

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gov. Gen. speaks to SIAST grads in Vietnam

Program delivered through partnership with Ho Chi Minh university

November 18, 2011 – Gov. Gen. David Johnston was on hand today when 133 students received SIAST Business Administration diplomas at a ceremony in Vietnam. The students received their diplomas through a partnership between SIAST and Ho Chi Minh City University of Industry (HUI).

“SIAST is delighted that the Governor General was able to join us for today’s celebration with HUI,” says David Walls, SIAST provost and vice president, academic. “This is a special day for the grads, but it’s also a special day for SIAST. We’re privileged and honoured to have contributed to the education of more than 400 business students at HUI over the last five years.”

Walls attended the ceremony with HUI president Tran Tuan Anh and SIAST Business program heads Graham Chute and Rick Wagman.

SIAST has been active in Vietnam since 1994. Before entering into a partnership with HUI, for instance, SIAST was the lead college in a five-year, \$5-million project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Tra Vinh. That project involved establishing a community college that has since become a model for post-secondary vocational education.

SIAST launched a blog to highlight its activities in Vietnam this week. The blog features photos and interviews, including an interview with a University of Regina recruiter in the country to talk with SIAST grads. (In recent years, more than 15 SIAST grads from Vietnam have taken advantage of SIAST transfer credit options to pursue a business degree in Saskatchewan.) Upcoming posts will feature a visit to Tra Vinh University in the Mekong Delta. The blog is accessible at www.goSIAS.com/Vietnam.

SIAST has experience through consulting arrangements or brokering programs in more than 30 countries.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. More than 15,000 students are enrolled in SIAST programs; additionally, the organization draws almost 25,000 individual course registrations. Through program and course registrations, SIAST serves almost 26,000 distinct students with programs that touch every sector of the economy. SIAST operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.

For information about SIAST's international activities, visit:

www.gosiast.com/programs/international/index.shtml.

www.gosiast.com/about/departments/business_development/international-projects.shtml.