Places : Start of term

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A NEW term has just begun at the World Maritime University, the outpost of the International Maritime Organisation improbably located in Malmo, Sweden.

More than 100 students from all over the world have begun their four-term, two-year course, designed to promote uniformly high maritime standards. Not all are from the developing world, with a student from the Soviet Union, two from Canada and one from Sweden itself providing an element of contrast. There are fewer women this year, with only four in the intake.

At the inauguration ceremony in Malmo's town hall, the students heard their chancellor, Mr C. P. Srivastava, exhort them to hard work.

"Your country is entitled to your devotion," he said, noting that WMU students were already setting an excellent standard, with many graduates from the five-year-old establishment now in high positions in their home countries.

There was settling in to be done by the academic staff, too, with the new professorial appointment, Patrick Alderton, beginning his first term. He will be finding the bright, well equipped university a considerable contrast to the battered facilities of the City of London Polytechnic, where he was before.