



Asian University for Women

AP Project 2018

Summer Project Report

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I. PROJECT MOTIVATION

Vietnamese current educational system faces certain shortcomings. Firstly, teaching methods in primary, secondary, high school and higher education are significantly conceptual and theoretical. Secondly, lack of training programs - both in and outside school - to enhance practical and soft skills make students have lack or do not have specific ideas about what they want to do and how to achieve their goals. Finally, due to wrong social assumption of overrating tertiary degrees for several key jobs, some students are not strong-willed enough to pursue their desire goals or career path(s).

Although there are more and more self-development and/or enhancing soft-skills courses in urban areas such as Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Noi and Da Nang, there are still teenagers that have not accessed to educational orientation programs due to issues regarding financial difficulties and transportation (the difficulties in reaching remote and hilly areas in Vietnam).

Realizing the issues in educational orientation and wish to contribute for the sustainable development of Vietnam, we - the founders of AP project - want to help the Vietnamese young improve:

- Personal Development
- Soft Skills
- Goal-Setting Skills

The highlight of AP project is one-to-one mentorship model, which mentor trains his/her mentee (ages from 15-21) necessary soft skills such as time management, teamwork, problems solving. Besides, we held workshop on personal development as well as extra curricular activities at center for orphans and handicapped children, aimed to have brief research on status quo of soft skills and educational orientation on disadvantaged background children.

II. PROJECT INTRODUCTION

2.1. Location:

- Activity 1: BE MY MENTEE (1/6/2018 – 1/6/2019)
Be conducted online nationwide
- Activity 2: Rocket (1/6/2018 – 5/8/2018)
Be organized in Ho Chi Minh City

2.2. Beneficiaries of the project

- Mentees (ages 15-21)
 - + Discovering and understanding themselves better.
 - + Being future-oriented, planned and achieved their goals.
 - + Being trained necessary soft skills.
 - + Expanding social networks and be offered opportunities for self-development, higher education and internships.
 - + Being listened, guided and given advices to solve social and oriental difficulties.



- Mentors (ages 22-30)
 - + Expanding social networks, having chances to access more potential opportunities.
 - + Being accessed to AP's self-development training program.
 - + Being contributed to social development.
 - + Getting more teamwork experience, enhancing soft skills and self-develop.
- Children at center for orphans and handicapped children.
 - + They had opportunity participating in educational-entertainment activities
 - + Helped them discover and develop their strengths and be more confident.

III. DETAILED ACTIVITIES

- **Activity 1: Be My Mentee Mentorship Program (9/8/18–9/8/19)**

Participant: Mentees and Mentors

- ✓ Each mentee are be paired with a characteristics-liked mentor. They have a discussion/training section each week. Mentors were trained about mentorship skills and advanced soft skills in order to help the mentee.
- ✓ Each meeting, mentees also share difficulties, confusions about studying as well as their social life. Mentors give mentees helpful advices based on what they had been trained and their own experiences.
- ✓ Mentees are trained necessary soft skills and personal development (referencing Be My Mentee syllabus of the project).
- ✓ Every 2 months, mentors and mentees have self-evaluation on their progress and improve it better.
- ✓ After one year, mentees and mentors will evaluate each other (they will also be evaluated by the founders) about what they have learned, done and gained during the process. They will also give feedbacks on the project, about which needs to be improved so that the founders can improve the mentorship program.
- ✓ The process will last 1 year (as planned). However, it can be continued if the mentee and mentors wish to.

- **Activity 2: Rocket (5/8/18-15/8/18)**

- The project held Personal Development Workshops for youth from 15-21 years old in Ho Chi Minh City to help them improve their soft skills, self-worth and goals-setting skills.
- We also organized some meaningful activities for children at centre for handicapped and orphaned children.

IV. IMPACT MEASUREMENT

	Expected results	Measurement methods
1	Activity 1: Be my Mentee 1. Number of mentor-mentee pairs + The goal is to pair 30 pairs of mentor- mentee	1. Number of mentor-mentee pairs + Based on the number of mentor-mentee couples which the project had paired.

