

HCMC UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

25 YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

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As a prestigious center for training and studying economics, the HCMC University of Economics (HUE) undertakes tasks of training policy makers, business managers and experts in economic matters at advanced, undergraduate and graduate levels in order to serve the industrialization and modernization program, international integration and development of knowledge-based economy in the future. In addition, the HUE also carries out economic researches in order to solve problems arising from the economic development and find out logical ground for the economic development in current conditions in Vietnam, and builds cooperative relations with universities and organizations, at home and abroad, with a view to integrating into the world and providing students and teachers with new knowledge of international standard.

At present, the HUE employs 934 employees, and 539 of them are in the teaching staff. This teaching staff, regarding their academic title, include two professors, 24 assistant professors, 149 senior lecturers and 256 lecturers, and regarding their degree, 99 doctors, 254 masters and 100 others attending graduate courses. One professor of the HUE has been awarded the title "People's Teacher" and 23 others the title "Excellent Teacher". In addition, 86 employees of the HUE have been awarded the medal "For Education Career" and 10 others the medal "For Financial Career".

Inheriting many achievements from the HCMC University of Economics, HCMC University of Finance and Accounting and the faculty of economics under the HCMC University, the HUE became a multidisciplinary university that offers a wide range of training courses and has many experienced and prestigious professors and lecturers in its teaching staff. The HUE is considered as one of the biggest universities in Vietnam where some 46,000 students are admitted every year to

either full-time or part-time courses, not to mention the number of learners attending graduate courses.

Resources from the HUE are developed and tapped continuously by the army of competent lecturers and managers. Its financial situation and facilities are modernized and beefed up while its international cooperation is expanded and a democratic atmosphere developed. Based on these resources, the HUE could improve the size and quality of its services and carry various researches to or-

ability of people", the HUE has succeeded in training policy makers and managers needed for the national economic reform.

In the past 25 years, the HUE has graduated some 70,000 bachelors. In the period 1990-2001, 13,494 bachelors graduated from full-time education departments and 12,887 others from part-time ones. These graduates are working and contributing their efforts to various industries and businesses in HCMC and other southern provinces. At present, there



ders placed by the Government or ministries. Many of these researches are appreciated and prove useful to the teaching process in the HUE, the economic reform and the making of economic policies.

The HUE has concentrated its efforts on the development of its activities and completion of its tasks. Efforts by its personnel have helped improve the HUE public image and position among universities in Vietnam. Its main achievements in the years 1990-2001 are as follows.

1. Education service

To realize the motto "Make the size and quality of education service suitable to existing requirements and

are 18,897 students attending full-time training courses, 28,853 students in part-time courses and 5,128 in advanced training courses.

The HUE also offers graduate courses. Its graduate department has introduced new training programs and had doctor theses submitted and defended according to new regulations set by the Ministry of Education and Training. In the years 1990-2001, the HUE graduated 573 masters and 123 doctors. At present, 750 graduates are working for their master degrees and 160 for doctorates.

2. Scientific and technological researches

In the past 10 years when the economic reform has been carried out, numerous scientific and technological researches have been done by lecturers and researchers with facilities and financial support offered by the HUE. These activities have made the HUE an important research center in HCMC and in the South as well.

Since the early 1990s, especially after Resolution 26/TW issued on March 31, 1991 by the Politburo on "Sciences and Technology in the Economic Reform", necessary preconditions for promoting scientific researches in the HUE in terms of size and quality have been created. Considering sciences and technology as an important dynamic of the economic reform and one of two basic tasks for the HUE personnel, the HUE took various measures to encourage lecturers and researchers to engage in scientific researches. And as a result, this activity developed well regarding its size, quality and topics. In the past few years, the HUE has carried out a wide variety of researches to orders placed by the Government, ministries, local governments, companies and the HUE itself, along with researches in cooperation with foreign partners. The HUE also cooperated with the HCMC Service of Science, Technology and Environment to train 1,000 managers by 2003.

From 1990 on, the HUE has completed 14 researches at central government level, 112 ones at ministerial level, over 300 ones at local level and eight ones in the framework of international cooperation along with 170 ones to orders placed by local governments and organizations. Some 86% of these researches have been submitted and approved, and 90% of them regarded as good and applicable to the economic management.

The HUE also paid full attention to the task of compiling textbooks and teaching materials. Up to now, the HUE has published 340 works needed for learning and researching process by students.

The international cooperation on scientific research is also enhanced. In the past decade, the HUE has been one universities that actively engaged in foreign-financed research projects. Some of them are: project ISS-UH providing courses in development economics at bachelor and master levels, project in cooperation with the Quebec University, project Fulbright-Vietnam, project in cooperation with the UQAM University (Canada), project SWISS-AIT-VN,



project CFVG, project to "Develop Small and Medium Enterprises" financed by the ILO, etc. These projects have affected favorably the process of training and developing the army of economic managers for the country. Particularly, many of them have helped improve expertise of the teaching staff and modernize curricula thereby facilitating their integration into the world education system.

Scientific researches by students in the past few years were carried out through many workshops and discussions. Many works by students won awards from the Hồ Chí Minh Youth League and the Ministry of Education and Training.

3. Development of the teaching staff

The HUE has adopted new mechanisms for encouraging the teaching staff to enhance their expertise. Various measures were taken to help them make studies at home and abroad based on good relations between the HUE and foreign universities. The HUE also ensures financial interests for employees according to regulations set by the State. Moreover, many allowances are given to employees with a view to helping them improve the living standard and pay more attention to their jobs.

4. Development of facilities

The HUE has tried its best to modernize facilities for teaching and studying. New buildings, classrooms, offices have been built. HUE campuses have been expanded. More reading rooms in libraries have been opened and dormitories have been

upgraded to meet demand by the increasing number of students.

Developing libraries is considered as one of factors that could help enhance quality of education services. In the past few years, the HUE spent a lot of money increasing the number of books and magazines. Libraries in the HUE have been computerized to offer more services to students and teachers.

The HUE also pays attention to health care service for students and employees. It ensures medical insurance and regular medical examination for all employees and freshmen.

5. Other activities

In the HUE, such civic organizations as Trade Union, Association of Students and HCM Youth League have contributed to creation of good working and studying conditions and engaged in social work. Up to now, the HUE has mobilized money to build 40 houses for revolutionary families, eight houses for the poor, give financial support to 13 women awarded the title "Vietnamese Heroic Mother" and people in flood plains. Recently, the HUE was awarded the Labor Honor of the third grade for its social work.

The past 25 years is a process of continuous effort by the HUE. Experiencing many changes in society and organization, the HUE stayed firm and developed into an economic research center in the South and contributed a lot to the economic reform. Thousands of managers graduated from the HUE have worked and contributed to the development of the economy. With these achievements, the HUE was awarded the Independence Honor on Oct. 27, 2001, its 25th anniversary. ■