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## WMU meets Charter aims says Review

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WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

# WMU meets Charter aims says Review

The Academic Review into the University held earlier this year has 'clearly concluded that the academic programme offered ... meets the aims as set forth in its charter.' In its report to the Chancellor, Mr. C.P. Srivastava, the Academic Review Team goes on to say: 'The University, in its brief lifetime of five years, has shown itself not only to be an effective medium in the maritime world for imparting more advanced skills and greater knowledge. It has also made a special contribution in creating a new impetus to international co-operation in the maritime field.'

The report, which was considered by the University Board of Governors in July, was prepared by a six-man team headed by Professor Pierre Bauchet of France. The other members were Rear-Admiral W.M. Benkert of the United States; Dr. J.A. Cowley, United Kingdom; Dr. Edgar Gold, Canada; Mr. George Livanos, Greece, and Captain D.M. Walters of Australia.

The introduction to the Review states: 'In its first four classes, the University has trained 296 students

who generally hold important positions in the maritime world. Continuous progress has been made in improving the training of each class. WMU has overcome the difficulties that any new institution has to face, although the fact that its students have come from 97 different countries has made its task more difficult.'

The Review attributes the University's success to 'the impetus and inspiration provided by its distinguished Chancellor, the high quality and dedication of the Rector, Vice-Rector, faculty and administrative staff. Especially important have been the enthusiasm and motivation of the students.'

The Review is divided into four sections. The first contains general analytical observations on the students, staff, curriculum, library, premises and alumni affairs. The second section examines in greater detail each of the courses offered by the WMU. The third section looks at the University's long-term future and the fourth contains a summary of conclusions and recommendation given in the earlier sections.

Despite its praise for the progress made by the University so far, the Review lists some 79 conclusions and recommendations for improvements.

Recognizing the diversity of the student population, it recommends that minimum student entry standards be increased and that an upper age limit of 40 be applied in most cases.

Although no radical changes to the curriculum are recommended, the Review proposes the establishment of a course on Ports and Shipping Administration and says that economics and law should be given greater emphasis as should engineering. There should be less emphasis on written examinations and greater attention should be paid to computer training. The English Language Programme should be fully integrated into the University structure and greater use should be made of the Library.

The Review says that the physical facilities of the University should be expanded or remodelled to include a main classroom, an adequate lounge and a number of student project/research rooms.

The establishment of a Planning

Committee is recommended to help WMU prepare for the future and planning should be regarded as a continuous process. As far as teaching is concerned, the Review recommends that a survey of developing countries be carried out to ascertain training needs and the training facilities available in their own institutions.

The introduction of one-year courses providing specialist training for well-trained managers and administrators is recommended, as are short-term refresher courses for WMU graduates.

Finally the Review states that WMU must continue to give prominence to the work and objectives of IMO, while contacts with other United Nations agencies would make it possible to extend the range of subjects taught.

*The graduation ceremony of the class of 1987. The rector, Mr. Erik Nordström, is shown addressing staff, graduates and guests.*

