

cc: M. E. Muelder
C. E. Erickson
R. B. Nye
J. T. Dorsey

Projects - Vietnam

August 6, 1956

Dear Rector Trinh:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of July 11 in which you ask us to send to you university professors in the fields of American literature, microbiology, political science, and modern architectural technique. In addition it was suggested that a professor of sea research and oceanography was desired but that there was less urgency for this position. We are happy to extend the services and the assistance of Michigan State University in any way that we can to be helpful.

Dean Milton E. Muelder of our College of Science and Arts has been working for some weeks with Professor R. B. Nye, Head of the English Department, in developing a list of names of professors who might give courses in the field of American literature. We have one candidate who is well-grounded in the field of American literature, who has studied in France, and who is able to give lectures in English or French. He has asked, however, that his appointment be for one year with the appointment for an additional year dependent upon the joint determination of appropriate officials of your University and himself.

You have indicated that a Dr. Emil Kotcher of the Department of Microbiology of the Medical School of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, is available for the field of microbiology.

For the field of political science, it would be helpful if it could be determined which area of political science should be covered. This is a matter which you may wish to discuss with some of our political scientists in Saigon. Dr. Wesley Fishel, among others, can be of assistance on this question.

Rector Nguyen Quang Trinh
National University of Vietnam
274 Rue Cong Ly
Saigon, Vietnam

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At Michigan State University we do not have a School of Architecture. It would be helpful here if one could define more precisely the field of architecture involved. Inquiry could then be made as to the availability of faculty in this area.

We are presuming here that you are working out with the Department of State contractual arrangements which will cover the assignment of professors from the United States to the University of Saigon. In case these matters are still under discussion, may we suggest that the establishment of the rate of pay and logistic support to which such professors may be entitled, including such items as travel, housing privileges, and related matters be placed on the same basis as have been set forth in the contract between Michigan State University and the International Cooperation Administration of the State Department. Our thought is to avoid unhappiness which may result from any feeling of discrimination among university personnel serving in Saigon.

It was a real pleasure to have you and Mrs. Trinh at our institution. We sincerely hope that it will be possible for you to visit us again.

Sincerely,

President

rj
Air mail