
MPP2023 Admission Interview
- 17/09**
MPP2023 Final result announcement

