The World Maritime University

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The World Maritime University

GEORGE MARCOYANNIS, member board of Governors World Maritime University

The University will also:
> help to establish and internationally recognized cadre of experts in the major aspects of shipping, including visiting professors, lecturers, consultants and other experts to provide suitable knowledge and assistance to developing countries and other governments, as appropriate, on problems relating to maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution».

Finally, says the Charter, the University will:
> help in developing a uniform international system for the training of experts in the maritime field as a means facilitating and promoting international cooperation in shipping and related maritime activities».

The courses offered

1. General maritime administration (GMA)
2. Ports and shipping administration (PSA)
3. Maritime safety administration (nautical) (MSA (N))
4. Maritime safety administration (engineering) (MSA(E))
5. Maritime education and training (nautical) (MET(N))
6. Maritime education and training (marine engineering) (MET(E))
7. Technical management of shipping companies (TMS)

The World Maritime University has come a long way in the brief period since July 1983. There is now a well-established resident faculty, enriched through an effective scheme of visiting professors, a successful programme of field trips and on-the-job training, a strengthened intensive English language Programme, a considerable amount of up-to-date donated equipment installed for instructional purposes, a good library and, perhaps the most important of all, the diligent involvement of an excellent student body sponsored by a vast and ever-growing number of countries who see the advantages of the advanced training offered at the WMU.

Annex shows field of studies and countries of origin of the student body.

All concerned can state with pride that in this early phase the World Maritime University has lived up to its promise.

The World Maritime University, based in Malmo, Sweden, was officially inaugurated on 4 July 1983 and is one of the most exciting and ambitions projects ever undertaken by the International Maritime Organization.

The purpose of the University is to provide advanced training for senior personnel from developing countries who are involved in various maritime activities. Training of this type is not available in developing countries and there is no comparable institution anywhere in the world.

The WMU therefore fills an important gap in maritime training and in the years to come will have a marked and beneficial effect on the two areas of greatest concern to the Organization — the improvements of maritime safety and the prevention of marine pollution from ships. IMO recognizes that the improvement of personnel standards — on shore and at sea — is crucial if its regulations are to be effectively implemented.

Considerable progress has already been made towards improving training levels. The WMU is the first international effort to provide training opportunities for personnel who have already reached positions of some authority — personnel, in fact, who are responsible for the effective implementation of IMO standards.

The aims of the WMU can best be sta-
ted by quoting the Charter of the WMU, which says:

«The World Maritime University shall be the international maritime training institution for the training of senior specialist maritime personnel in various aspects of shipping and related fields concerning the improvement of maritime safety, the protection of the marine environment and the efficiency of international shipping, in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the International Maritime Organization as a specialized agency of the United Nations.»

In order to achieve these objectives, the Charter says that the University shall:

«Provide interested countries, and in particular developing countries, with the most modern and up-to-date facilities for the training of their high-level maritime personnel in all areas of shipping and related maritime activity, including:

.1 teachers and instructors for maritime training institutions,
.2 examiners for maritime training courses, certificates and qualifications,
.3 senior maritime administrators,
.4 technical administrators and senior managerial personnel,
.5 marine accident investigators,
.6 maritime surveyors,
.7 specialists in naval architecture, marine science and technology and related disciplines,
.8 technical port managers and related personnel.»

George Marcyannis