

**Graduation Ceremony**  
**Master's Programme Land Management and Land Tenure**  
**Academic Years 2006 - 2008**  
**“Global Responsibilities for Global Challenges”**

Speech by the Chairperson of the Förderkreis Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung  
München e.V., Mr. Senator E.h. Gerhard Hess, March 19<sup>th</sup> 2008

Dear Mr. Dean Prof. Dr. Norbert Vogt,

Dear Dr. Thomas Aulig,

Dear Mr. Programme Director Prof. Dr. Holger Magel,

Dear Mr. Programme Manager Albert Schwiening,

Dear guest, dear graduates, dear students, friends of the Technische Universität München and the Master's Programme Land Management and Land Tenure,

First of all, allow me to extend a warm greeting to you all. I am delighted to be speaking to you; graduates, students, staff and friends of this Master's Programme, today as Chairperson of the Förderkreis Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung München e.V., but also as Managing Director of the Bayerische Bauindustrieverband e.V.

I would like to congratulate TUM's Chair of Land Management, for the excellent work that you, Prof. Holger Magel and your staff, have accomplished by constructing this programme. More and more it becomes clear for all “developers and constructors” of infrastructure, settlements and housing, that secure property and access to land is a prerequisite for each development and for the welfare of every country.

Above all, I would like to congratulate the young professionals who today celebrate the attainment of their degree of Master of Science in Land Management and Land Tenure.

We celebrate today the end of another successful academic year of this international postgraduate master course. From its very beginning, the Förderkreis Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung München e.V. has supported the programme through various financial initiatives, personal support and political lobbying.

The spectrum of supportive services provided by our Förderkreis ranges from promoting research and publishing, providing teaching material and granting scholarships to students, to promoting symposia and colloquia as well as informative field trips for educational purposes.

Till now, the Förderkreis Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung München e.V. has

significantly promoted a number of projects in the field of land development and land readjustment by offering creative and initiative support. Nevertheless, the manifold support provided to the three-semester Master's Programme Land Management and Land Tenure at TUM's Chair of Land Management, has been and will remain to be our topmost priority.

Since its creation, 71 professionals from more than 30 countries have completed the Master's Course – a success in itself from every point of view, but especially if we talk about assuming global responsibilities for dealing with the current global challenges.

This well-known and European-wide unique postgraduate programme equips prospective decision-makers with competences to establish in their countries one of the most important foundations of a success-oriented economic system: The provision of a land-related regulatory framework, which includes the safeguarding and management of land and property in accordance with rule-of-law-principles.

As I have already mentioned, the safeguarding of public infrastructure and private property as base for functioning land markets in our partner countries is a core concern of the Bavarian economy. The more efficient these instruments are being implemented, the more stable is the basis for mutual economic exchange developing, thus generating revenues and prosperity on both sides.

The alumni of the Master's Programme are ambassadors and facilitators of such an economic exchange with countries in Middle- and Eastern Europe and with emerging countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Therefore, the Chair of land Management and our Förderkreis contribute significantly to an effective internationalisation not only of the TU München but of our Bavarian State as well.

Sustainable urban and rural development will continue to be a common task beyond national borders. In this context, the Förderkreis will continue to tackle and strongly support numerous land management projects in the years to come, and will continue to be deeply committed to providing students with education appropriate for successfully confronting the global challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

It is my pleasure to announce today that the BBIV will continue its strong commitment and financial support for the future.

Dear graduates, you are now our ambassadors in your respective countries; you are now part of this globally significant task which we have undertaken in order to pass from a conceptual degree or status to a living Global Network which assumes the responsibility of participating and giving shape to the changes that are happening and the ones which are still to happen.

Thank you very much for your attention.