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WMU launches cash appeal

IT HAS BEEN said by various commentators, that when the shipping industry recovers, as it currently shows signs of doing, and long after shipyards have started to fill their order books and vessels return to full employment, the shipping recession of the past 15 years will leave us with a most unwelcome legacy; namely a dearth of trained personnel, and worse even than that, an image among young people of the marine industries being unworthy of consideration for a career. This is likely to apply to all branches of the industry, both seagoing and land based, in a wide variety of occupations.

Clearly it is essential that this 'image' should be corrected. Careers in the shipping world are worthy of consideration and offer the prospect of long term, challenging and exciting jobs. Fortunately those already in the industry have recognised this need to improve our image and none more so than the premier teaching establishment, the World Maritime University (WMU).

As a consequence, the WMU has recently launched a cash appeal for funds to continue and improve upon the work started when the university came into being in July 1983. This appeal getting underway, coincidentally comes at a time of change at the WMU's helm. The former rector Erik Nordstrom who retired at the end of last year is being succeeded by Captain D.M. Waters who has been associated with the WMU since 1983, as a visiting professor. Originally from Scotland, Captain