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She holds her Master Degree on Educational Management from University of Education, Ho Chi Minh city and she is now the PhD candidate of Department of Educational Policy, Leadership and Management, Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Her studying major is on Higher Education, which focusses on three important aspects: Leadership and Management, Curriculum and Instruction, and Student Development.

A QUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM INNOVATION AND CHANGE IN VIETNAM HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

Internationalization of curriculum has become an essential component of higher education rather than an exception in a globalized world. One of the key driving forces of internationalization in higher education is undoubtedly to respond to the national, regional and international labor market demands, and the changing needs of the society.

Under this pressure, higher education institutions (HEIs) need to improve their academic and professional capacity to produce high quality human resources to meet the needs of the society and the demands of the labor markets. It embraces the improvement of knowledge, skills and attitudes of graduates, and students' preparedness by enhancing the academic curriculum. To help students living and working in a globalized world, HEIs need to consider developing their students' lifelong learning skills with international perspectives where the curriculum is seen as the "backbone of the internationalization process".

The Vietnam higher education renovation project for 2006 – 2020 calls for universities and colleges to develop international strategies and enhance the quality of education to produce highly qualified human resources to meet the competitiveness of both local and international markets. How can Vietnamese higher education institutions change or reform to meet the Government's goals? And what should the key strategy be for this resolution?

This paper focuses on (1) the context and the needs of internationalization of Vietnam higher education institutions by analyzing the government and institutional documents and practices; (2) theories on curriculum development and management; (3) good practices from other international curriculum innovation and (4) suggestions for internationalization of curriculum in Vietnam Higher Education Institutions.

Keyword: internationalization, international curriculum, curriculum innovation, good practices.
