

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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# **Gov. Gen. includes SIAS stop in Vietnam**

*SIAS to Saskatchewan: Join us in Vietnam this week via social media*

**November 14, 2011** – Gov. Gen. David Johnston will attend graduation ceremonies when 130 students receive a SIAS Business Administration diploma this week in Ho Chi Minh City.

“We’re delighted and humbled that his Honour is including this event in Vietnam on his first state visit as Governor General,” says Dr. Robert G. McCulloch, SIAS president and CEO.

SIAS is reporting live throughout the week from Vietnam. Daily updates and photos on a dedicated blog and through social media will showcase SIAS connections with Tra Vinh University in the Mekong Delta and Ho Chi Minh City University of Industry (HUI). Posts will also report on the SIAS/HUI graduation ceremony, which will be attended by SIAS vice president, academic and provost David Walls. SIAS Business program heads Rick Wagman and Graham Chute will also be on hand for Friday’s ceremony.

“SIAS has been active in Vietnam for almost a decade,” says David Harvey, SIAS’s associate vice president, Business Development and Advancement. “Reports this week will allow people in Saskatchewan to experience – in a virtual sense – the post-secondary experience in both rural and urban Vietnam.”

To follow the week’s activities, visit [www.goSIAS.com/Vietnam](http://www.goSIAS.com/Vietnam), [www.facebook.com/SIAS](http://www.facebook.com/SIAS) and @SIAS on Twitter.

This is the third graduation ceremony for HUI students receiving a SIAS diploma in Vietnam. The SIAS Business Administration program has been offered at HUI since 2006, although SIAS’s presence in the country dates back several years, to 1994.

Before entering into a partnership with HUI, SIAS was the lead college in a five-year, \$1.5-million project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

in Tra Vinh. That project involved establishing a community college that has since become a model for post-secondary vocational education.

Over the last few years, some Vietnamese grads with a SIAST diploma have taken advantage of SIAST transfer credit options to pursue a business degree in Saskatchewan. Recruiters from the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan will be on hand in Ho Chi Minh City this week to pursue similar arrangements with the newest grads.

SIAST programs are also available in Mauritius and India.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. More than 15,000 students are enrolled in SIAST programs; additionally, the organization draws almost 25,000 individual course registrations. Through program and course registrations, SIAST serves almost 26,000 distinct students with programs that touch every sector of the economy. SIAST operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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Information about SIAST can be found at [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com).

For information about SIAST's international activities, visit:

[www.gosiast.com/programs/international/index.shtml](http://www.gosiast.com/programs/international/index.shtml).

[www.gosiast.com/about/departments/business\\_development/international-projects.shtml](http://www.gosiast.com/about/departments/business_development/international-projects.shtml).