1. Contents

1. News from the Campus

   - Governing Mayor of Berlin hits the start button to kick off the new study program GPEM at VGU
   - First professorship appointment procedures at VGU
   - VGU Opening and Graduation Ceremony
   - VMU Team attends training on Project Operations Manual (POM) in Da Nang
   - Winner of the Architecture Design Competition (ADC)
   - VGU welcomes industry representatives and leaders of the Vietnamese-German Friendship Association
   - The 1st Short Course on Geophysical Fluid Dynamics: Ocean Circulation and Coastal Process
   - Master student from University of Siegen visits VGU for one month
   - Cooperation with Ho Chi Minh City Television Station on the topic of trends in human resource development
   - Welcoming New Staff at VGU

2. Events

   - VGU students win the first prize of DEMO ASEAN’s Student Alpha Pitch 2013
   - Forum: Macroeconomic Reform in Vietnam
   - adidas Scholarship for Global Production Engineering and Management (M.Sc.) and Job Opportunities Meeting - Ho Chi Minh City, 9 Aug 2013
   - Praxispartnership Project Activities 2013
   - Young Debate Championship 2013: What Kind of World Do You Want?
   - Promotion at Tran Dai Nghia High School for gifted students
   - VGU hosts 3rd round of BKIT Car Rally 2013

3. Prospects and Dates

   - Internships for external Bachelor students in VGU’s Computational Engineering program
1. News from the Campus

Governing Mayor of Berlin hits the start button to kick off the new study program GPEM at VGU

The Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, visited VGU in Binh Duong on 30.10.2013, to witness the start of its Global Production Engineering and Management Master Program (GPEM). The visit is a part of his official five-day visit to Vietnam, the first-ever visit of a Mayor of Berlin to Vietnam since German reunification.

Mr. Wowereit was accompanied by the German Consul General in HCMC, Dr. Hans-Dieter Stell, the Vice President of VGU’s partner university Technical University of Berlin (co-organizer of the study program) Prof. Hans-Ulrich Heiß, and the Vice President of the Berlin Chamber of Trade Mr. Stephan Schwarz. Mr. Wowereit extended his best wishes to the freshmen of the new study program and expressed his hope that VGU graduates will contribute to their country’s economic growth and drive to improve its people’s standard of living.

GPEM is a new cooperation study program between VGU and TU Berlin. Its first intake in 2013-2014 boasts 26 students, 15 of which received adidas scholarships.

First professorship appointment procedures at VGU

In July seven trial lecturers and interviews for three professorship positions in the study programs EEIT, Computational Engineering and SEPT MBA) were successfully carried out at the Binh Duong Campus of VGU. The partner universities in Germany (FH Frankfurt, University of Leipzig, and Ruhr University Bochum) dispatched professors to VGU to act as members of the appointment committee throughout the procedure. The potential candidates were evaluated not only by professors from Germany and Vietnam but also by representatives from German companies in Vietnam (like Robert Bosch, Pepperl Fuchs, SGS) and VGU students.

Ms. Thao T.M. Nguyen, Assistant to President
Candidates meeting the requirements of their positions were accepted for further consideration in the recruitment process. The next step of the procedure will be external evaluations conducted by at least two professors from Germany. Candidates receiving positive results from external evaluators will be offered positions as lecturers of VGU and will have the opportunity to become appointed professors in Vietnam during their further career at VGU.

Four additional announcements for full-time lecturer vacancies were published in July. Trial lectures and interviews will take place in the coming months.

More open positions for full-time lecturers will come up in the near future. Information about these vacancies can be found on VGU’s website http://www.vgu.edu.vn/info/jobs-at-vgu/academic-positions/.

Ms. Nga T. Hoang, Officer Professorship Assistant

**VGU Opening and Graduation Ceremony**

On the morning of Sep. 28th 2013, the Opening Ceremony for the academic year 2013/14 was held at the Main Lecture Hall of VGU’s Binh Duong campus. VGU was honored by the presence of Prof. Dr. Pham Vu Luan – Minister of Education and Training of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam - her Excellency Ms. Jutta Frasch – Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Vietnam - Mr. Huynh Van Nhi – Vice Chairman of the People’s Committee of Binh Duong Province - along with other delegates of German and Vietnamese universities and many entrepreneurs.