	<p>2. The quality after 1-year training + The mentees have necessary soft skills in the project’s syllabus.</p> <p>+ Mentees achieve one-year goals which had been set by themselves and mentors in beginning of the training process.</p>	<p>2. The quality after 1-year training + Mentors and mentees will have a survey to assess the effectiveness of the project after one year.</p> <p>+ Organizers will have discussion with each pair of mentor-mentee to evaluate mentorship process after one year based on the following criterions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ How far mentees have improved soft skills and personal development? ✓ Do mentees achieve their one-year goals? ✓ Do mentors achieve their goals for this program?
2	<p>Activity 2: Rocket</p> <p>1. Personal Development Workshops</p> <p>Organizing at least 2-3 workshops about personal development and soft skills training. After participating, the students can understand themselves better, improve soft skills and have motivation to strive and reach their planned goals.</p> <p>2. Organizing at least 1-2 activities at orphans centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Based on the number of the workshops. How many workshops were held? Were they fit the required standards? ✓ Reaction and feedbacks from participants after the workshops (participants were active and interested in the topic or not, do they think the workshop be helpful, etc.) ✓ Evaluation from managers of orphaned centres after the activities.

V. RESULTS

A. Survey

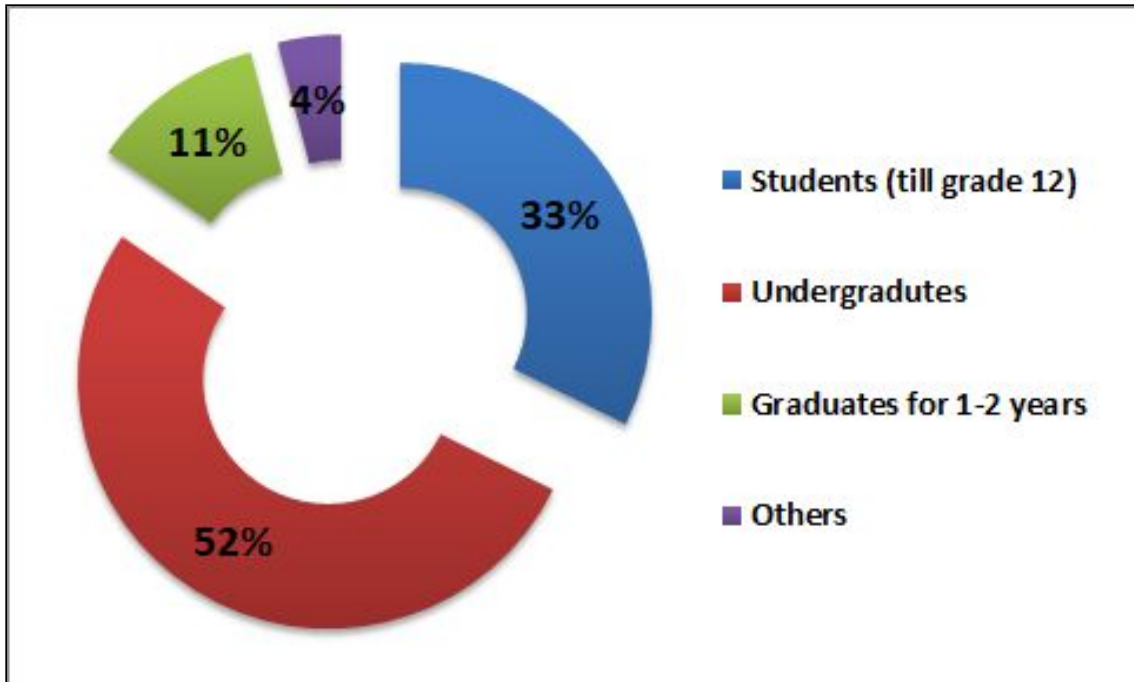
1. Research Methodology

- Target respondents: secondary and high school students, undergraduates, graduates and workers (from 14 – 30 years old)
- Methodology: online survey was conducted on social media (such as facebook) to collect opinions of students and youth about the current educational orientation of Vietnamese education system; needs for soft skills training program, specifically the needs for having a mentor to be future-orientated.
- Questionnaire: for the full Vietnamese questionnaire, please visit the following: [LINK](#).

