

Dear Prof. Magel,

Dear Mr. Dean Prof. Vogt,

Dear Mr. Lange,

Dear Ms. von Behaim,

Dear Students of the 2008 Intake,

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you to the Opening Ceremony 2008 of the Master's Programme Land Management and Land Tenure.

Today it is certainly a day of festivity dedicated to all new students who are joining our programme.

First of all, allow me to express our gratitude to our sponsors for their valuable support:

- To TUM and our Faculty
- To the German Academic Exchange Service DAAD
- To the Hanns Seidel Foundation
- To the Bavarian State Chancellery
- To the Förderkreis Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung and its members.
- To the Bavarian Construction Industry Association
- To GTZ
- And to other persons and institutions who support the programme in so many different ways.

Without their support it would be very difficult to make this programme as successful as it is. Thank you very much.

Four years ago, in 2004, I was sitting there, just like you are now, as a fresh student of that year's intake. Today it gives me great pleasure to greet you for the first time as Programme Manager.

Since the beginning, our Programme has experienced several changes, me being one of them. Today I can assure you; all these changes have made us stronger and have helped us in the achievement of our goals of providing high quality education and of consolidating the Master's Programme.

As a result of this success, today we are also part of numerous international cooperations with Cambodia, Mongolia, China, Namibia, Palestine, Chile and Spain.

All these collaborations do not only demonstrate our commitment to the internationalization of TUM and our Centre and to providing our support where it is needed, but also our success in becoming a much appreciated partner in the field of land management in Germany and abroad.

In this context, the hard work of our team and our partners has been crucial; and also our Alumni have certainly played a key role in spreading and strengthening our network.

We still have a lot of hard work to do, but at least we can be sure that we are on the right track.

Dear students,

I can assure you that just like for your predecessors; your time at TUM and in Munich will provide you with experience, skills and knowledge which will present you a whole new set of choices. The world needs people like you to make their contribution in shaping the necessary changes.

Looking at you today, I know that all of you are ready for this very hard but at the same time wonderful journey.

I sincerely wish you all the best in it.

And now I would like to introduce to the audience the students of the 2008 Intake.: