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To the  
President of Tsinghua University  
Professor QIU Yong  
30 Shuangqing Rd, Haidian District,  
Beijing, China

Sent by e-mail: zhangli22@tsinghua.edu.cn

Munich, 24 November 2020

Dear President Qiu,

On behalf of the Technical University of Munich (TUM), please accept my most sincere congratulations on the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tsinghua University. Throughout its history, Tsinghua University's strive for academic excellence, deeply rooted in its ambitious founding in 1911 and reaffirmed in the second half of the last century, has been admired around the globe.

Today, Tsinghua University is known as a research powerhouse, offering a most enriching study and teaching environment to students and life-long learners. It not only ranks as one of the best universities in Asia, but is widely considered one of the pre-eminent higher education and research institutions on a global scale. I congratulate you on these and many other achievements, made possible not least because of the foresightful leadership of yourself and your predecessors.

Tsinghua University's 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary marks 110 years of challenging, breaking and overcoming traditional boundaries, both between scientific disciplines as well as between cultures. Tsinghua University has always looked for – and has consistently found! – the potential to innovate new technological breakthroughs specifically at the intersections of scientific research areas. In the spirit of 'self discipline and social commitment', Tsinghua University has thereby pioneered modern approaches to interdisciplinary research and cooperation, and your institution's remarkable development in recent decades is testament to that.

Let us celebrate Tsinghua University's past as our universities join forces to confront the challenges of both present and future. The partnership between Tsinghua University and TUM stretches over almost three decades, and has come to life in the form of scientific cooperation, fruitful exchanges, and a deepening of the manifold relationships, both professional and personal, between members of our campus communities.

**Prof. Dr.  
Thomas F. Hofmann**  
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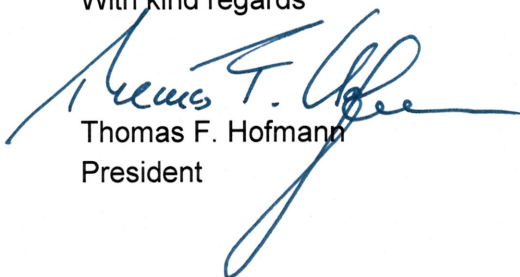
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Recently, we have ushered in a new phase of institutional cooperation by establishing a flagship partnership that will bring our communities closer together and will also yield tangible results for the larger benefit of our societies. As we embark on a new and exciting era in the history of Tsinghua University, let me assure you that we remain deeply committed to further strengthening our relationship, and I very much look forward to exploring new ways with you to expand our activities and align them with shared strategic goals.

On a personal level, I wish to thank you for your most kind invitation to attend the Global Forum of University Presidents (GFUP) and to deliver a keynote speech at the GFUP Plenary Session on April 24, 2021, respectively. I will gladly attend the Forum and will be delighted to deliver the keynote during the Plenary Session – thank you very much!

Congratulations once more to all of our partners, colleagues and friends at Tsinghua University, and I look forward to celebrating with you all when we next meet in person.

With kind regards



Thomas F. Hofmann  
President