



Trinh Foundation

AUSTRALIA

Course News

Masters Research Proposals Presented 18-19 June 2020



14 MSALT students presented their masters research thesis proposals on a diverse range of topics to an audience of academics from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, (UMP) HCMC, Dr Ben Pham from the National University of Education in Hanoi, peers and academics from Australia (A/Prof Sally Hewat and Prof Lindy McAllister).

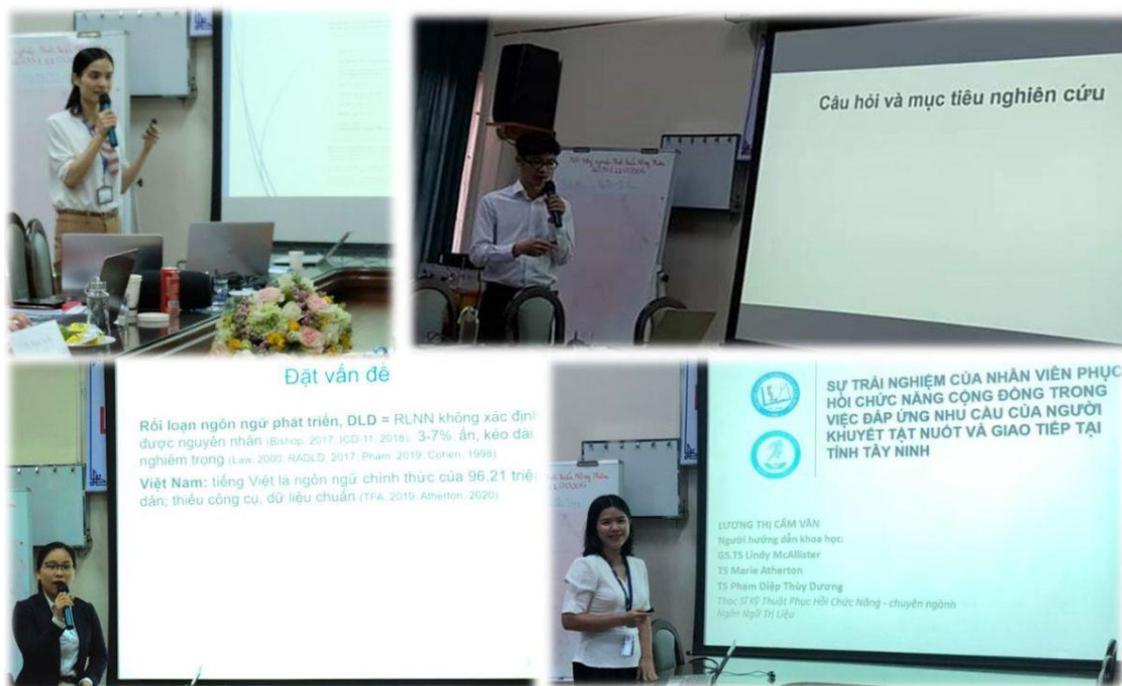
Students had 15 minutes to present their proposal and 30 minutes to answer questions from the assessment panel. Thanks to prior preparation with their Australian co-supervisors, the students were well prepared to present and defend their thesis.

Topics included:

- norming speech assessments and language assessments for Vietnamese children
- validating the Aphasia United best-practice recommendations for aphasia in Vietnam
- self-help and help-seeking by Vietnamese families with children with communication disorders
- knowledge, experiences and training needs of Vietnamese community-based rehabilitation workers serving people with communication and swallowing disabilities
- the experiences of Vietnamese people who stutter
- validating tools for evaluation of stuttering in Vietnam.

As well as being co-supervised by non-SLT academics at UMP, our thanks goes to international supervisors in SALT who have volunteered their time: Dr Marie Atherton, A/Prof Sally Hewat, Dr Laura Hoffman, Prof Lindy McAllister, Prof Sharynne McLeod, Dr Ben Pham

(who also interprets for all the meetings between students and Australian co-supervisors), Dr Rachel Unicombe, Dr Sarah Verdon, Dr Sarah Wallace, Dr Karen Wylie.



Challenges of Online Teaching

TFA acknowledges with thanks the ongoing commitment and support of all volunteers who have adapted their teaching and schedules so readily to the demands of COVID-19. TFA manages the SALT in Vietnam Project in cooperation with MCNV and finance partially supported by USAID.

Reflections from One of the Teaching Team, Lecturer Janella Christie About Online Teaching



My disappointment of not being able to teach face to face and spend some time in Vietnam was immeasurable when I made the decision not to go, at about 3am on Saturday 14 March,

with the enforcement of Stage 3 restrictions in Australia. I was due to fly out at 11am that day. Australia had joined Vietnam in lock-down.

Some weeks later, at 11am Melbourne time and 8am Vietnam time, I clicked into the Zoom invite, as did Stephanie Wells, course coordinator in Danang, interpreters Ms Tran Ngo and Ms Quynh, 20 Year 2 BSALT students from Danang and 14 Year 1 MSALT students, all from their homes. This was a first for me to be online teaching for the best part of 7 hours.

[Read more](#)

Interpreters and Translators Provide invaluable assistance to SALT degrees in Vietnam



Introducing Ms Tran Ngo who is an essential ingredient to the success of the SALT degrees rolling out in Vietnam. We are so fortunate to have such a highly skilled and experienced interpreter/translator!

Employed by our partner – the Medical Committee of Netherlands Vietnam (MCNV) - in the USAID funded project to establish masters and bachelor degrees in Vietnam, Ms Tran provides interpreting/translating support mainly for the Masters in Speech and Language Therapy (MSALT) at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City, although does some work in the bachelor degree in Danang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy as well. Ms Tran commenced work for MCNV in November 2019.

[Read more](#)

TFA Team News

Thank You Stephanie Wells



TFA thank Stephanie Wells for her work as MSALT program support person in HCMC then for also working on BSALT in Danang. We certainly appreciate her very generous commitment of time and effort as a volunteer to make online learning for the MSALT and BSALT students possible during the time of COVID-19. We particularly acknowledge her flexibility, problem solving and ability to take initiative often at short notice. Being able to support all involved with the online teaching and the complexities of the technology required to do so has been utterly amazing.

[Read more](#)

Farewell Jemma and Welcome Carla



Jemma and Carla in Vietnam

Farewell and thank you also to Jemma Thompson. Jemma worked as Project Officer (Volunteering) since 2018 however, due to other work commitments she is regrettably unable

to continue in this role. TFA are particularly grateful to Jemma for balancing her project officer duties while also working in the demanding AVI Program Co-ordinator position in HCMC throughout 2019. Jemma's prior experience with HI in Vietnam enabled her to use her personal knowledge of volunteering in Vietnam to assist our volunteers and establish important links with them. We appreciate all she has done for speech and language therapy in Vietnam, and in particular for supporting our partner relationships with MCNV and HI.

Thank you and welcome to Carla Mira who has taken over this position. Carla has had lots of volunteering experience in Vietnam. Since her first volunteering role in 2014, she has maintained her links with TFA and last year coordinated the Beyond Borders Mentoring program. TFA welcome Carla to the Project Officer (Volunteering) role and we are pleased that she too will be able to use her prior knowledge to support our volunteers and to run this year's mentoring program.

Supporting TFA

While volunteering in Vietnam has been put on hold for the moment if you are interested in volunteering in the future or would like to find out more about volunteering please email Carla at volunteers-tfa@trinhfoundation.org

TFA are always in need of funds to support our projects in Vietnam. Why not consider doing a fund raiser for TFA in Speech Pathology Week August 23-29?



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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

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