In his opening speech, the President of VGU - Prof. Mallon welcomed all our guests, thanked them for the support that VGU has received over the years and also wished for a new academic year full of success. The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Vietnam expressed her joy at the development of the school and affirmed that VGU epitomizes the success of German-Vietnamese scientific cooperation.
Vietnamese Minister of Education and Training Prof. Luan congratulated the graduating students while welcoming the new ones and promised that the government will continue to support VGU in the future. At the ceremony, all undergraduate and graduate students received their respective degrees from Prof. Mallon, Prof. Luan, Ms. Frasch, Prof. Nauth together with Dr. Ghawami and Mr. Hendricks. During the Opening ceremony and Commencement of 2013, students from the Music Club of VGU also presented many interesting performances. Afterwards, VGU offered a tour around campus and an exhibition presenting the 5 design models of VGU’s future campus.

Ms. Tam T.T. Nguyen, Marketing Officer

VMU Team attends training on Project Operations Manual (POM) in Da Nang from 28 to 31 Aug 2013

The POM is an important guideline for the two project management units (PMU and VMU) implementing the New Model University Project (VGU). It specifies the rules, regulations and procedures to be followed during the build-up and operation of the VGU Project to achieve the objectives laid out in the project document. In order to keep the manual updated and in line with the actual activities of the project, the World Bank requires it be revised on an annual basis.

The training was held by the MoET Project Management Unit (PMU) in Da Nang from 28 to 31 Aug 2013:

- Review of the revision and updating progress of the POM
- Presentation of new revisions compared to the last version
- Update on new regulations of the Vietnamese government and the World Bank related to procurement and financial management
- Introduction and discussion of the Action Plans of PMU and VGU
- Discussion of Corruption prevention in procurement according to the World Bank regulations
- Discussion of challenges and exchange of ideas during the implementation of the project between the two management units
The working days were rounded off with group activity by the sea to strengthen the teamwork spirit among staff of the two project management units.

Ms. Nguyet T.A. Nguyen, VMU Project Manager

**Winner of the Architecture Design Competition (ADC)**

In July 2013, all jurors of the ADC met at the office of the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) in Hanoi to judge the designs and designate the winner. This contest had been running since 2012. Attendees at the event were general jurors (including Prof. Bui Van Ga - Vice Minister of Education and Training of the SRV - Dr. Udo Corts representing the Minister of the Hesse Ministry of Arts and Sciences, Mr. Nguyen Dinh Toan - Vice Minister of Construction - and Prof. Jürgen Mallon - President of VGU - as well as national and international jurors and national and international experts.

After a full-day jury meeting, the winning campus design was selected. The identity of the winner will be disclosed after the contract is signed. At the grand dinner that day, Deputy Prime Minister Prof. Nguyen Thien Nhan, Minister of Education Prof. Pham Vu Luan, and German ambassador Jutta Frasch thanked everybody present and congratulated the team on the results of the ADC. All the campus models that took part in the competition were exhibited at the Opening Ceremony of VGU in Binh Duong on 28 September 2013.

Ms. Thao T.M. Nguyen, Assistant to President

** VGU welcomes industry representatives and leaders of the Vietnamese-German Friendship Association on 14.08.2013**

On Wednesday 14 August 2013, VGU President Prof. Jürgen Mallon and Head of Marketing Mr. Vo Minh Thai welcomed industry representatives and leaders of the Vietnamese-German Friendship Association during their visit to the Vietnamese-German University.
Among the guests were Mr. Nguyen Nhu Khue, Managing Director of RKW Lotus Vietnam, Dr. Ing. Diep The Van, Senior Advisor of Dematic Vietnam, Dr. Ing. Nguyen Huu Thien, Chairman of the Friendship Association’s southern branch, Prof. Bui Khanh The, Vice President of the University of Foreign Languages and Information Technology, Ass. Prof. Nguyen Mong Hung, former President of Van Hien University and Chairman of the Automation Association of HCMC, and Mr. Nguyen Canh Nam, Chairman of the Ha Tinh Entrepreneur’s Association in HCMC.

At the meeting, Prof. Mallon presented an outline history and overview of current VGU activities, pointing toward future fields of cooperation and development. The Vietnamese-German Friendship Association pledged to assist in attracting potential lecturers to teach at VGU.

Ms. Thao T.M. Nguyen, Assistant to President

The 1st Short Course on Geophysical Fluid Dynamics: Ocean Circulation and Coastal Process

From August 26 till 28 the first short course on "Geophysical Fluid Dynamics: Ocean Circulation and Coastal Process" took place at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Science, Faculty of Physics and Engineering Physics, Department of Oceanology, Meteorology and Hydrology, in collaboration with the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), EXPO 2012 Yeosu Korea, and with VGU. The lectures given by the Korean colleagues from Seoul National University and the Korean Institute of Ocean Science and Technology covered the topics of "Climate change in the Ocean", "Ocean Circulation Basics", "Coastal Processes and Sediment Transport" and "Computational Fluid Dynamics and its Applications to River Modeling". Dr. Jörg Franke’s lecture on the final day moved the attention away from the ocean to the atmosphere, focusing on "Quality Assurance For Urban Flow and dispersion Simulation at Micro Scale".

