Section 1. Goals and Accomplishments

Goal 1: Collection and Preservation: Increase pertinent source material that represents all sides of the American Vietnam experience. Bench Marks • Increase the Vietnam Archive holdings annually by 450 collection donations. • Visit at least 15 veteran’s reunions yearly. • Have at least one Vietnam Project advertisements or article run in a veterans’ publication annually. • Develop or receive at least 10 media spots publicizing the Vietnam Project (radio, TV, newspaper, or magazine) per year. • Conduct and collect 150 veteran and 40 non-veteran oral histories per year. • Conduct and collect 150 veteran and 40 non-veteran oral histories per year. • Obtain $100,000 to increase staffing of the oral history project within the next 2 years.

The Vietnam Center during 2005 experienced a remarkable year, receiving 528 collection donations, and thus exceeding our goal of 450. Further, the Center hosted a number of high profile events that resulted in a minimum of 179 media reports concerning the Center and Texas Tech University. These reports were in national press such as USA Today; some were run through the Associated Press and received wide circulation. Others appeared as far afield as South Africa, Qatar, Taiwan and Vietnam, in addition to various European nations.

Goal 2: Objective 1.1: Persuade veterans and other groups to make the Vietnam Archive the repository of choice for their documents, photographs, films, and other related materials. Strategies: • Visit veteran’s reunions to make presentations about the Archive and encourage contributions of archival materials and oral histories. • Advertise the Vietnam Archive in veteran’s publications annually. • Take advantage of local, state, national, and international media opportunities to publicize the capabilities of the Vietnam Archive as a world-class repository of relevant archival materials. • Develop a Web page that encourages veterans and others to donate their materials to the Archive.

The Vietnam Center enjoyed considerable success in attracting expanded cooperation on the part of Vietnam veterans, as reflected in the increase in collection donations. Vietnam Archive staff traveled to eleven veteran group reunions during 2005, spoke with veterans, and encouraged donations and participation in the Oral History project. The Vietnam Center in this year interviewed 83 veterans and participants from the war. The Vietnam Center also very actively pursued media opportunities to spread the word about the Vietnam project. The 30th anniversary of the fall of Saigon, the 5 Triennial Vietnam Symposium and the Diaries of Dang Thuy Tram all attracted significant media coverage.

Goal 3: Objective 1.2: Increase the number of oral histories collected and completed. Strategies: • Seek funding sources to increase the number of oral historians who can be dedicated to the collection of oral histories. • After obtaining the funding, hire at least two additional oral historians and four transcriptionists. • Seek oral histories from participants other than military veterans who are an important part of the story.

We have thus far been unsuccessful in locating additional funding to expand the Oral History project.

Goal 4: Goal 2: Resources and Infrastructure: Acquire additional space that will allow for collocation of the Vietnam Center and Archive as well as critical expansion of staff, archival storage, and functions.

Thanks to the assistance of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the cooperation of the Chairman of the Math Department, we have acquired additional storage space in the undeveloped former stack areas of the old Southwest Collection area of the Math Building, and have reconfigured the space for secure storage of archival materials. This is only an interim solution to our pressing space needs.
Goal 5: Objective 2.1: Coordinate with Texas Tech University administration to acquire additional office and processing space to accommodate the expansion of the Vietnam Archive.

- We have made no progress concerning acquisition of additional office spaces for the Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive.

Goal 6: Objective 2.2: Hire additional staff to process archival materials in order to prepare them for researcher use and proper archival storage.

- We have made no progress in locating funding sources to increase the number of archive material processing staff.

Goal 7: Objective 2.3: Build a Vietnam Center, Archive and Museum that will accommodate and incorporate all aspects of the project.

- In 2005 we made no progress toward realizing our goal of building a new Vietnam Center building on the campus at Texas Tech University.

Goal 8: Goal 3: Academic Excellence: Provide high quality educational opportunities by supporting and encouraging student, scholar, academic, veteran, and public research.

- In 2005 we offered one undergraduate and one Honors Vietnam War course. The number of graduate students interested in studying the Vietnam War continues to grow, with indications that additional graduate students will begin studying at Texas Tech in 2006. The addition of a new professor in the History Department who specializes in the Vietnam War is a most promising development that will attract many students in the years ahead.

- The Vietnam Center hosted the 5th Triennial Vietnam Symposium in March 2005. This event included a wide range of papers from academics and participants, and, as is standard practice, graduate students from around the country were encouraged to participate. Further, the Vietnam Center hosted a conference marking the 40th anniversary of the Ia Drang Valley campaign, in Washington DC in November. At the same time, Vietnam Center staffers participated in a conference on community colleges in Rach Gia, Vietnam. Vietnam Center staff members, Dr. Richard B. Verrone and Dr. Laura Calkins, co-authored one book in 2005. Dr. Reckner authored a feature article for Vietnam magazine highlighting the Vietnam project at Texas Tech University.

Goal 9: Objective 3.1: Courses: Increase the availability of courses concerning the American Vietnam experience.

