



Prof. Dr. Nguyễn Thanh Tuyên, Rector of UEH and Prof. Dr. Du Lô Giang, Director of DEC are inaugurating the DEC

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS CENTER NEW FACILITY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN UEH

On August 4, 1998, the Development Economics Center in the University of Economics - HCMC was inaugurated. Prof. Dr. Nguyễn Thanh Tuyên, UEH Rector, in his inaugural speech, spoke of objective demand for such a center in the UEH, targets set for the center, and main tasks and research topics that the center had to carry out after coming into operation.

Speaking of requirements posed for the center, Prof. Nguyễn stressed that the center was a source of materials needed for teaching and training activities. He said all lecturers had had to study hard before they could give excellent lessons because scientific research was both the "soul" and a precondition for a better training and teaching activity. According to him, the center would have to develop into a firm basis for the education process in the UEH. The UEH had longed for such a center for a long time but hadn't got conditions favorable enough to form it. Mr. Nguyễn hoped that the center, although it's late in the day, would make a breakthrough in scientific research

and helped to form a new economic school in the UEH.

Prof. Nguyễn also pointed out that in the coming years, the center would have to concentrate its efforts on four targets:

- + Summing up experience and developing a theory of transition from the centrally-planned economy to the socialism-oriented market economy.

- + Researching on the agronomy and rural development.

- + Researching on management mechanism and ways to reform the mechanism for economic management.

- + Studying international economy, particularly Asian and ASEAN economies.

To achieve these targets, he thought that, for the time being, the center had better research into the following five topics:

- Estimating the economic reform in HCMC and Southern provinces in the past 10 years.

- Farm economy in the industrialization and modernization process in different zones of the country.

- Landless farmers in the Mek-

ong Delta.

- Mechanism for controlling companies in HCMC.

- Lessons drawn from the regional financial crisis.

Besides these five topics, the center would be able to carry out researches according to orders placed by other organizations. The center hoped Mr. Nguyễn would have to try its best in order to expand into a research institute in two years if conditions are favorable.

Đỗ Hoàng Hải (Năm Khoa), Chairperson of the Economic Commission under the VCP Committee in HCMC, as the guest of honor at the ceremony, expressed his feeling of happiness before this new development of the UEH. He said that the center, in spite of its lateness, was very necessary for the UEH be-

cause such a major university in HCMC without a research center wasn't readily understandable. He promised that the Economic Commission of VCP Committee in HCMC would contract with the center to carry out studies, especially some of five researches assigned to the Commission by the Politburo in preparation for the 9th VCP National Congress.

Being moved by these expressions of concern, Prof. Dr. Du Lô Giang, Director of Development Economics Center, speaking for his assistant -Dr. Đào Duy Huân- and others, presented his view on the development orientation of the center. He didn't want to make promises and said that he would start his work immediately to show that the existence of the center was an actual need and the center was different from other departments of the UEH. He hoped that the center would be assisted and supported by all individuals and organizations, inside or outside the UEH.

Reported by NGUYỄN THƯỢNG MINH