All lectures were followed attentively by the 85 course participants from HCMC University of Science, HCMC University of Technology, and the Institute of Oceanology in Nha Trang, Ben Tre and Tien Giang provinces, and many more institutes. Two weeks before the official deadline for registration, many more than the anticipated 60 participants had registered, so that registration had to close early.

The head of the Department of Oceanology, Meteorology and Hydrology, Dr. Vo Luong Hong Phuoc and her team organized the course very well and the feedback of lecturers and participants was extremely positive. Everybody hopes that there will be a second short course on this topic next year.
Master student from University of Siegen visits VGU for one month

Michael Wustmans, Master student from the University of Siegen, visited VGU from August 5 until August 31 to finish major parts of his Master thesis for which he had conducted prior research at the Environmental Wind Tunnel Laboratory (EWTL) at the University of Hamburg where his advisor is Prof. Bernd Leitl. Mr. Wustmans is funded by the DAAD-PROMOS program through the Siegen Student Mobility Program (Siegener Studierendenmobilitätsprogramm).

In his thesis he designed a new balance for the large boundary layer wind tunnel in Hamburg and performed force measurements on a model wind turbine placed in different wind conditions. In addition, he measured velocities ahead of the turbine and in the wake to compare the directly determined forces from the balance with the indirect ones. The experiment is based on a simplified mathematical momentum balance using the measured velocities.

The course was also an excellent opportunity to introduce VGU and advertise its Programs to colleagues and students from Vietnam and Korea. Research cooperation between VGU and other Vietnamese institutions was also discussed.

Moreover, a common research proposal in Computational Fluid Dynamics was considered by the head of the Environmental Science Laboratory of the Institute for Computational Science and Technology in Ho Chi Minh City, Professor Nguyen Thinh Van, and Dr. Jörg Franke.

Dr. Jörg Franke, Coordinator for M.Sc. Computational Engineering
Impressed by VGU and Vietnam, he has begun investigating the possibilities of organizing a DAAD fall school at VGU with either the University of Siegen or the University of Hamburg after his return to Germany.

Dr. Jörg Franke, Coordinator for M.Sc. Computational Engineering

Cooperation of Vietnamese-German University and Ho Chi Minh City Television Station on trends in human resource development

VGU and HCMC TV worked together for a series of talk shows on human resource development, the first of which focused on Enhancing Innovation Management Capacity for Vietnamese Entrepreneurs. Mr. Nguyen Tan Quynh, Chairman of SFC trading petrol and gas in Ho Chi Minh City discussed innovation management capacity in enterprises with VGU Vice President Dr. Ha Thuc Vien who provided an academic perspective on the topic and introduced the Praxispartnership Project between Leipzig University and the Vietnamese-German University funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The second show dealt with new trends in engineering management human resources and highlighted the demand of qualified engineers in global production engineering. Mercedes Benz CEO Mr. Michael Behrens and VGU President Prof. Jürgen Mallon presented the requirements of corporations such as Mercedes Benz and the contribution of VGU’s Global Production Engineering and Management Master Program which started this fall.

Finally, the third show focused on Mechatronics Engineering Human Resources Development trends. Mr. Johnny Ng from FESTO (specialized in pneumatic and electric drive technology) and Prof. Jürgen Mallon talked about the job market for graduates in mechatronics engineering. Upcoming episodes will cover further human resources development trends which are of specific interest to VGU students.

For more information of the talk shows, please see the following links:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldtKgiZlwC4
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rb9ALuvZWE
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzAFBrjFoLo
Welcoming New Staff

Since May, several positions were filled:
Marketing Department: Ms. Vo Thi Phuong Nhung, Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Tam and Mr. Le Van Luong
Academic Affairs Department: Mr. Huynh Duc Nguyen, Ms. Vo Thi Thuc Quyen, Mr. Tran Tuan Anh and Ms. Ngo Thi Thanh Dung, Ms. Trinh Nguyen Thanh Thuy
Student Affairs Department: Mr. Nguyen Hoang Thien Thu and Ms. Nguyen Thi Hoa
EEIT: Mr. Tran Quang Nhu and Dr. Udo Klein
SUD: Ms. Le Thi Thu Huong
IT Department: Mr. Pham Minh Trung
Finance Department: Ms. Nguyen Thi Thuy Dung
Procurement Office: Nguyen Trinh Tram

We wish all newcomers a warm welcome to VGU!

