

## The Hero of Labor Le Cong Co during the Renovation period of Education

Distinguished Teacher Le Cong Co, DTU Founder, President and Provost, joined the Vietnamese Revolutionary Movement at the age of 13 and became a party member at the age of 24. He was active in the student movement of Southern Vietnam, from Saigon and Long An to Hue and Danang, under the alias of Le Phuong Thao, for 22 years. He was awarded the first-class Resistance War Medal, the first-class American Resistance War Medal and other honors by the Party and State, for his contributions to the country's independence. He was featured in books by several writers, including a two-volume novel entitled "Hoc phi tra bang mau" and "Thanh pho dung dau gio", by Nguyen Khac Phuc; two memoirs entitled "Khong co gi troi di mat" by Ho Duy Le and "Phac hoa chan dung mot the he" by Tan Hoai Da Vu and Nguyen Dong Nhat.



*The Hero of Labor Le Cong Co*

He spearheaded the policy of the “Socialization of Education”, set forth by Party and State during the Renovation period, with a spirit of daring-to-think and daring-to-do. He hoped to change the quality of education in Vietnam and gathered all his enthusiasm to start building Duy Tan University, the first private university in Central Vietnam. Initially he had to mortgage his house to raise funding and often ran into obstacles about ways of doing things and the thinking of a society only just emerging from the Subsidy Period. However, he did not give up and continued pushing ahead, confirming the value of his ideas.

Distinguished Teacher Le Cong Co has made DTU one of the largest private universities in the Central Region, recognized nationally, after 21 years of development, with firm strategic objectives, including the

teaching of English to faculty and staff, computerization, professionalization, internationalization and energizing top management and faculty, improving the quality of education based on international collaboration, and building a teaching and research university, established on a foundation of humanitarianism and innovation. DTU now has close relationships with many well-known universities worldwide, such as Carnegie Mellon University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, California State University, National University of Singapore, Singapore Polytechnic and others. DTU students and lecturers have gained significant achievements; typically DTU ranked in the top ten Vietnamese Universities, with the most international scientific publications, won the CDIO World Cup at Harvard University, the Asia-Pacific IDEERS Championship in the 2014 in Taiwan, first prize in the 2016 Imagine Cup and so on. In addition, DTU has collaborated with Microsoft, IBM, Gameloft, Samsung, the Intercontinental Resort, the Hyatt Resort, the Furama Resort, The Nam Hai and others. Consequently, as a result of these achievements, Distinguished Teacher Le Cong received the title of Hero of Labor for his role in the rebuilding of Vietnam.

*Professor Co said: "I always kept in mind that, no matter your age, you always have to keep fighting to contribute to the development of the country. That is why I, together with my like-minded friends and comrades, created Duy Tan University to contribute a high-quality workforce to society. I grew up in the cradle of the Revolution, and will dedicate my life to the Party, the State, and the People. In the spirit of a true Party member, I only desire to live the life of the People, to worry about the worries of the People, to share with and help the socially disadvantaged. The honor of the 'Hero of Labor' title is not only a reward for me personally, but it also honors the tireless efforts of staff, lecturers, and students at DTU, with huge help from the Party, State, and authorities. In the coming years, DTU will endeavor to educate global citizens with solid knowledge and skills, morals and good community spirit, adaptable to all work environments."*

*(Media Center)*