



**A COUNTRY
STAYS ALIVE
WHEN ITS
CULTURE IS
ALIVE.**

- SACEI Newsletter updates you on the latest news about Vietnamese-America.
- It serves as a link between SACEI members and those who are interested in the Vietnamese or Vietnamese-American culture.

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Editorial Note: The South Vietnamese Yellow Flag

The raising of the South Vietnamese flag at Philadelphia City Hall on April 30, 2012 marks another achievement of the overseas Vietnamese community: http://www.sacei07.org/VA31_South-Vietnamese-Flag-Raised-at-PA-City-Hall.jsp. So was the recognition on June 21, 2012, by the Louisville (KY) Metro council of the South Vietnamese flag as the official symbol for the city's Vietnamese community: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120621/NEWS01/306210116/South-Vietnamese-flag-recognized-by-council?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CHome>

From February 2003 to August 2006, in the United States, 13 states, seven counties and 85 cities have adopted resolutions recognizing the yellow flag as the "**Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag.**"

These numbers have been rising with time and Philadelphia and Louisville are the most recent examples. It is regrettable that a bill to fly the yellow flag in VA died in the Virginia legislature in 2003 from opposition by the State Department: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2003/06/04/BA208004.DTL>

The yellow flag has been used since 1802, when Emperor Gia Long made it the symbol of the Empire of Vietnam: <http://www.sacei07.org/saigon1.jsp>. It was the first true "national flag" of the Vietnamese people for it reflects the aspiration and hope of the people, not just the emperors, for independence and unification of the Viet nation. It was also the flag of the Republic of South Vietnam: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_South_Vietnam.

After 1975, the yellow flag followed the Vietnamese diaspora overseas and became the flag of the Viet Kieu (overseas Vietnamese) in sharp opposition to the red communist flag. It represents the soul, the identity, and the aspiration of the Viet Kieu and the people in opposition to the oppressive and corrupt Hanoi government. For the last 37 years, they have held on to this flag to survive, prosper, and create a new identity despite tough odds.





FOURTH ANNUAL SACEI CONFERENCE
THE SECOND REPUBLIC: 1967-1975
August 25, 2012 – McLean, VA



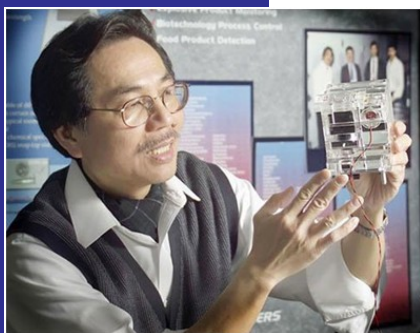
Annual SACEI Conference

Tentative Program:

1. **Lewis Sorley:** *Westmoreland, the General Who Lost the Vietnam War*
2. **James S. Robbins:** *Revisiting The Tet Offensive*
3. **James G. Hershberg:** *A Missed Opportunity to End the War? Marigold: The Lost Chance for Peace in Vietnam*
4. **Tom Glen:** *Recollections of the Fall of Saigon*
5. **Gary McCone:** *The History and Culture of Vietnam Through Her Postage Stamps* and more...

Dr. Tuan Dinh Vo: Physicist

Dr. Tuan Vo-Dinh is R. Eugene and Susie E. Goodson Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Professor of Chemistry, and Director of The Fitzpatrick Institute for Photonics. He graduated with a doctorate degree in Biophysical Chemistry from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and over the years, has earned many honors, awards, and distinctions. He was a pioneer in the field of photonics at Oak Ridge National Laboratory before joining Duke University. He won seven R&D 100 Awards for his inventions while at Oak Ridge and holds more than 30 patents: http://today.duke.edu/2006/03/vo_dinh.html.



He has authored more than 350 peer-reviewed publications.

Dr. Vo-Dinh's research activities and interests involve biophotonics, nanophotonics, plasmonics, laser-excited luminescence spectroscopy, room temperature phosphorimetry, synchronous luminescence spectroscopy, surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy, field environmental instrumentation, fiber optics sensors, nanosensors, biosensors and biochips for the protection of the environment and the improvement of human health.