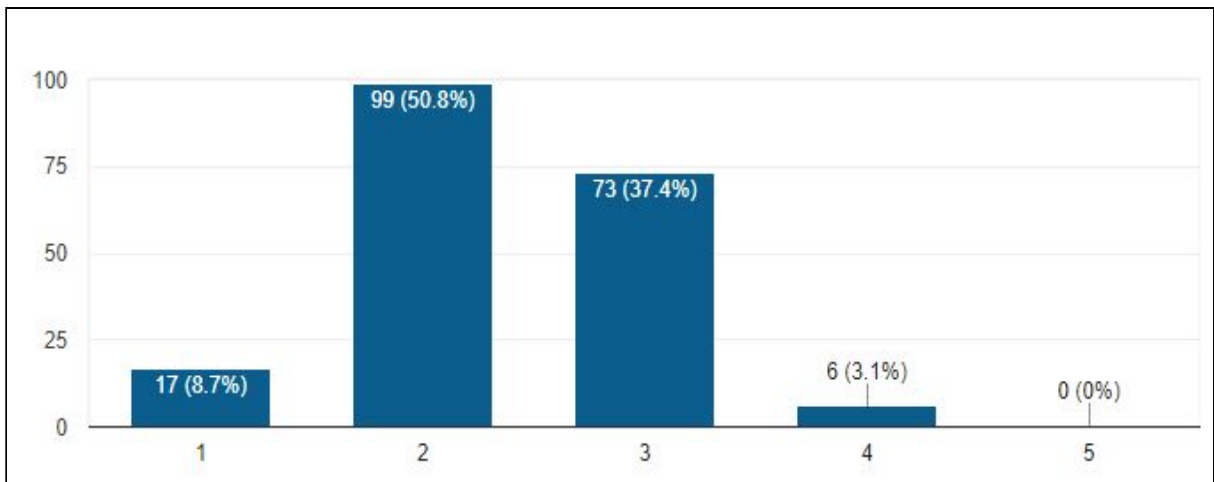
2. General questions for all respondents:

2.1. Respondents.

There are totally 195 responses from the online survey. The percentage of the respondents are charted as below:



- By respondents' opinion, evaluate general level (in linear scale from 1-5) of Vietnamese students' (from ages 14-21) soft skills:

