



Trinh Foundation

AUSTRALIA



Development of a Masters in Speech and Language Therapy in Vietnam

Work is underway to develop the Masters in Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) to be held at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP) in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). The purpose of the Masters is to train existing health academics in medicine and physiotherapists to become speech and language therapists. These future clinicians will come from the four universities targeted by the USAID funded project on which Trinh Foundation Australia (TFA) and Medical Committee Netherlands - Vietnam (MCNV) are partnered to host future SALT Bachelor programs. Prof Lindy McAllister is working with expert speech pathology academics and clinicians around Australia to develop the syllabus (lectures, teaching materials and readings) for each subject. These academics will lecture and supervise clinical placements in the Masters; several of them come from the University of Sydney under an MOU between the university, TFA and MCNV. *For more information on the master's program progress [see here](#).*

Launch of the Development of Speech and Language Therapy Education in Vietnam



On 4 April MCNV delivered a 1-day workshop to launch the Development of Speech and Language Therapy Education in Vietnam and share the results of the needs assessment of Speech and Language Therapy Training. Approximately, 60 participants attended the workshop including government officials, university representatives, aid agencies and non-government organisations. As a representative of Trinh Foundation Australia (TFA) and the University of Newcastle Australia, Dr Sally Hewat did a flying visit and delivered a presentation on “Speech and Language Therapy Training and Professional Standards: An international review”. Feedback on the presentation was extremely positive and the following discussions highlighted the engagement of all key stakeholders in supporting the development of Speech and Language Therapy in Vietnam. TFA is very excited to see this progress and was pleased to sign an MOU and Agreement with MCNV, to provide technical support for the SALT project. *For more about those involved [see here](#).*

10th Birthday Celebration



The Speech Therapy team at Danang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy, celebrated Trinh Foundation's 10th birthday. The team is headed by Dr Thuy Cao, who is also the Director of Rehabilitation at the university. She has a team of five speech therapists, including Dr Hien, Ms Cam, Ms Van, Ms Thuy and Ms Nhi. Dr Thuy and Dr Hien both completed the 2016-17 TFA Paediatric Speech Therapy Course at Phạm Ngọc Thạch University of Medicine in HCMC. Seth Koster joined the speech therapy team in July 2017. Seth is a speech pathologist and part-time TFA volunteer from the United States, who has recently made Da Nang his home. Sarah Day has also recently joined the team full time on assignment with the Australian Volunteer Program.

Speech therapists of Vietnam are very keen to continue to collaborate closely with TFA for at least another 10 years! [See more news about the celebrations.](#)

It started as a dream...



Volunteering Opportunities with TFA

Trinh Foundation Australia relies on the dedication and enthusiasm of speech therapists willing to dedicate their time and expertise to clinicians and communities in Vietnam. The beginning of 2018 saw new opportunities for TFA's volunteer program. We began a collaboration with ["Humanity and Inclusion"](#) (formally Handicap International), facilitating additional funding for longer term SLT volunteer placements. These longer term positions (between 3 and 9 months) enable volunteers to provide Vietnamese SLT's and health teams with ongoing clinical support and training. Additionally, the positions provide speech therapy support to a broader neuro rehabilitation project in Vietnam.

Collaboration with Humanity and Inclusion has already proven fruitful, with the placement of long term volunteers at hospitals in HCMC and Hue. Further placements in Da Nang and Hanoi will commence in the next few months. We are still keen to hear from experienced adult therapists with a neurology focus who would be able to commit to a longer term placement in Vietnam.

As always, we are very happy to receive expressions of interest from speech therapists from all clinical backgrounds, as new and exciting clinical education and training opportunities will arise across the year. Thanks again to our recent volunteers and those who have just started their projects in Vietnam! We will let you know more about their experiences soon.

If you are a speech pathologist interested in helping out [see more about volunteering in Vietnam](#).

Grant received from Speech Pathology Australia

Trinh Foundation Australia was recently awarded a Speech Pathology Australia Majority World Countries and Developing Communities Grant valued at \$13,836. This grant will support TFA's [Beyond Borders Skype Mentoring Program](#). The Beyond Borders program is an integrated e-mentoring program linking experienced speech pathologists via Skype to our graduates in Vietnam. A series of online sessions supported by interpreters will allow our graduates to develop their clinical skills and continue their professional development. A new group of interpreters has just completed training in HCMC and it is anticipated that their skills will be put to work soon in the 3-way Skype sessions.