Ms. Nhung T.P. Vo, PR Officer

2. Events

VGU Students won the first prize of DEMO ASEAN’s Student Alpha Pitch 2013

On 31 August 2013, at Riverside Palace, 3 students from VGU (Pham Dinh Khoa, Dinh Quoc Huy, and Nguyen Doan Quang Khoi) won the first prize of DEMO ASEAN’s Student Alpha Pitch 2013. Student Alpha Pitch is part of DEMO ASEAN, one of the largest technology events in the world which focuses on emerging technologies and new product information.

The Multi glove and RC car
Held by International Data Group Ventures, Student Alpha Pitch is a launch pad for students to present new technologies to the DEMO audience.

The team’s project is entitled MultiGlove, a hardware device the shape of a glove. The device senses the position and tilting angle of the wearer’s hand before translating them into electronic commands. The glove can be used to control a mouse cursor or an RC Car.

About the future of this product, Nguyen Doan Quang Khoi, one of the MultiGlove inventors, said: “With funding from Vietnamese-German University, I believe we can build a commercial version with better functions in the near future. The device has a lot of potential in the entertainment field, e.g. you can point where your RC plane is supposed to fly to”.

TechInAsia posted an article about the device here: [http://www.techinasia.com/multiglove-is-kinect-from-vietnam/](http://www.techinasia.com/multiglove-is-kinect-from-vietnam/)

The introduction video of the device can be found here: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLzMALCL_rQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLzMALCL_rQ)

Mr. Huy Q. Dinh (EEIT student, class of 2011)

Forum: Macroeconomic Reform in Vietnam

On Aug 30th, a forum on "Macroeconomic Reform in Vietnam" organized by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Vietnamese-German University (VGU) was held at the Hotel Continental in HCMC.

Representatives from The State Bank of Vietnam, the Ministry of Finance, the Economic Committee of the National Assembly, the National Financial Supervisory Commission and the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) met at the forum to discuss three topics: "Economic Restructuring and Reform of State Enterprises in Vietnam", "Monetary Policy and Finance Markets in Vietnam", and "Economic Outlook of Vietnam and Foreign Investment in Vietnam".

The part on “Macroeconomic Reform in Vietnam" aimed to underline Vietnam’s market orientation in Vietnam and focused on three levels of capacity development:

- The Vietnamese legal framework
- The monitoring of organizations
- Agencies’ reform process and staff capacity building.
Vietnam still faces a number of problems such as insufficient labor productivity and hence low-value-added products, excessive unproductive growth (e.g. real estate), inefficient and corrupt state-owned enterprises etc. Prof. Jürgen Mallon, President of VGU, suggested that Vietnam urgently needs productivity-led growth to remain competitive. Macroeconomic stability should be the overall goal. Prof. Mallon also pointed out that industries now need more qualified engineers and middle managers to increase productivity with new technology. With its education and training programs, VGU guarantees to train qualified engineers that meet these modern industry standards.

Ms. Nhung T.P. Vo, PR Officer

**adidas Scholarships for Global Production Engineering and Management (M.Sc.) and Job Opportunities Meeting - Ho Chi Minh City, 9 August 2013**

In cooperation with adidas Group and its suppliers in Vietnam, VGU organized an information meeting on scholarships and job opportunities for students intending to apply to the MA program in Global Production Engineering and Management (GPEM). With its practical approach and the quality of a leading German university, the program has attracted considerable interest from many students. As a multinational corporation, adidas and its suppliers are in constant demand of qualified engineers with production management skills.

The Master in GPEM offers a German state of the art education and training. More than 100 people attended the meeting and 20 students were selected for scholarships from adidas and its suppliers.

Ms. Nhung T.P. Vo, PR Officer
Praxispartnership Project Activities 2013

Praxispartnership Project is a joint activity of three partners to implement a partnership with SMEs and SME support institutions in Vietnam. For the implementation of the Praxispartnership Project, Vietnamese-German University has conducted the following activities:

Serial workshops on innovation management were held in February 2013 with 50 participants from enterprises in Ho Chi Minh City’s Department of Standards Metrology and Quality. Additional training for managers of 60 enterprises proved equally successful. Praxispartnership also held a seminar on Service Innovation Capacity for Enterprises with 40 participants at the VGU City Campus in July 2013. Aimed at enhancing management capability in innovation management was the Train the Trainer Course for Innovation Management on 9 October 2013. Enterprises were encouraged to form an Innovators Club which would have quarterly meetings starting in 2014. For further details on small and medium enterprise innovation management capacity development, please go to [www.innovators.vn](http://www.innovators.vn).

