

## Wisuda VI 2012/2013

Tuesday, 01 October 2013

My first week in office did not end with a free weekend, but with work on Saturday. Just to be clear, I liked it! I was asked to attend the last graduation ceremony of the academic year 2012/2013. Just a brief information for outsiders: UII has six times per year its graduation ceremony. I was asked to wear long pants, long sleeves and a hijab, which I was very happy to do. On the one hand, I think that it simply shows respect for the culture and religion and on the other hand, I got enough stares, even with the hijab and long clothes. On the day of the ceremony, I had to get up early. In Germany, we do not have a graduation ceremony like that for university students, but we did have a ceremony after graduating from High School, which started at 3pm, I think. Why does the graduation ceremony here start so early in the morning? Just a strange question I had to ask myself as an outsider! The actual ceremony, however, was very nice and formal. Like I said, there is not a ceremony like this at our university, but the students simply go to the secretary and pick up their graduation certificate – not really the appropriate end for studying several years if you ask me. Here, the students were wearing very formal, traditional clothes and cap and gown. There were several speeches, which I only partly understood, but since my assignment was to take pictures for our department, this was nothing I had to really worry about. Later, everyone was called up personally and received their certificate, with special honors for good grades. That is an appropriate ceremony to celebrate finishing one's studies and I enjoyed being part of it very much.