A thought from Mr. Steinlin
the new President of
the iimt institute council

Have you gone skiing or even snowboarding this winter, and felt the thrill of gliding on glistening snow and playing with gravity and friction? I had bought a pair of really cool and ultrashort carving skis three seasons ago. As a typical grown up man I had taught myself all alone how to enjoy them. And I can tell you: material can make a difference! It is an entirely different feeling of flexibility and of feeling in control. And then this winter I decided to hire a ski instructor for a few hours to find out whether there were still things I could learn to savour the quality of the new material. (To be honest, my woman-friend had to convince me that it was completely ok to ask for help). It sure was an eye opener! I felt like a fool at first as the instructor watched me for only a few turns and reflected how I was skiing. But then, as he explained and demonstrated, I quickly captured the concepts and the mindset in using my marvellous carving skis. It was not just about leaning inward and letting them guide me through curves, stiffly as I apparently did – no wonder nobody had taken any notice of my performance. It was about an orchestration of movements in continuous dynamics, related to the ground and the environment. I first had to understand and practice the elements sequentially. But once I had internalized the parts it became increasingly fun to apply them in different combinations and circumstances. And now, at least my friend admired my skiing performance. Once more I had experienced the fact how good, interactive teaching can open worlds for me. The material certainly was the necessary platform. But I would not have discovered the full pleasure of carving, had I not had my present behaviour reflected on and been introduced to the elements and their combinations in using the material to its capacity. I was lucky to have a patient instructor who was also good in visualising the concepts, so I felt at ease and could quickly grasp and apply the teaching. This is what it’s all about at the iimt: working with intellectual material that you may find anywhere; reflecting about your own behaviour; teaching patiently and in comprehensible elements what this material means and how it is applied in different circumstances. So you become a master in managing your tasks. I wish you all the pleasure in discovering the potential of your management material! And if you are also a carving fan I am happy to share with you what skis I bought that started my joyride; Swiss, of course!

iimt Executive Programmes  p. 2
iimt Events  p. 4
Chair of Management in ICT  p. 5
iimt Shortcuts  p. 6
Goodbye
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult.
Norbert Thom
13 years Subject Area Co-ordinator

I have been in charge of the course Organisational Behaviour and HR Management at the iimt for the last 13 years. During this period, I had contact with very interesting students fully engaged in their professional life and, nevertheless, totally engaged in doing additional learning effort in a very serious way. Topics such as my own (Organisation Behaviour and HR Management) you can better teach to executive students than to normal young students. As a professor, you feel directly in contact with the class and the professional experience of any participant. This also leads to serious critical and curious questions which are very much appreciated because they show the real interest. I also had an opportunity to supervise some excellent master theses which were in a certain sense, a further education for me. In the Scientific Council, I had contact with very interesting colleagues representing a great variety of subjects. The meetings were always perfectly prepared by Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel. With her I had a splendid relationship through the years, and I’ll never forget this wonderful time of cooperation. In a certain way my engagement at the iimt was a return to Fribourg because I started my career as Professor at the University of Fribourg during the years 1985-1991 as full professor for business administration.

My best wishes for the continuous development of this master course will accompany your future.

Norbert Thom
Subject Area Co-ordinator

Facts
Norbert Thom’s current position
Director of the Institute for Organisation and Human Resource Management, University of Berne, Switzerland

Norbert Thom’s experience
Deputy to the Chair of Organisation and Human Resource Management at the Justus-Liebig University, Giessen, Germany

Head of the Department of Corporate Management and Organisation at the University of Fribourg

Provisional director of the Institute for International Innovation Management, University of Berne

Vice-rector of the University of Berne, in charge of finance and planning

Managing director of Thom Consulting Group

Extensive experience with several MBA programmes

Education
Dr. rer. pol., Habilitation in Business Administration at the University of Cologne, Germany

For a list of Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Thom’s publications, go to www.iop.unibe.ch
Cooperation with Cambridge

26th-27th November 2009

Four of the iimt EMBA students went to Cambridge to participate on a two-day open programme - an additional course named “future thinking”. It is part of the area “Strategy & Innovation Management”. For both - Information & Communication Technologies, as well as Utility Management students, the programme was very interesting. The lecturers were Tom Cummings & Hardin B.C. Tibbs, with classes of between 8-15 participants.

How to get a certificate...

All of our EMBA students have the opportunity to attend three courses in Cambridge. The offer is very diverse. With a portfolio of over 20 programmes, the students can arrange the topics to their desires. The modules will be accredited to the EMBA at the iimt.


Topics of the course “future thinking”:

* Applied futures thinking in business and the public sector
* Detecting and mapping change in the strategic landscape
* Cultivating the skills of re-perception and reframing
* Creating shared strategic narratives
* Translating futures thinking into strategic advantage
* Futures thinking and inspirational leadership
* Applying the skills in your own business environment

and the evidence...

