Final Professional Fellows Program Evaluation Report

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Professional Fellows Program Evaluation
Summary

Between April 2013 and February 2014, two groups of Vietnamese Fellows (totaling 16 participants) traveled to Portland, OR and two groups of American Fellows (totaling 14 participants) traveled to Vietnam with Portland State University as part of the U.S. State Department’s Professional Fellows Program. The purpose of the exchange was to provide mid-level professionals the opportunity for mutual learning for economic empowerment in the context of business and government partnerships. At the end of each segment of the Program, satisfaction data were collected. Fellows were asked how satisfied they were with each aspect of the program on a 5-point scale (1= Very Dissatisfied, 5=Very Satisfied).1

American Cohorts

Outbound Program Satisfaction

American Fellows were asked how satisfied they were with the Outbound Program overall and how satisfied they were with the program’s logistics, including the application process, travel arrangements and program coordination. All Fellows were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”. See Table 1 for details.

Figure 1: Outbound Program Satisfaction

![Chart showing satisfaction levels for American Fellows]

1 The questions for the American cohorts differed from those of the Vietnamese cohorts. Therefore, these data are aggregated and reported by American Cohorts and Vietnamese Cohorts.
Program Objectives

American Fellows were asked how satisfied they were with how well the Program’s three objectives were met. Participants were “Satisfied” or “Very Satisfied.”

**Objective 1—Provide U.S. participants the opportunity to share their professional expertise with Vietnamese counterparts.**
- 57% (8) were “Very Satisfied”
- 36% (5) were “Satisfied”
- 7% (1) were “Neutral”

**Objective 2—Gain a deeper understanding of professional practice, society, and culture in Vietnam.**
- 64% (9) were “Very Satisfied”
- 36% (5) were “Satisfied”

**Objective 3—Promote mutual understanding and lasting, mutually beneficial partnerships between key professionals and organizations in the United States (Portland, OR metro area) and their counterparts in Vietnam.**
- 57% (8) were “Very Satisfied”
- 36% (5) were “Satisfied”
- 7% (1) were “Dissatisfied”

See Figure 2 below.

**Figure 2: Fellows’ Satisfaction with Program Objectives**
Vietnamese Cohorts

Program Logistics

Vietnamese Fellows were asked how satisfied they were with the Program’s logistics, including the application process, travel arrangements and program coordination. Twelve fellows reported being “Very Satisfied” and four reported being “Satisfied.” See Figure 3.

Figure 3: Fellows’ Satisfaction with Program Logistics

![Bar chart showing Fellows’ satisfaction with program logistics.]

Host Organizations

Vietnamese Fellows were asked to rate their satisfaction with how well the host organization met their professional interests and their overall satisfaction. 63% (10) of Fellows reported being “Very Satisfied” and 38% (6) of them reported being “Satisfied” with how well the host organization fit with his or her professional interests. Additionally, 75% (12) of Fellows reported that, overall, they were “Very Satisfied” with their experience at their host organizations, 19% (3) were “Satisfied” and 6% (1) were “Neutral.” See Figure 4 for details.
Pre-Post Knowledge of PFP Topics

On April 8, 2013 and October 8, 2013 at the beginning of each of the Vietnamese Cohorts' Professional Fellows Programs in Portland, OR, Fellows took a pre-test and rated their knowledge of five PFP topics: Diversity in the United States, Social Entrepreneurship, EMERGE Framework for Public Leadership, Public-Private Partnerships, and Sustainable Development. On May 3, 2013 and October 31, 2013 at the end of the Portland State University portion of the PFP, Fellows took a post-test to rate their knowledge on the same topics. Knowledge of the following topics was measured on a 5-point scale: "No Knowledge," "Less than Basic," "Basic," "Beyond Basic," or "Advanced." In three of the five categories, all 16 Fellows reported that PFP presentations and discussions increased their knowledge on the topics. In the remaining categories, most of the Fellows reported having increased their knowledge. See Table 1 for details.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Pre-Test Knowledge</th>
<th>Post-Test Knowledge</th>
<th>Learning Gains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diversity in the United States</td>
<td>- 50% (8) reported “Less than Basic”</td>
<td>- 75% (12) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td>- 94% (15) reported having increased their knowledge</td>
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<td>- 38% (6) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 25% (4) reported “Advanced”</td>
<td>- 6% (1) reported the same level of knowledge</td>
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<td>- 13% (2) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>- 13% (2) reported “No Knowledge”</td>
<td>- 19% (3) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 100% (16) reported having increased their knowledge</td>
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<td>- 31% (5) reported “Less than Basic”</td>
<td>- 56% (9) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 50% (8) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 25% (4) reported “Advanced”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 6% (1) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMERGE framework for public leadership</td>
<td>- 25% (4) reported “No Knowledge”</td>
<td>- 13% (2) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 100% (16) reported having increased their knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 50% (8) reported “Less than Basic”</td>
<td>- 31% (5) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 25% (4) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 56% (9) reported “Advanced”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public-Private Partnerships</td>
<td>- 56% (9) reported “Less than Basic”</td>
<td>- 6% (1) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 88% (14) reported having increased their knowledge</td>
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<td>- 31% (5) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 56% (9) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td>- 13% (2) reported the same level of knowledge</td>
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<td>- 13% (2) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td>- 38% (6) reported “Advanced”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Development, incl. economic, social, and environmental dimensions</td>
<td>- 19% (3) reported “Less than Basic”</td>
<td>- 56% (9) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
<td>- 100% (16) reported having increased their knowledge</td>
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<td>- 75% (12) reported “Basic”</td>
<td>- 44% (7) reported “Advanced”</td>
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<td>- 6% (1) reported “Beyond Basic”</td>
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