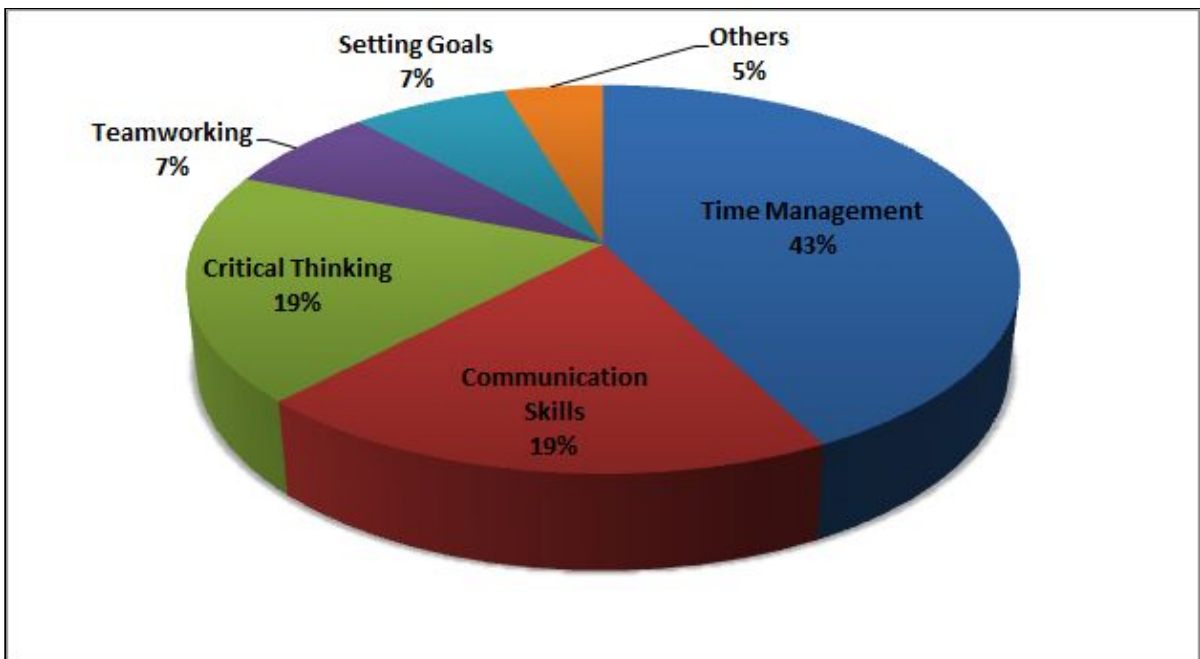


- Which soft skill do you think the most important to the future jobs? (multiple choice)
 - Critical Thinking
 - Time Management
 - Leadership
 - Abilities to adjust in new environment
 - Others
 - Team Working
 - Setting Goals
 - Positive Behaviors
 - Communication Skills

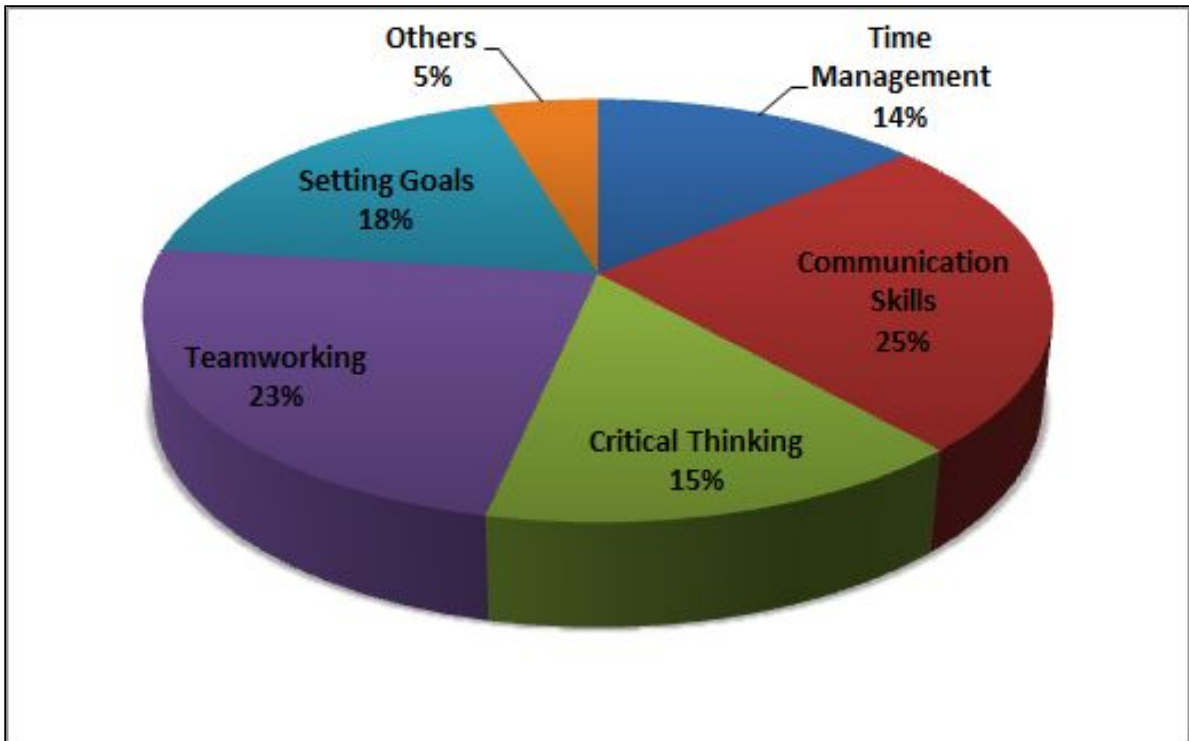
More than 53% of the participants responded that Critical Thinking, Time Management, Communication Skills are necessary for their future jobs. More than 73% respondents agreed that Team Working, Positive Behaviors, Abilities to Adjust in New working/studying environment are needed.



- Which skills you think you need to improve the most?



- Which skills do you think you are best at?



