

## Oman: GUtech in Muscat hat neuen Rektor

Die GUtech in Muscat war von Anfang an eine Erfolgsgeschichte. Maßgeblichen Anteil daran hatte Professor Dr. Burkhard Rauhut, der in den letzten viereinhalb Jahren als Rektor tätig war. Seit 1. April 2013 ist der neue Rektor Professor Dr. Michael Modigell im Amt. Hier die offizielle Verlautbarung der GUtech zum Amtswechsel:

GUtech bids farewell to Professor Rauhut and welcomes Professor Modigell as new Rector

MUSCAT The German University of Technology in Oman (GUtech) has held a farewell ceremony for its outgoing rector, Professor Dr. Burkhard Rauhut, who has served the university in the position for the past 4 and a half years. At the same time, the new Rector of GUtech, Professor Dr. Michael Modigell, who took over the rectorship on 1st of April, was welcomed officially. The ceremony was held in the amphitheater of GUtech's Halban Campus in the presence of H.E. Christian Freiherr von Reibnitz, the German Ambassador of the German Federal Republic, a number of local dignitaries, members of the university's Board of Governor, and GUtech students and staff.

"We want to show our gratitude to Professor Rauhut for his work over the past years. He supported the university at every single step since its inception in 2007," said Dr. Hussain Al Salmi, Vice-Rector for Administration and Financial Affairs at GUtech. "Professor Rauhut has developed the university from a beach campus in Al Athaiba to a large campus in Halban. Our gates will always remain open for you," said a GUtech BSc student on behalf of all GUtech students. Professor Rauhut's successor, Professor Dr. Michael Modigell, said in his speech that Professor Rauhut had established a German university as a visionary institution in Oman that reflects transparency, freedom and openness towards knowledge and change.

Professor Rauhut joined GUtech in October 2008. Prior to his work at GUtech, he was Rector at GUtech's German parent-university, RWTH Aachen University for nine years, professor of mathematics. "I enjoyed the steady growth of the university," said Professor Rauhut. In 2007, GUtech started as the "Oman-German University of Technology in Oman &ndash; OGtech" in the beach campus in Al Athaiba. In 2010 GUtech partially moved to the office building beside the highway. In 2012, GUtech relocated to Halban, its current campus. At present, GUtech has 640 students and around 170 staff members comprising 32 different nationalities. "The success of the university is based on the Omani vision to establish a German University in Oman. Without Professor Dr. Michael Jansen, the first acting Rector of GUtech, who had the idea to establish the university, GUtech would not exist," stressed Professor Rauhut during his speech. He thanked Professor Jansen for his enthusiasm and involvement in establishing a German university in Oman. Looking ahead, Professor Rauhut said, "Many challenges are ahead, such as the extension of the university building.&rdquo; He wished Professor Dr. Michael Modigell all the best in his new post. "I wish my successor all the success he deserves," he concluded. As with Professor Rauhut, Professor Dr. Michael Modigell has worked at RWTH Aachen University for many years, where he was Head of the Chair of Mechanical Process Engineering before joining GUtech. By profession, Professor Michael Modigell is a physicist and a professor of process engineering and has also worked in the industry for many years. Ends

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Fotos: Barbara Schumacher (Prof. Rauhut) und GUtech (Prof. Modigell)