



Press Release

Global Ethic Institute Opens in China

Tübingen ethics institute to collaborate with Beijing partner on universal ethics for a globalized world.

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Peking University today celebrated the opening of its new Global Ethic Institute, a partner of the Tübingen Global Ethic Institute, associated with the University of Tübingen since its founding in April 2012. As in Tübingen, the Beijing institute will focus on teaching and research into matters of global ethics.

The new institute was opened by Peking University President Professor Zhou Qifeng. Attending the ceremony was a sponsor of the Global Ethic Institute, the entrepreneur Professor h.c. Karl Schlecht; University of Tübingen President Professor Bernd Engler; and the prominent theologian Professor Hans Küng, who set up the institutes' underlying Global Ethic Foundation.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, Professor Küng stressed that the notion of global ethics – valid across all national and confessional boundaries – was more important than ever in today's globalised world. "World ethics are a trans-cultural, central idea, the foundation of a pluralist and multicultural society."

The Chinese institute plans to work closely with the Global Ethic Foundation and its institute at the University of Tübingen. The collaboration which began in 2010 with Professor Tu Weiming, director of the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies, and with the associated Center for Global Ethic headed by Professor Yang Xusheng, is to be expanded.

This Sino-German joint project has both German and Chinese sponsors. The Chairman of the international China-based engineering giant SANY, Liang Wengen and German businessman Professor h. c. Karl Schlecht support the institute.

University of Tübingen President Professor Bernd Engler welcomed the opening of the new Global Ethic Institute. "This marks the beginning of a new chapter in collaboration between Germany and China. I am convinced that the Global Ethic Institute in Beijing will build a new bridge be-

tween us and will help to enable a better mutual understanding of our cultures.”

The University of Tübingen and Peking University have a longstanding strategic partnership, with a major highlight in 2001 when the European Centre for Chinese Studies at Peking University (ECCS) was founded. The ECCS is an integral part of Tübingen’s Chinese Language training and one of the University’s three branches in Asia.