3. For respondents who are students (till grade 12)

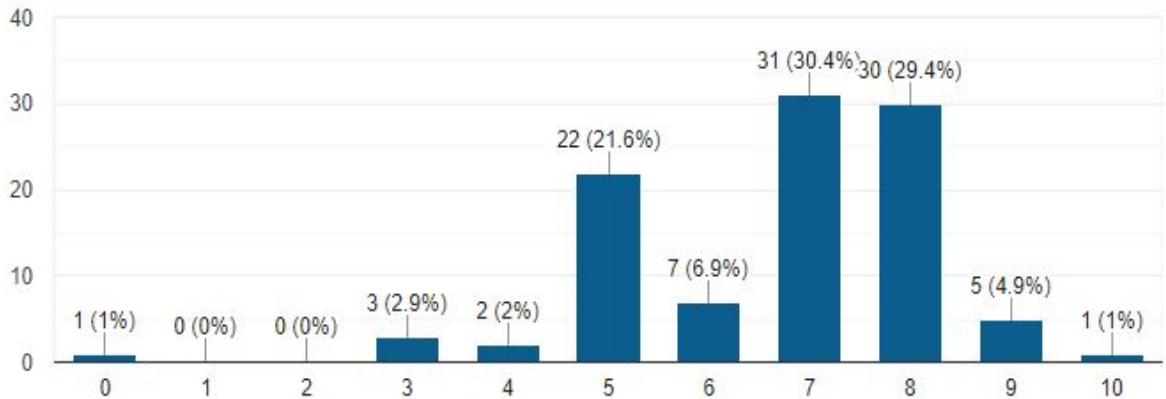
There are nearly 80% of respondents answered that they have not had any particular plan in upcoming 5 years. Meanwhile, more than 70% said that they have not chosen the high school or university they want to enter. Finally, 81% said they do need mentor while 2% think they need a mentor, but not frequently.

4. For undergraduates

There are about 40% of undergraduates who are not satisfied with his/her current university/college, while less percentage (33%) think that they have chosen wrong major in the university. However, according to the survey, the most common reasons for choosing his/her current university are:

- Parents/family members orientate (39%)
- The qualified well-known university they wanted to enter (22,6%)
- Could not attend their desire university due to inappropriate grade in university entrance examination (which grade 12 students are supposed to take after graduate from High School) and the current university is the best university that accept the grade (5%)
- The university are well-known in the field they want to study (11,8%)
- Scholarship, low tuition fee, transportation, etc. (26%)
- Others

Evaluate about the necessity of entering university in Vietnam (in linear scale to 10):



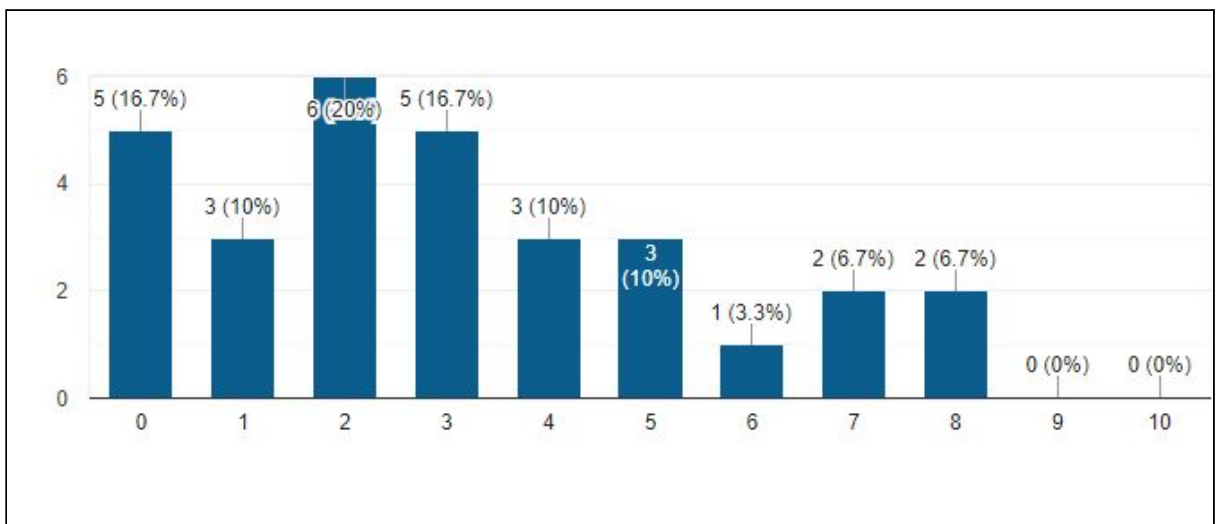
The most common answer when respondents were asked, why they think most of Vietnamese students decide to enter university are:

