



The 10th Engaging With Vietnam: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue Conference

Beyond Dichotomies in Knowledge Production Vietnam from Multiple Perspectives

www.engagingwithvietnam.org

www.engagingwithvietnamconference.org

15-16 December: Ho Chi Minh City

17 December: HCMC to Phan Thiet City, Binh Thuan (by train)

17-21 December: Phan Thiet City, Binh Thuan

Co-organizers: Engaging With Vietnam, University of Hawaii at Manoa - USA, University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City, and University of Phan Thiet

Inspired by the interactions and dialogues at the previous conferences, the 10th Engaging With Vietnam Conference will continue to feature a mixture of well-connected activities and creative formats in all the three parts in Ho Chi Minh City and Binh Thuan Province.

Tentative Program

15 December: Pre-conference parallel activities (all day: Hackathon groups meeting & Presentations from The ‘Deltas Winter School 2018’): at USSH - VNU HCMC

16 December: Conference Opening Ceremony and Academic Sessions (all day): at USSH – VNU HCMC

17 December: Train to Phan Thiet City, Binh Thuan (day-time train); 1.30 pm - evening: Conference Activities in Phan Thiet

18 – 21 December: Conference activities in Phan Thiet

****Engaging With Vietnam co-organizes the Winter School 2018 with the IIAS (Leiden), USSH – VNU HCMC, and An Giang Province. The Winter School 2018 is one of the main activities to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Engaging With Vietnam. It takes place from December 9th to 15th in An Giang and HCMC. Visit <https://iias.asia/masterclass/delta-cities> for more information.*



2018 marks a milestone turning point of Engaging With Vietnam - its 10th anniversary. We would like to invite you to the 10th Engaging With Vietnam Conference to experience another stimulating and enriching gathering that will take place all the way from Ho Chi Minh City to Binh Thuan, a coastal province in Central Vietnam. A ride on train between the two locations promises a pleasant trip with amazing sceneries, reflections, and mixed sentiments. We are very delighted to have this opportunity to continue to tour Vietnam with the 10th conference participants. How wonderful to engage in meaningful and rigorous academic sessions while being refreshed with ocean breezes, blue water, and sand dunes in Binh Thuan!

To continue its multi/interdisciplinary engagement, this 10th conference focuses in particular on dichotomies, the dichotomization of knowledge, and the discursive constructions of dichotomies in Vietnam-related knowledge production and scholarship. Dichotomies and dichotomization often come in the form of 'Self and Other' and/or in pairs of contrast, such as 'global - local', 'traditional - modern', 'Western values - Asian values', 'Vietnamese women - foreign women', 'nationalism - cosmopolitanism', 'developed - underdeveloped/developing', 'urban - rural', 'privileged - disadvantaged', 'active - passive', 'critical thinking - passive and rote learning', 'Global North - Global South', and 'Vietnam - ASEAN', etc.

This year, the 10th Engaging With Vietnam Conference will feature several keynote panels that delve into the questions and issues regarding dichotomies and dichotomization in knowledge and scholarship production specified above. These panels may include:

- Vietnam's Participation in and Appropriation of Global-level Dominant Dichotomies: A Dialogue across Geography, Anthropology, and Education
- Milestone Events and their Associated Dichotomies Driving Knowledge Production in Contemporary Vietnam and the U.S: "Doi Moi" for Vietnam and "The Vietnam War" for the U.S
- Dichotomies Embedded in Traveling Policies, Reforms, Ideas, and Practices in Education, Tourism, and Sociology: Vietnam From Within and Afar
- The Historicization of 'Us' and 'Them' in Knowledge Production about Vietnam: Multiple Sets of Dichotomies in Focus
- Dichotomies in Development and Legal Studies: Vietnam and 'the Other'

Submission of proposals

Consider Vietnam in all its possible relations with itself and the world and the meanings underlying such relations, the 10th Engaging With Vietnam Conference invites submissions for individual academic paper presentations and panels as well as other modes of presentations including workshops, roundtable discussions, poster displays, film screening, performances, and exhibitions that engage and interrogate the following questions and other related questions:

- *Why, how and in what ways are dichotomies dominant and sustained in knowledge production in general and knowledge production about Vietnam in particular?*