Praxispartnership’s annual meeting also features a Best Innovator Award. The kick-off event took place at the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and was joined by 40 enterprises. After 3 rounds, 5 teams were selected to participate in the finals on 10 August 2013. The winner, inspired by online farming games, gave a convincing presentation and the result was never in doubt. Best Innovators Award 2014 will start in June 2014.

Ms. Linh D.T. Huynh, MBA Program Coordinator and Teaching Associate
Young Debate Championship 2013: What Kinds of World Do You Want – Promotion at Tran Dai Nghia High School for gifted students

The Young Debate Championship 2013 was held by VGU students during the fall term 2013. The contest aims at creating an English playground that attracts students from high schools and universities and raises students’ awareness of problems facing Vietnam and the world. The event, cosponsored by VGU, the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, LAMY and other kind sponsors, turned out to be a great success.

On September 5th, the promotion team visited Tran Dai Nghia High school for gifted students. The visit attracting many students, provided information about the Young Debate Championship 2013 to the school community. A long line of students waited to throw darts hitting a balloon and answering a question in return for great prizes. Thanks for the promotion team and volunteers, the Young Debate Championship 2013 turned into an important part of student life.

You are kindly invited to access the following website to stay up-to-date about the event:
www.debatevgu.heliohost.org
www.facebook.com/YoungDebate

Mr. Thu H.T. Nguyen, Student Affairs Officer

VGU hosts the 3rd round of BKIT Car Rally 2013

On 17 August 2013, VGU hosted the third round of BCR (BKIT Car Rally) 2013 in Binh Duong organized by BKIT Hardware Club of Bach Khoa University. The 2 previous rounds were held at Bach Khoa University and Hoa Sen University, respectively. There were 2 buses from Bach Khoa to Binh Duong, and light refreshments for the contestants and the audience.
All the competitors’ cars did their best to complete the racetrack, which was quite a challenge. This round saw a new driving mechanism from VGU|UGV of VGU: The turning wheels were mounted on the back, and the driving wheels on the front.

The round ended with BKRC and Khong Do from Bach Khoa University winning the first and second prize, VGU.HighlandBandits from VGU the third.

The 4th and 5th rounds of the contest were held at Bach Khoa University. At the 5th and final round of the contest, VGU.ThunderX (Tran Minh Canh, Nguyen Le Quoc Bao) won the round championship. VGU|UGV (Vu Tran Con, Luong Tan Cuong) with their 4-wheel steering system won the “Most Creative Design” prize.
Khong Do from Bach Khoa University won the Rally’s championship, VGU. HighlandBandits (Doan Ngoc Khiem, Dinh Quoc Huy) stood at second and BugattiVeyron from Bach Khoa University took third. BCR 2013 ended with all of the contestants gaining precious knowledge, fun and experience. VGU had an outstanding result considering the fact that most of the team were 1st year students.

Mr. Huy Q. Dinh (EEIT student, class of 2011)
3. Prospects and Dates

Internships for external Bachelor students in VGU’s Computational Engineering program

During a visit from three Bachelor students of the Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology who wanted to inquire about the Master’s program at VGU, I learned that Vietnamese students have to do an internship during their Bachelor program. As places for internships are limited, two students asked whether they could do their internship in Computational Engineering at VGU. As these internships are an efficient way to make VGU and its programs better known at other universities, I immediately agreed to accept the two students. In addition to the positive marketing effect, the internships are an excellent opportunity for our Research and Teaching Assistants to gain experience in and improve supervision skills. Therefore, our assistants Ms Nguyen Hai Van and Mr Tran Tuan Minh each supervised one of the students working on the topics "Employing the Numerical Method on a Nonlinear Structure Problem" and "A General Overview of Continuum Dislocation Theory and Mathematical implementation". While supervision of the first topic turned out to be more difficult, the student working on the second topic has already finished by now. He was so positively impressed by VGU that he decided to do his Bachelor Thesis with us. The thesis on "Large Eddy Simulation of the Flow Around a Rotating Sphere" started at the beginning of September and is supervised by me.

Besides the aforementioned positive effects of internships, we already have one student for next year's intake who will act as a multiplier in his Bachelor Program at the Department of Aerospace Engineering at Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology. Through the internship, contact was established with the Department of Aerospace Engineering. I intend to visit them soon to advertise our Master’s program to their Bachelor students and to discuss possible research cooperation in the field of Computational Fluid Dynamics with the colleagues there.

Dr. Jörg Franke, Coordinator for M.Sc. Computational Engineering