- The social assumption, social pressure from family, relatives and social reputation that everyone should/have to go to university
- For better jobs and better salary
- They do not have any other choice/plan to continue; no clear orientation for themselves

5. Questions for after graduates/workers

Only 40% of participants think that they choose right jobs, while there are 43% are satisfied with their current jobs. On the other hand, no one think that the educational orientation of Vietnamese educational system is highly effective (9-10 in linear scale to 10).

Attached below is the percentage of respondents' evaluation about the efficiency of Vietnamese educational orientation:



B. Activity 1: Be My Mentee Mentorship Program 2018-2019 (9/8/2018-9/8/2019)

1. Mentor Advisors Board

After more than 2 months finding and contacting, AP is very honored to invite 6 mentor advisors. They are also 6 trainers who trained mentors during 1 month. In addition, they support organizers by giving advices and solutions for difficult cases during process of the mentorship program 2018-2019.

	<p>MENTOR ADVISOR</p> <p>HIEU LE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One of the 30 most influential young people in Vietnam according to Forbes second ranking - Director of many projects and activities: such as "Talent Generation, Today's Voice", UNESCO Culture Education Program, "Young Makers Challenge" Program. - CEO of G.A.P Institute, Co-founder of Everest Education (E2) 		<p>MENTOR ADVISOR</p> <p>HUONG NGUYEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AUW Alumni - Co-founder of "Adoption Promotion and Mentorship Program"
	<p>HOA PHAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Founder and CEO of Living Dream - Co - Founder of Silver Moon Company. - Graduated MBA at University Bolton (United Kingdom) 		<p>NHUNG MA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co - Founder of "Adoption Promotion and Mentorship Program" (APMP) - Study Master at Illinois State University.
	<p>OANH HUYNH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soft Skills Trainer at Passerelles numériques - Mentor at UPSHIFT VIETNAM Youth 		<p>VY NGUYEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rising Star at Wedu - Participating many leadership development program

Mentor advisors of Be My Mentee Mentorship Program 2018-2019

2. Mentor and mentee

After 4 months of mentor and mentee recruitment, training mentors and mentor-mentee matching processes, AP has 28 mentor-mentee couples in Be My Mentee Mentorship Program 2018-2019.

<p>Current Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 MENTORS • 28 MENTEES • 28 COUPLES MENTOR - MENTEE • TRAINING MENTOR DURING 1 MONTH • 3 MEDIA PATNERS 	  
	  

C. Activity 2: Rocket Personal Development

1. Visit to center for orphans and handicapped children

In order to know about status quo of educational orientation of the children who have difficulties backgrounds (orphanages, financial difficulties), we visited SOS Go Vap Orphaned Centre in District No.2, Ho Chi Minh City. However, due to some difficulties in accessing the target respondents and permission in collecting opinions of the children here, we could not access to the data that we wanted. Instead, we held educational-entertainment activities such as “Drawing About Your Dream”, Dancing, “Share Stories With Friends” to know more about the children at the center.

We had some individual talks with children, the center’s manager and staffs here to get basic status quo of the children. Most of them do not have any specific future plan due to lack of educational orientation and family/social cares. Only some of them are going to colleges or universities, the rest are going to vocational schools/colleges. Some stop schooling after graduating from grade 12, some even at grade 9. On the other hand, in summer vacation and in academic year even, the teenagers from 14-19 (grade 9 and above) are allowed to have part-time jobs introduced by the center if they wanted.

