

**Juristische Fakultät**

**Der Dekan**

**EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN**



Universität Tübingen · Juristische Fakultät · Wilhelmstr. 7 · 72074 Tübingen

**Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity  
1426 21st Street NW**

**Washington, DC 20036  
U S A**

Dekan: Professor Dr. Hermann Reichold  
Telefon: 0 70 71 · 29 77953  
0 70 71 · 29 72545  
Telefax: 0 70 71 · 29 5178  
E Mail: [dekanat@jura.uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:dekanat@jura.uni-tuebingen.de)

Tübingen, 1. Oktober 2008

Dear Council Members,

As Dean I strongly support the student-based initiative to establish an Inn of Phi Delta Phi at our Faculty of Law. The following information about the Eberhard Karls Universität and its Faculty of Law may provide you an insight into our historically significant and future-oriented institution.

The Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen is one of the oldest universities of Germany. It was founded by Eberhard im Bart (Count and later on the first Duke of Württemberg) in 1477 under the name of "Eberhardina". Upon his return from a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and faithful to his motto "Attempo" (I dare), he took the challenge of founding the University of Tübingen in adverse circumstances. It was not until 1769 however, that the University received its current name from Duke Karl Eugen, who added his name to the founder's.

The logo of the University is a symbolic palm tree, which stood in the ancient pre-Christian times as well as in Christian symbolism for the tree of life and is the attribute of virtuosity in terms of the four cardinal virtues: prudence, temperance, courage and justice. It also represents the "oasis of knowledge" that Eberhard wanted to create in Tübingen, and in which he finally succeeded. Until this day, tradition-consciousness and cosmopolitanism determine the character of the University and its members.

The Faculty of Law accepts around 250 new students yearly and holds 2.553 students during the current semester, which is more or less 10 % of the total amount of students at the University of Tübingen. For these 2.533 students, there are 21 university professors. They strive to combine historically relevant and current elements in their teachings. This enables the students in Tübingen to prepare optimally for their future profession. Although it is commonly





known that studying in Baden-Württemberg isn't easy, the Faculty of Law manages to attract students from all over Germany and from other parts of the world with this concept.

Germany-wide, the University of Tübingen is well-known and acknowledged for the countless important textbooks and commentaries written by its Law Faculty members. The founding of the first German Institute for Criminology in 1962, which immediately became important, has attributed to this reputation.

Internationally, this reputation is equally solid. International and interdisciplinary exchange programs, the participation in the international research network "Wettbewerb und Innovation" (Competition and innovation) of one of the professors, the founding of the "Tübingen University Research Center for International Economic Law" (TURCIEL) and many other initiatives add to the Faculty of Law's fame and show how internationally oriented it is.

The Eberhard Karls Universität has always sought and cherished associations with universities in other countries. During the last decade, the University has built up an extensive network of relationships with foreign institutions, which serves students as well as scientists. A global network of partnerships enables yearly hundreds of students and faculty members from the University of Tübingen to go on foreign expeditions and study visits. In exchange, inquisitive guests from all continents are welcomed in Tübingen every year. Among all German universities, Tübingen is the one that cultivates foreign co-operations, scientific relations and exchange programs the most. Therefore, it is hardly surprising that it is the center of a global network of co-operations and partnerships with 120 partner universities in 35 different countries. There are exchange programs with over 50 American and Canadian universities, and it might be worth mentioning that one of them is the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where Phi Delta Phi was founded on December 13, 1869. Furthermore, there are numerous exchange programs with universities in Europe, Russia, Central and Latin America as well as in Asia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

Law students alone have the possibility of studying abroad at 39 partner universities in 20 European countries. On top of that there are numerous contacts in the USA through. This international exchange is completed by numerous international seminars, the creation of networks and events such as the German-East Asian Science Forum, the "Community of Values" project or the Research Network on Innovation and Competition policy (RNIC).

The faculty of Law of the University of Tübingen has tackled with its research projects the national and more in particular international challenges that modern society, economy and the international community pose to the legal system.

With a population of 87000, Tübingen can hardly be called a major city, but just because of that, it has its own specific charm. The old medieval town near the Neckar River is an attraction pole for many tourists annually. The townscape of Tübingen however is entirely dedicated to its university. Remarkable is that the different faculties are spread out over the entire mu-





nicipal area. The "new" aula for instance, erected in 1845 and home of the Faculty of Law, can be found in the center of the town. Because of the presence of the university, Tübingen has the lowest average age of all German cities, and its presence also guarantees a certain amount of culture and cosmopolitanism. Geographically, Tübingen is situated 40 km (about 25 miles) south of Stuttgart, capital of the state of Baden-Württemberg, and home of numerous world-wide operating companies like Daimler, Porsche and Bosch. Their presence makes Baden-Württemberg one of the most competitive and economically strong regions of Europe. The proximity of Stuttgart is advantageous for prospective lawyers, because some of the biggest, internationally active law firms are also located there.

The Eberhard Karls University has connections with several important personalities. First of all there is Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedikt XVI, who in 1966 was appointed to a chair in dogmatic theology at the Faculty of Catholic Theology. The current Federal President of Germany, Horst Köhler, who assumed office in 2004, studied economics and political sciences in Tübingen from 1965 to 1969 and is an honorary professor since 2003. Several important German members of the legal profession studied or taught at the Faculty of Law. Roman Herzog, who was Federal President of Germany from 1994 until 1999 and gave his name to the first German Phi Delta Phi Inn at the Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, had a teaching assignment at the Eberhard Karls University as an honorary professor from 1986 until 1994. Kurt Georg Kiesinger, third Federal Chancellor of Germany from 1966 until 1969, and Klaus Kinkel, foreign minister from 1992 until 1998, studied in Tübingen. Other notable alumni include Alois Alzheimer, who discovered the disease that was later named after him, Friedrich Johannes Kepler, an important German astronomer, Hans Küng, world-famous theologian, Karl Ferdinand Braun, who built the first "Braun tube" or CRT, which was until recently the predominant technology used in television and computer monitors and not to forget Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard, who was the 1995 Nobel laureate in Physiology and Medicine.

I am glad to inform you that Bundespräsident Dr. Richard Karl Freiherr von Weizsäcker, former Head of State of the Federal Republic of Germany, serves the new Inn as a namesake and supports the students in their seek for justice and wisdom. This is very gratifying, because von Weizsäcker has a great appeal to the younger generation because of his legal background and his integer and non-partisan public personality. And although he is well-known internationally, his family roots lay in Baden-Württemberg. It is remarkable by the way, how similar the principals of Phi Delta Phi are with the closing words of a speech he held at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II: *"Ehren wir die Freiheit. Arbeiten wir für den Frieden. Halten wir uns an das Recht. Dienen wir unseren inneren Maßstäben der Gerechtigkeit."* (Let us honor the freedom, work for peace and abide by the law. Let us serve our inner standards of justice.)



With regards to these principles, a group of young lawyers takes up the challenge of establishing Phi Delta Phi at the Faculty of Law of the Eberhard Karls University in Tübingen, in line with the motto of the founder of the university: "Attempto" (I dare). In this undertaking, they have my complete support.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Reichold', written in a cursive style.

Prof. Dr. Hermann Reichold, RiStGH  
Dean