More information: https://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/execed/open/futuresthinking.html
4th Swiss Electricity Congress
11th-12th January 2010, Berne
Since the 1st of January 2009 the Swiss electricity market is partially liberalised. For some it was the right step to do, others are less euphoric. Was the liberalisation boon or bane? Customers were expecting lower prices, especially large-scale consumers such as the paper or steel industry and politicians were expecting an open market. Not only the industry, the politicians or energy providers are discussing the theme “energy and CO2” - it became a common discussion for everyone. Can all the requirements be satisfied? The congress brought about 400 energy providers, distributors, key players and politicians together to share their opinions. Climate policy and the impact on the electricity industry were key elements of the congress. Not only were climate and electricity covered, also the power supply, the competitiveness of the Swiss electricity market and the importance of the Swiss electricity market as a throw ing table in Europe were covered. Top class personalities such as Kurt Rohrbach (BKW), Federal Councillor Moritz Leuenberger (Federal Council and Head of the Department of Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications), Pierre-Alain Graf (Swissgrid), Prof. Dr. Lars G. Josefsson (Vattenfall), Hans E. Schweickardt (Alpiq) and Thomas Kolly (Ambassador) were invited as speakers. Moreover, several panel discussions took place where the participants had the opportunity to ask their questions and to illustrate their needs and claims. The event offers a place for presentations and panel discussions. It was also an ideal platform for networking and socialising, to get familiar with all the challenges the electricity market is facing to.

8th ICT Networking Party
21st January 2010, Berne
Once more ICT Switzerland and especially Fritz Sutter invited top-players from the ICT sector, politicians, industrialists and researchers for a get-together: the legendary ICT-Networking Party. More than 1100 people came together in Bern. The arena of the Kursaal in Bern was completely sold out and networking was the motto of this evening. The iimt was again host of a table, and invited people from EMC Montena, finnova, BT, excelsis, Business Technology, Landis & Gyr, Orange Communications, and Swisscom. In a relaxing and amusing atmosphere hosts and guests started with a common aperitif. Once all participants were seated and introduced to each other, the second part of the evening continued with different speeches from Ruedi Noser, Ludwig Hasler and Franz Jaeger. As all duties and responsibilities were distributed, the “CDO’s – Chief Dim Sum Officers” and “CBO’s – Chief Beverage Officers” edged off to get food and drinks for the other guest. After the common dinner and interesting discussions, the intermezzo show act took place.

Birgit Steinegger alias Elvira Iseli shared her impression with the audience about a world with and without ICT. The official part of the ICT-Networking Party ended with a dessert buffet and the traditional “Biergarten”.

The iimt is already looking forward to the next ICT-Networking Party and to network again!
**New Staff Member**

**Violetta Montes Tapia**

Violetta Montes Tapia works as a research assistant to the chair of Management in ICT, beginning in January 2010. Her research interests apply mainly to the Information and Communication Technology area. Growing up in Augsburg, Germany, Violetta studied business administration at the University of Augsburg with her majors being International and Innovation Management and IT. In order to gather international experience she took part in a study year in the Netherlands at the University of Twente following the master track “Industrial Engineering and Management”, which included an internship at a Dutch company for search engine marketing. Additionally she did internships in Germany with an aviation reinsurance agency and a medical service provider. She also worked as a student assistant at the International and Innovation Management Chair at the University of Augsburg, helping with a study on the impact of internationalisation on the financial success of companies, as well as being a tutor for the lecture “Strategies of Internationalisation”. In 2009, she finished her studies with her diploma thesis on IT-project valuation with real options, and hence received her diploma degree in business administration. For her work at the iimt, she is looking forward to deepening her knowledge of, and to working on research in the fields of project and innovation management.

For further information please contact the chair: chair@iimt.ch

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**New Staff Member**

**Ansgar Fütterer**

At the beginning of January 2010, Ansgar Fütterer started to work at the iimt as a research assistant of the chair of Management in ICT. Ansgar grew up in Rheinstetten, Germany. After his secondary-school graduation, he accomplished an apprenticeship as an electrician with additional commercial and pedagogical qualifications. In the subsequent years, he worked in the field as a computer networking technician for financial institutions and electronic data processing centres, where he led a team of external workers. He began his studies at the University of Karlsruhe (TH) in economics with key aspects on macro theory, applied economic modelling as well as real estate management and ecological residential building. His interest for the issues with the consumption of natural resources led him to a yearlong experience in project work on decentralised water supply systems. For his work at the iimt, his objective is to advance research in the area of energy systems management. His main interest is directed towards the challenges of the increasing competitive pressure on the electricity markets due to liberalisation. While technological inventions with a high operating efficiency – like smart grids – already have an advanced state of development, their cost-effectiveness and profitability need to be improved considerably in the new regulatory framework. In cooperation with the College of Engineering and Architecture of Fribourg (department of electrical engineering) and partners from the industry, he aims for promoting research in appropriate business models which shall resound the successful commercial implementation of such innovative technologies.
Information Sessions 2010

Do you want to find out about the iimt EMBA Programmes?

Take the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming iimt information sessions. During these events we are going to present the iimt and its variety of programme offers in ICT and Utility Management. Furthermore, the information sessions offer the opportunity to discuss individual issues.

Berne  10.03.2010  18:00 - 20:00
Zurich  15.04.2010  18:00 - 20:00
Lausanne  18.05.2010  18:00 - 20:00
Berne  10.06.2010  18:00 - 20:00
Fribourg  30.06.2010  18:00 - 20:00

more details at: www.iimt.ch

New class representative Anburajan Nainar

We are happy to announce that Mr Anburajan Nainar has accepted to act as class representative for the 2010 intake. He will be the link between the student body and the iimt. We are looking forward to this collaboration and wish the entire 2010 intake a lot of success for their studies.

Next Courses

Organisational Behaviour & HRM
Module 1:  8th - 10th March 2010
Module 2:  15th - 17th March 2010
Module 3:  22nd - 24th March 2010

Process & Excellence Management
Module 1:  11th - 13th March 2010
Module 2:  18th - 20th March 2010

Business Ethics
Module 1:  25th - 27th March 2010

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