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RMIT Vietnam holds first international economics research symposium

The inaugural Vietnam International Economics Research Symposium, held at RMIT Vietnam's Saigon South campus on August 8, provided a platform for international academics to exchange research ideas and discuss economic policies to support economic growth in Vietnam and other emerging countries.

RMIT Vietnam Head of School of Business & Management Associate Professor Mathews Nkhoma said Vietnam is an emerging economy with one of the highest economic growth rates in the world, at 6.8% in 2017.

"The Vietnamese economy has also become increasingly integrated into regional and global economies," he noted.

"This brings opportunities for growth, along with associated challenges. In this context, academic research is particularly important to inform government policy."

The symposium was attended by academics from France, Spain, Japan, South Korea, India and Vietnam. More than 30 papers were presented during the event, with one keynote speech and three parallel sessions taking place on the day.

The studies presented at the symposium acknowledged the need for regional and global collaboration to



Dr. Nguyen Vu Hong Thai, Senior Lecturer and Discipline Lead for the Finance program in RMIT University Vietnam's School of Business & Management, presents his research on monetary policy at the symposium

create borderless opportunities, and recommended solutions to emerging economic issues, said Associate Professor Nkhoma.

"The research papers covered a wide range of emerging economic issues, such as foreign trade and economic growth, emission taxes and environmental compliance, air pollution, FDI and productivity, population aging, globalization and industrialization, and inequality of well-being," he said.

"At RMIT Vietnam's School of Business & Management, we have a research cluster devoted to developing and emerging markets," Associate Professor Nkhoma shared.

"The scholars involved in this cluster conduct research and provide policy advice on cutting-edge issues in the economics of development and financial markets, with special emphasis on emerging market economies.

"The research cluster is currently made up of specialists in the areas of institutions, international trade, the credits and banking sector, urban and sustainable development, and health and food safety."