- The addition of Dr. Ron Milam, a Vietnam War historian, to the History Department faculty promises to increase the number of Vietnam War courses offered at Texas Tech.

Goal 10: Objective 3.2: Conferences: Maintain the high level of participation by presenters who represent a full range of perspectives and increase participation by graduate students.

- For the 5th Triennial Vietnam Symposium, we sponsored the participation of Mr. Bao Ninh, acclaimed author of The Sorrow of War, to participate in the conference, coming from Hanoi. His presentation was very well received, and he was introduced and commented upon by a nationally prominent academic specializing in the fiction of the Vietnam War.

Goal 11: Objective 3.3: Publications: Increase the number of publications concerning the American Vietnam experience.

- At present, we have nine doctoral candidates and four master’s students working on (or toward) dissertation or thesis topics relating to the Vietnam War. At the very least, these will be published onsite and made available through the Texas Tech University Library and new electronic thesis and dissertation system, directly contributing to the scholarly works available on the Vietnam War. There are also indications that several new graduate students have applied for the next academic year, seeking to study the Vietnam War.

Goal 12: Objective 3.4: Increase the holdings and enhance the quality of the Virtual Vietnam Archive.

- Throughout 2005 we have steadily increased the holdings of the Virtual Vietnam Archive, which now exceeds 2.3 million pages of documentation. In addition to standard academic research, the Virtual Vietnam Archive has been used to assist in the search for the remains of men still listed as missing in action in Southeast Asia.
Other researchers have used the Virtual Vietnam Archive to support VA claims for over 600 Vietnam veterans. And we know, too, that the Virtual Vietnam Archive has provided direct research materials for officers seeking better understanding of problems in the Iraq war by referring to documentary evidence of historical experiences in Vietnam.

Goal 13: Objective 3.5: Provide online teaching resources for K-12 teachers.
- In 2005 the Vietnam Center instituted the Teachers Resource Web Site to assist educators at all levels - primary education through advanced graduate degree programs. This new facility affords educators and students with direct access to syllabi and teaching materials, as well as training on use of the Virtual Vietnam Archive to augment class room teaching.

Goal 14: Goal 4: Partnerships: Improvement of relations between the U.S. and Southeast Asia through outreach programs resulting in cooperative education, research, and business development projects in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.
- In 2005, Vietnam Center staff twice called on the Vietnamese Ambassador to the US and hosted a three day visit to Texas Tech by the US Ambassador to Vietnam. During the year we sought and received funding through our US Community College partnership to conduct a program at Kien Giang Community College in Rach Gia, Vietnam. We also formed a partnership with TTUHSC, TIEHH, TTU Grad School, and College of Education for a HIV/AIDS intervention program for the Mekong Delta.
- A TTU delegation visited Vietnam in October 2005 to work in a preliminary way with the Can Tho University of Medicine and Pharmacy (CTU-MP) on this project. A formal request for funding is now before USAID. This delegation also visited the US Ambassador to Vietnam at his Embassy in Hanoi. In 2005 TTU also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with all nine of the Vietnamese community colleges. These MoUs are in addition to the eight MoUs with Vietnamese universities signed earlier.
- The Vietnam Center conducted library and archival management workshops in Hanoi and DaLat in October 2005.

Goal 15: Objective 4.1: Establish mutually beneficial education outreach programs with higher education institutions in Vietnam.
- In 2005, the Vietnam Center distributed 26 $100 scholarships in Vietnam and 36 $125 scholarships at the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia. These scholarships go to disadvantaged students in both nations.

Goal 16: Objective 4.2: Respond to and initiate action with the Vietnamese Embassy-Washington DC and the U.S. Embassy-Hanoi to develop education outreach projects, cooperative research opportunities, and U.S. business interests in Vietnam
- In 2005, Vietnam Center staff regularly interacted with staff of the Vietnam Embassy in Washington, DC, and on two occasions made visits to the Vietnamese Ambassador. On those occasions, the Vietnam Center director provided formal briefings of the progress of a wide range of projects involving Vietnam. The visit of the US Ambassador to Vietnam in March of 2005 afforded an opportunity for the VN Center to provide an in-depth briefing on our project and a tour of our facility. This was followed up by a visit to the Embassy in Hanoi by our TTU delegation, headed by Associate Dean Dr. Ralph Ferguson, in October, during which time TTU’s HIS/AIDS Intervention Project was briefed to the Ambassador and Embassy staff.
Section 2. Universal Quantitative Data

There are no Universal Quantitative Data for this area/unit.
VIETNAM CENTER

Area/Unit Specific Information

Section 3a. Quantitative Information

There is No Area Specific Data in Calendar Year Section.
There is No Area Specific Data in Fall Section.
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Section 3b. Qualitative Information.
There is no qualitative information for the current year.
Section 4. Strategic Planning Update.

There is no strategic plan update for the current year.

Commentary:

There is no commentary for the current year.

Implementation Plan:

There is no implementation plan for the current year.