

Opening Ceremony, Budapest, October 4, 2013

Megnyitó beszéd vázлата (kötetlen formában hangzott el)

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome to our new Students.

In the first part of my short speech I would like to inform you about some more aspects of the international politics of Budapest University of Technology and Economics.

Rector Professor Gábor PÉCELI defined 5 years ago in 2008 the **students' and professors' exchange as the first priority of international relations** of BME.

As a result of this politics we have a **balanced exchange** of incoming and outgoing students monotonously increasing, nowadays about one thousand students in both directions. These days about **300 Hungarian Erasmus students** took part at similar opening ceremonies in different European countries. **560 BME students went for studies or internship** in the framework of the new **CAMPUS Hungary** program to 37 different countries all over the World, the most popular ones were **Germany, France, and the USA**.

The students sitting / standing here in the Aula came to Budapest for **1-2 semester studies or a full degree training**. BME is a participant in **shorter programs** like summer schools, or **longer double diploma trainings** as well. During the semester you will meet students coming for one week courses from 14 leading European Universities of Technology, like Lisbon, Madrid, Paris, Leuven - Louvain, Delft, Trondheim, Munich, Milan, Vienna, Prague, Warsaw, Thessaloniki, Istanbul. **Some of these programs are open for you as well**.

Finally allow me to remind you that you are students of a university with great tradition, founded **231 years** ago. There were hundreds of World wide famous students or professors of BME. Now I mention only 4 with some demonstration.

1. If you turn right you can see the bust of BME professor Imre STEINDL, the architect of the Parliament building in Budapest.
2. When you hold a credit card in your hand then remember that Dennis GABOR, a former BME students received the NOBEL prize for the invention of holography.
3. Probably everybody among you knows the RUBIK's cube invented by former BME student, graduate Ernő Rubik.
4. And a new one, the GÖMBÖC, a homogeneous body only with only one stable equilibrium point invented by Gábor DOMOKOS and Péter VÁRKONYI recent professors of our university.

If you are interested in this kind of questions (and much more) then you can pick up this **USERS' GUIDE** to Hungary at the Central Student Office.

I wish **you and us** that a few decades later, for example at our 250th anniversary in 2032 the speaker could cite your names as former **world famous students of BME**.

Successful studies, enjoy your stay in Budapest.

Others (**if it is necessary**) Repetition is the mother of knowledge. Sport: water polo, Olympic champions. 1956 marble plate.

A beszéd közben bemutatottak (hitelkártya, Rubik kocka, GÖMBÖC) / bemutatásra használt eszköz (lézer pointer):