- *How do dichotomies and dichotomization travel across disciplines, territories, worldviews and systems of knowledge?*
- *How are dichotomies constructed?*
- *What dichotomies are often used to create knowledge about Vietnam? How are they used? By whom? For whom? Who and what do these dichotomies serve? How do they affect policy making, tourism, education, and the society at large?*
- *How do dichotomies create stereotypes, 'truths', and 'Truths'? What 'truth' and 'Truths' about Vietnam have been constructed via dichotomies?*
- *What dichotomies and their associated repertoire of meanings contradict one another in producing knowledge about Vietnam?*
- *What have been the grand dichotomies that overarch knowledge production about Vietnam?*
- *What are the discursive constructions of these dichotomies? Are these dichotomies used in the same way across time and contexts? How do they influence the ways one criticizes, debates, compares, makes an argument, and makes reference regarding anything 'Vietnam' and all of its 'Others'?*
- *Is there always a readily available audience for certain dichotomies? Can an audience also be created? How?*
- *In what ways can dichotomies and dichotomization be helpful? Can they be understood as being fluid, contingent, crossing, and subject to reconstruction? What are their limitations and implications?*

Submission Deadline: 30 September 2018

Notification of Acceptance: 20 October 2018

Instructions and forms for submission in both English and Vietnamese are available on the conference websites:

www.engagingwithvietnam.org

www.engagingwithvietnamconference.org.

You can submit up to two proposals, one of which can be for inclusion in a panel that you organize or is organized by others. Your proposals can also be for workshops, roundtable discussions, exhibitions, film screening, and performances that are linked to the overall theme of the conference. You can always email us if you need more instructions or clarifications.

If you need early acknowledgement of notification of acceptance, please let us know in advance.

Please address all queries to the conference email address: [engagingwithvietnam\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:engagingwithvietnam[at]gmail.com)



Registration

Registration form and registration payment methods will soon be available on the conference website.

Participants	Early bird (pay online until 20 November 2018)	Normal (pay online until 14 December 2018)	On-site registration (from 15 December pay at the conference - cash only)
Regular	USD 150	USD 180	USD 220
MA & PhD students from overseas institutions	USD 100	USD 120	USD 150
MA & PhD students from Vietnamese institutions	600.000 VND	800.000 VND	1.000.000 VND
Regular participants from USSH HCMC (excluding the organizing committee members and support team) <i>(Please pay the registration fee directly to the Office of Research and Project Management at your University)</i>	600.000 VND	800.000 VND	1.000.000 VND
All University of Phan Thiet Participants	Waived		
Undergraduate students (limit to 50). I.D proof is required.	Waived		

Please note:

1. All participants must register for the conference, even if you do not present a paper.
2. Only registered participants will be provided with lunches, snacks, and a reception dinner. They can also participate in all field trips and cultural activities organized by the conference. They can attend all the activities linked to the conference including the Hackathon competition and the Delta Winter School presentations, as specified in the tentative program.
3. The above registration fee applies to the entire conference duration, 15-21 December. The fee is the same if one only attends one part of the conference.
4. The registration fee is non-refundable.
5. The registration fee does not include international and domestic travel costs.



6. *The registration fee does not include accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City and Phan Thiet. However, the conference has secured a number of hotels that offer significantly reduced rates for those attending the conference in HCMC and Phan Thiet. We will soon publish the names of these hotels on the website.*
7. *The conference fee does not include the train/bus ticket between Ho Chi Minh City and Phan Thiet. The return ticket costs roughly \$20 per person. The conference will buy tickets for its participants. Please email engagingwithvietnam@gmail.com with the subject title “Ticket for HCMC – Phan Thiet”.*
8. *Thank you kindly for your cooperation.*

We look forward to your participation and stimulating presentations/sessions at the 10th Engaging With Vietnam Conference!

Warmest Regards,

Founders of Engaging With Vietnam:

Phan Le Ha & Liam C. Kelley (Co-Founders of Engaging With Vietnam, University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA & Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei)

Conference Co-Convenors:

Phan Le Ha & Liam C. Kelley (University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA & Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei), Ngo Thi Phuong Lan (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City), Vo Khac Thuong (University of Phan Thiet), and Tran Kien (School of Law, Vietnam National University, Hanoi)

Conference Organizing Committee:

Tran Anh Tien (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City), Duong Ngoc Thang (University of Phan Thiet), Le Thuy Linh (Engaging With Vietnam), Chau Duong Quang (SUNY Albany, U.S.A & Engaging With Vietnam), and associates.