Besides, we gave them gifts from Trao Group sponsor which are Hibiscus biscuits. After that, we went to Ky Quang 2 Buddhist Temple - the biggest temple for handicapped and orphanages in Vietnam with nearly 200 children are being taken care here. We also gave the gifts from Trao Group at here. Below are some pictures about the visiting to SOS Go Vap and Ky Quang 2 Temple:





2. Rocket (Personal Development Workshops)

Rocket Personal Development Workshop was held in August 18th, 2018 at Tue Duc School, District No.2, Ho Chi Minh City, aimed to help students (age 15-21) in learning personal development topic. On the other hand, the workshops want to emphasize one message to students that “The more important factors is not what university you are studying in, but how would you use your university life/time.”

The special speaker of the workshop was Mr. Ho Duc Hoan - CEO of Edu2Review - Educational Evaluation Platform. In addition, Mr. Hoan is well-known for his motivated passion for entrepreneurship for young people. By 2017, his company has funded more than 100 academic programs of students across the country, and directly training soft skills for more than 2,000 young people.



VI. SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNERS

We would like to deliver our gratitude to:

- + Sponsors: Asian University for Women, Trao Group Joint Stock Company, Edu2Review.
- + Venue Sponsor: Tue Duc Pathway School.
- + Media Partners: Edu2Review, YBOX, Gioi Tre Viet.

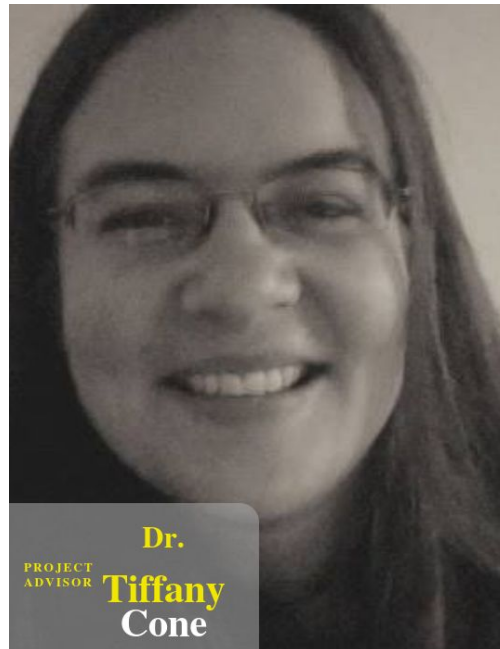


VII. AP'S HUMAN RESOURCES

AP Project 2018-2019 is passion and effort of all AP members. All members have been constantly working to achieve such achievements.



We are also very honor to have Dr. Tiffany Cone as project advisor. More information about Dr. Cone: [here](#).



Let's meet organizing team of AP Project 2018-2019 (more details: please visit [Here](#)):

1. Phuong Nguyen: Founder
2. Ngan Vu: Co-founder
3. Duyen Tran: External Relation Team
4. Thuan Tran, Nhat Linh, Loan Nguyen: Rocket team and Publicity Team
5. Thuy Nguyen, Linh Pham: Be My Mentee Team.



VI. SUSTAINABILITY

In 2018, AP has developed 2 campaigns: “Monthly Book With AP” and “Aggregating Monthly Opportunities.” We have established a system about searching and supplying opportunities for young people such as volunteerism, working at NGOs, opportunities to study abroad and participating in exchange programs. The purpose of these campaigns is to support mentors and mentees in Be My Mentee Mentorship Program. Additionally, we want to give these campaigns to Vietnamese young people who did not get the chance to join this mentorship program.



In next years, we want to continue expanding and developing number of mentors and mentees, improve the quality of mentorship program.

Goals of 2nd year: Coverage throughout Vietnam.

Expanding the coverage of the project in nationwide: more Vietnamese youth know about the project, increase the pairs of mentor-mentee up to 50 pairs.

Finding, contacting and connecting to expand talented Vietnamese young people network (talented Vietnamese students and overseas Vietnamese students,...). This is the major mentor resource of the project.

Not only as non-profit project, AP also wants to become a project where enthusiastic young people have opportunities to learn and try running a project. We believe that running a project is a significant opportunity to improve the skills, develop social network and get first experience and meaningful memories in life. In order to make this happened, every year, we will call for core team members and they can get experiences and supports from former core team members (core team mentors). This is the way how we can empower, transfer experiences and open bigger playground for Vietnamese young people.