WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today met with high ranking executives of the prestigious Vietnamese Educational Foundation (VEF). Dr. Lynne McNamara, Executive Director, and Dr. Steve Maxner, Chairman of the Board, discussed with Rep. Sanchez efforts to strengthen relationships between the United States and Vietnam through educational exchanges in science and technology.

Rep. Sanchez, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Vietnam, was recently appointed by House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer to serve on the Vietnamese Educational Foundation's Board of Directors. Rep. Sanchez' appointment acknowledges her work on issues important to Vietnamese-Americans, such as education, tax cuts for the middle class, small business lending, and the expansion of basic human rights in Vietnam. In response to her new-found role, Rep. Sanchez recently created a Vietnamese task force in her home district of Orange County to advise her on the educational exchange program.

"Education is the world's great equalizer, and it empowers individuals to exercise their basic rights and freedoms," said Sanchez. "I am honored to receive this appointment and I look forward to working with leaders of the Vietnamese Educational Foundation to effect positive change in the Vietnamese higher education system."