We are in the process of identifying and matching our mentees and mentors and look forward to hearing the outcomes of this program.

HCMC Interpreter Short Course



It's going to be a big couple of years for TFA in Vietnam, and with the increased workload in-country comes the increased need for well-trained interpreters. Interpreters will be needed to support a variety of activities across 2018 and beyond. In HCMC over the Easter long weekend, fifteen interpreters were trained as TFA interpreters. The majority of the group came from HCMC, with four coming from Danang and Hue to join the course. The first day focused on Speech and Language Therapy modules, and was presented to the group by Australian volunteer, Ms Sarah Day. The second and third days were facilitated by long-term TFA interpreter Ms Quyen Pham, where she focused on interpretation techniques and the group practiced by role playing, as well as the ethical principles of interpretation, and pairs of participants presented to the rest of the group.

The four participants from Da Nang and Hue each received a TFA scholarship to attend the course in HCMC, funded by the above-mentioned Speech Pathology Australia grant.

TFA would like to sincerely thank Mr Dung Doan, a speech therapy graduate from the HCMC second course, who allowed TFA to use his centre for the training, free of charge. TFA would also like to thank Ms Quyen Pham for her ongoing support of TFA work, even though she now has another full-time employer within the disability sector in HCMC.

TFA plan to offer more interpreter short courses across the course of this year, with the next course to be offered in Hanoi in May. [See more news about the short course.](#)

Volunteer Returns to Vietnam





TFA welcomes back Ms Sarah Day, Australian Volunteer with the Australian Aid program funded by the Australian Government. This time her assignment is at the Da Nang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy (DUMTP) for 12 months and will include supporting the university to plan the curriculum and implementation plan for the pilot Bachelor of Rehabilitation (Speech Pathology) to open in September 2019. Sarah will continue to work in collaboration with the TFA board, as well as other partners in Vietnam, who are all involved in the planning and implementation of the Masters and Bachelors across the country in the coming five years. She will be able to specifically focus on the development of the student teaching clinic at DUMTP, as well as ensuring there are other viable speech therapy clinics in operation in the Da Nang area that have the capacity to host students for clinical placements. Sarah is also keen to support DUMTP speech therapists to continue to develop their clinical skills, particularly in the area of paediatric feeding, as this has been identified as the area of highest need for the DUMTP clinicians, as well as other speech Therapists across Da Nang.

[Hear more from Sarah.](#)

University of Newcastle student visit to Danang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy



In April 2018, two fourth year speech pathology students from The University of Newcastle embarked on a volunteer experience in Vietnam, alongside students completing their gradable placements in Hoi An. The students were lucky enough to meet up with Sarah Day, Australian Volunteer with the Australian Aid program, local doctors, and speech pathologists based at the University in Da Nang. The day was spent discussing and learning all about the Vietnamese culture and the development of the speech pathology profession in Vietnam. Sarah was able to assist the students to organise, develop, and then later present a workshop to the parents of the children who attend therapy at the University, about play and why this is an important part of language development and language stimulation.

Traveling to Vietnam, exploring Da Nang and Hoi An, and working alongside professionals at the University in Da Nang has been a wonderful experience in terms of cultural and professional development. It was interesting to hear how speech pathology is developing in Vietnam, particularly of the plans to increase awareness of the role of speech pathologists and the services they can provide for children and their families. The kindness and generosity of the staff at the University, in providing so

much valuable information, a warm welcome and information on favourite places around the local area was very much appreciated.



[Trinh Website](#)



[TrinhTFA](#)



[TrinhFoundation](#)



[trinh_foundation](#)



Trinh Foundation Australia is proud to be a partner for Project J594 Vietnam Speech-Language Program with Global Development Group. GDG (ABN 57 102 400 993), an Australian DFAT approved Non-Government Organisation [NGO] carrying out quality humanitarian projects with approved Partners

Our mailing address is:

Trinh Foundation
5 / 210 Wattle Tree Road
Holgate, NSW 2250
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp