



**Press release**

Reference: 3.272

**University of Regensburg**

Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems

**Future opportunities for the property market – unique department in Regensburg  
inspires students and sector**

**Regensburg, 6 October 2004.** The only existing Department of Real Estate Management in any German-speaking country has experienced a successful start. Its core purpose is to provide training to studying professionals, further training to managers and junior employees, and to encourage dialogue between theory and practice through application-orientated research and consultancy. Working alongside Professor Dr Gabriel Lee, who began his work in the property market sector in spring 2004, Dr Wolfgang Schäfers is another first-class property specialist now an established figure at the University of Regensburg. Two other chairs are still to be finalised.

These activities have been greeted with significant response in the sector and are receiving substantial financial backing from sponsors ensuring their promotion. The sponsors comprise the Dr Vielberth Management Company in Regensburg, the Euro Rastpark Ltd service station in Regensburg, the Donau shopping centre in Regensburg and the South-West Park in Nuremberg. Eurohypo AG in Eschborn is also an investor. This has provided investment for the future of the property market, according to both Dr Johann Vielberth, longstanding sponsor of the University of Regensburg, and Dirk Wilhelm Schuh, deputy chairman of the board at Eurohypo AG. The innovative range of teaching on offer is also in high demand among students: "The course provides me with

Eurohypo AG  
Helfmann-Park 5  
D-65760 Eschborn  
www.eurohypo.com

Head of Corporate  
Communications  
Siegfried Guterman  
Tel. +49 69 2548 22039  
siegfried.guterman@eurohypo.com

Head of Press and PR  
Gisela Brandhoff  
Tel +49 69 2548 21316  
gisela.brandhoff@eurohypo.com

University of Regensburg: Sandra Mück, Marketing & Careers Services. Tel: +49 (0)941 943-2662

Fax: +49 (0)941 943-4752 e-mail: Sandra.mueck@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de

optimum opportunities in the employment market and I'm really enjoying it," enthuses Reinhard Klar, a student attending the first lesson.

### **Top young tutors ensure teaching and research of the highest quality**

International, practical and innovative are the words which best describe professors Dr Gabriel Lee and Dr Wolfgang Schäfers. Lee, 39, was born in Canada and has been a prominent figure in numerous international locations throughout his academic career, from the University of Chicago in the USA, to Slovakia and his current position in Austria. Schäfer, also 39, also has excellent practical experience alongside his academic qualifications. Following his promotion to the European Business School with Professor Dr Karl-Werner Schulte, he worked until 2002 as a partner at Arthur Andersen Real Estate (today Ernst & Young) and is currently Managing Director of the Real Estate Investment Banking sector at the renowned Bankhaus Sal. Oppenheim. Schäfer predicts, "The University of Regensburg will soon be at the international forefront of property-related teaching and research. This prospect is both a challenge and an opportunity." He is now due to start holding his first lectures at the beginning of the winter semester.

### **Training to become a property specialist**

Within the Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems, the donations provided have enabled the creation of an independent department that encompasses four chairs within the framework of a planned, unique programme of studies entitled "Real Estate Management". The skills learned at the University of Regensburg cover both management-orientated and interdisciplinary aspects of the property sector. With a trade volume of 250 billion euro, the property market is the largest segment of the German economy and requires specially-trained academics. The Department of Real Estate Management intends to meet this need by offering a wide and practical programme of teaching, research and consultancy.

### **Press conference**

Date: Wednesday 6 October 2004

Eurohypo AG  
Helfmann-Park 5  
D-65760 Eschborn  
www.eurohypo.com

Head of Corporate  
Communications  
Siegfried Guterman  
Tel. +49 69 2548 22039  
siegfried.guterman@eurohypo.com

Head of Press and PR  
Gisela Brandhoff  
Tel +49 69 2548 21316  
gisela.brandhoff@eurohypo.com

University of Regensburg: Sandra Mück, Marketing & Careers Services. Tel: +49 (0)941 943-2662

Fax: +49 (0)941 943-4752 e-mail: Sandra.mueck@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de

Address: Messegelände München  
Neue Messe München Riem  
Press Conference Room, West, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Time: 10 a.m.

**Press contact:**

Gisela Brandhoff  
Manuel Seibel  
EUROHYPO AG  
Presse und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit  
Helfmann-Park 5  
65760 Eschborn

Sandra Mück  
Universität Regensburg  
Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät  
Marketing & Career Service  
93040 Regensburg

Tel +49 (0)941 943-2662  
Fax +49 (0)941 943-4752

Tel +49 (0)69 2548-2 13 16  
Fax +49 (0)69 2548-8 13 16

**Background information: The University of Regensburg**

The University of Regensburg was founded as Bavaria's 4<sup>th</sup> university (ruling of the Bavarian Parliament of 18 July 1962) with full university status and a comprehensive range of subjects. The main purposes of the new university were to take the pressure off of the old Bavarian universities, while also developing the talent of the region of East Bavaria.

On 20 November 1965, the foundation stone for the first part of the university was laid. At the beginning of the 1967/68 winter semester, teaching first began at the university in the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems, and the Faculty of Philosophy.

Today 15,500 students are enrolled at the University of Regensburg, which now includes 12 faculties. The university has a budget of 339 million euro, 19 million of which is raised by third parties.

**Background information: The Faculty of Business, Economics and Information**

**Systems at the University of Regensburg**

In 1967, teaching began at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Information Systems, which was one of the first faculties of the new University of Regensburg, founded in 1964. Today it is one of the largest faculties at the university, with over 2,000 students of a total of 17,000. The faculty consists of the Department of Business, the Department of Economics and Econometrics, the Department of Statistics and Economic History, and the Department of Management Information Systems. This diverse range ensures that almost every aspect of the field of business and economics is covered.

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Communications  
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