It feels good to immerse in the working culture of ISR

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In a news article that I read this morning, it was quite interesting to see that Phenikaa university, which I am affiliated with, has the highest number of top Vietnamese scientists that can represent the domestic research capability of Vietnam [1]. By domestic research capability, Út [1] means those scientists that are currently faculties of Vietnamese institutes and own Vietnamese citizenship. The information was sorted out from the database of over 100,000 top scientists with standardized information on citations, h-index, co-authorship adjusted hm-index, citations to papers in different authorship positions and a composite indicator [2]. This database was first initiated by Ioannidis, Baas, Klavans, and Boyack [3] and has been updated annually since then [2,4].

Am I proud after knowing this news?

Absolutely yes. It is a huge achievement for a very young university like Phenikaa, and I am a part of it

Am I surprised?

I think I am not. I was already surprised a long time ago when I became a member of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Social Research (ISR), Phenikaa University. Many things surprised me, including the enormous investment from the Phenikaa group, the

reconstruction of the campus, the participation of many eminent scientists, but what made me surprised the most is the ISR's scientific culture, which is built upon three philosophies: effectiveness [5], proactiveness [6], and intellectual honesty [7]. This culture, indeed, has enabled ISR to contribute immensely to science while having a very limited cost.

After three years of immersing myself in the working culture of ISR, I admit that it has completely changed my worldviews, attitudes, and behaviors. At the moment, I have a much greater awareness of cost and am much more proactive in pursuing science with high intellectual honesty than myself before. Given the modest international status of Vietnamese science [8], joining ISR is one of the best choices I have made in my career because it has given me a valuable chance to feel the true scientific culture.

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