Thuy Vo Dang, PhD: Ethnic Studies

UC Irvine's School of Humanities has launched a project to assemble and preserve oral histories of Vietnamese Americans in Southern California. The collection will be housed at the UCI Libraries' renowned Southeast Asian Archive and will be made available to researchers and the public upon its completion in three years.

Headed by postdoctoral fellow Thuy Vo Dang, the project will capture the diverse life narratives of the region's first-generation refugees and immigrants.

Vo Dang received a doctorate in ethnic studies from UC San Diego in 2008 and was a postdoctoral fellow at UCLA in 2009-10 and a visiting scholar in 2010-11. She gathered oral histories from first-generation Vietnamese Americans in San Diego for her dissertation on cultural politics and memory.



Josephine Nguyen Cam Van:

US Navy Lieutenant Commander Flight Surgeon

In 1999, Dr. Cam Van Nguyen graduated second in her class from the US Naval Academy and received an HPSP (Health Professions Scholarship Program) scholarship to attend Stanford School of Medicine.

How could she compete against stronger men than her?

All I can say is "sure they're stronger than I am, but when we're all in the same boat, when it's 105 degrees outside, when we're all exhausted from lack of sleep, doing hundreds of pushups and from running numerous miles, it's your determination that will keep you going". I never gave up. I never fell out of the runs...

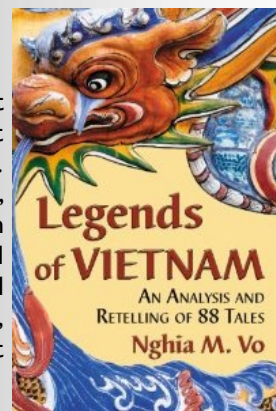
She completed a transitional internship at Bethesda Naval Hospital and then served as a Flight Surgeon in Japan for two years. While overseas, she traveled to Vietnam three times to volunteer in medical mission trips. She was then accepted to a dermatology residency at the University of Pennsylvania and completed her residency in 2010. She currently serves as a dermatology staff physician at the renowned Walter Reed Military Medical Center.

<http://www.stanford.edu/group/spa/cgi-bin/wp/?p=359>



Legend of Vietnam: Nghia M. Vo

The field of legends has long been neglected by serious intellectual minds who have considered it to belong to the realm of children's literature. Legends, however, are a mirror of the culture that creates them, a revealing lens through which to observe society, religion, history, and traditions. This volume explores Vietnamese legends from 1321 to today--tales of gods, spirits, ghosts, giants, extraordinary individuals, heroes, common people, and animals; legends that have delighted both young and old for centuries. It explains the mores, thought processes, and religions that formed the genesis of Vietnamese legends, traces the development of legends through time and space, and highlights the historical and social differences between northern and southern legends. Over time, this work shows, Vietnamese legends have evolved from a 14th century means of government propaganda to become a form of news, entertainment, and thought for the masses.



Available on Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/Legends-Vietnam-Analysis-Retelling-Tales/dp/0786468467>

Surviving War, Surviving Autism: Kim Yen Nguyen, PharmD

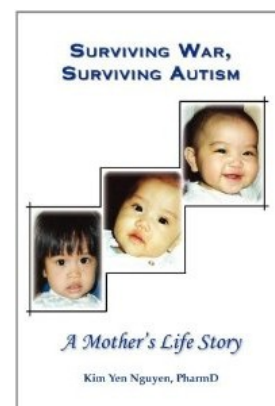
This book recounts the author's childhood growing up during the Vietnam War, her journey to America, school and college experiences dotted with humor and heartache, poignant memories of John F. Kennedy Jr., and life as a single parent raising three autistic children. The author came to the US as a refugee in 1975 and earned a Bachelor's and a Master's degrees in Engineering then a Doctor degree in Pharmacy. Kim has three children, whose autism ranges from mild to severe on the spectrum. She now applies her education, background, and experience to teach, inform, and bring awareness in autism research and support services for families.

(Provided by Hien Ho)

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/health&id=8490518>

Available on Amazon:

<http://www.amazon.com/Surviving-War-Autism-Mothers-Story/dp/1611700523>



Happy 4th of July!

