

Opening Ceremony 2009 of the Master's Programme Land Management and Land Tenure

Words of welcome by MSc. Eugene Chigbu on behalf of the Alumni

The Dean of the faculty, our academic father and director- professor Magel, lecturers in the programme, our invaluable sponsors, all guests, -and today, dear master students, welcome to the opening ceremony.

On behalf of the Alumni network of the Land Management and land Tenure programme, I extend a hand of friendship to you. Once again, welcome!

It is both an honour and a privilege to stand before you to welcome you to this amazing community. If you are anything like I was when I started, you are sitting there feeling a million different emotions and asking yourself a million different questions.

“Did I make the right choice? –sure, you did!

“Is this worth the sacrifices I have made to get here?” –absolutely!

In fact, this is the right place to be. Here, we study and research on ways through which the global issues of poverty and rural development can be improved through the sustainable management of land.

A professional study of this sort is what we all need in order to join the league of professionals who are creating changes in their different countries. So, know it in your heart, it is never a mistake to be here.

There is a lot to talk about here. A lot to learn and a lot to do, but because this is actually suppose to be a very short speech, I will conclude by offering you some simple advice on how to make the best of your experience here in the programme.

Manage your time well, share your knowledge and skills; don't keep them to yourself. Learn all you can during your stay here and positively challenge yourself and your colleagues on daily basis.

Above all, have fun. Oh, and I suggest you learn to love to speak the German language (or at least pretend you do) –because with that, life can be a lot meaningful here.

All members of the Alumni network are working in different sectors, organisations and countries of the world. We are helping to shape the global society in our own unique and meaningful ways. Now that you have begun the real journey, we hope you join us soon.

Thank you!