

**O**n the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the HCMC University of Economics (1976-2001), every university members look back to and recollect what they have done and what they have not yet. They see their great performance and remain worried about what they have not yet attained.

No one can deny the HUE's significant achievements in the last 25 years as follows:

One thousand employees, including hundreds of scientists are doing their best. The university's training capacity is 51,000 students annually, including thousands of graduates with BA, MA and Ph.D. degrees.

Notably, in the last 5 years, the staff have used thousands of computers for working and most of them are logged on the Internet. The use of computers and Internet has brought actual benefits to the process of training and education. A huge amount of information is exploited from Internet and processed for teaching and studying.

The university annual budget amounts to some VND70 billion including VND18 billion coming from the State budget.

These figures indicate the HUE's great efforts and contributions to the national development in the past 25 years. However, not a few staff think they would have recorded more achievements if they had been given more rights, appropriate policies and modern instruments previously.

The HCMC University of Economics is facing a severe challenge when the country is joining the global economy, entering the bilateral trade with the largest market and will be admitted to the WTO. These events force the university to make a comprehensive reform and plan a new strategy for its education, scientific research and international cooperation. The school plays a decisive role in training Vietnamese economists for the national development because the HCMC is just a hub attracting international resources

and providing human resources and talents for the country.

It requires a favorable environment in terms of policies and operation mechanism, and great efforts of each school member to reach the university's goals. Their spirit of self-reliance and self-responsibility depends on the school's policies and operation mechanism. The school must acquire autonomy in mobilizing domestic and foreign resources to fulfill its tasks. It also has to proactively establish relations with individuals, organizations and countries necessary for its development. Its lecturers and economists have rights to make contact, cooperation and joint studies with all partners. They also have rights to suggest new training contents. The school's perspective is based on innovations of all members.

On the following anniversaries, the next generations will reap more fruits and be grateful to the former if they make proper decisions just at present.■

# FACTS, FIGURES AND REFLECTIONS

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