

World Maritime University
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Seaways

NOVEMBER 1984



The World Maritime University at Malmö, Sweden, is dedicated to raising professional standards worldwide. To underpin this, a capital fund of \$25 million is needed, and donations large and small are being sought—see story on page 27.

In this issue

1 Focus on the UK fleet 2 The 1926 Kara Sea Expedition (III) 3 High noon in the Gulf 5 Defence of merchant ships (I)—Against sea-skimming missiles 7 Planning a Panamax bulk carrier for the 1990s 10 Electronic charts—Members' views needed 11 NI ship and equipment design report—DTp critique 13 Naval column—Observe Navy 14 Letter from the Shipping Minister 15 Incident desk—*European Gateway/Speedlink Vanguard* collision (II) 18 Nautalex 19 Merchant Shipping notices 21 Supply line—Bristol Splash Guard 22 Book Reviews 23 Letters 27 IMO notes 29 Nautical Institute log—Branch news—People—Redundancy—Obituary—New members—Branch almanac

IMO NOTES—a review of the Organization's current work

\$25 MILLION FUND LAUNCHED FOR WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY



A \$25 MILLION APPEAL for funds for the World Maritime University has been made by the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization, Mr C. P. Srivastava, as part of his annual World Maritime Day message.

The theme for 1984 World Maritime Day, which was celebrated by IMO on Thursday, 27 September, was 'Global co-operation for the training of maritime personnel'. This is the second time that training has been chosen as the World Maritime Day theme, an indication of the importance attached to the subject by IMO.

Mr Srivastava explained that while IMO member States all believed in the importance of implementing IMO's technical standards as effectively as possible, some developing countries found it difficult to do so, primarily because of the shortage of sufficient highly-trained staff for senior posts. He said that in visiting more than 70 of IMO's 126 member States he had learned of the shortages that exist in many countries in such personnel as maritime administrators, teachers at maritime academies, surveyors, casualty investigators, technical managers for shipping companies and other senior staff.

In 1981, to help to make good these shortages, which have a serious impact on maritime safety and pollution prevention, the IMO Assembly unanimously decided to create a new World Maritime University, based at Malmö, Sweden, to provide the intensive training and practical experience needed.

Students from 59 countries

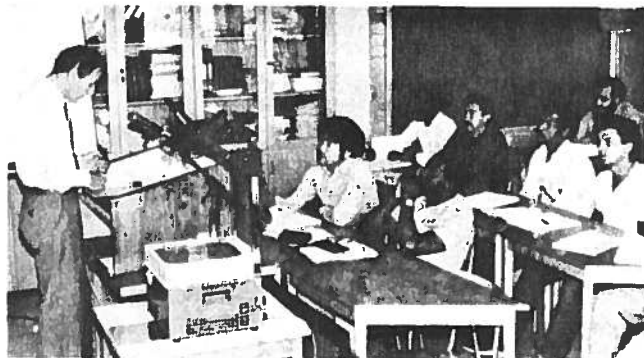
The University was opened in July 1983 and began its second academic session earlier this year. It now has 136 students from 59 different countries, most of them undertaking a two-year course in maritime administration.

The University has already proved to be extremely popular and successful from an academic point of view and from next year a limited number of places will be made available also to students from developed countries. This step will help in the maintenance of high technical standards and the global status of the University besides promoting global co-operation in the maritime field.

Financial support has come from a variety of sources, including the United Nations Development Programme, Sweden, Norway, the Commonwealth Secretariat and a number of IMO member governments. But only about half of the annual \$4 million budget is on a recurring basis, and the board of governors is anxious to ensure that the remainder should also be guaranteed by building up a capital fund of \$25 million to provide sufficient investment income.

Voluntary donations needed

Mr Srivastava said: 'The capital fund needs to be built up by voluntary donations. In the circumstances of today it would not be practical to expect very large donations from individual Governments, organisations or individuals, and yet the achievement of the target would not be



A lecture at the university given by Professor Tom Balmer.

impossible if every member of the world maritime community were to make a small donation.'

The Secretary-General pointed out that two prominent Greek shipowners, Mr A. J. Chandris and Mr Georges P. Livanos, had both made personal donations of \$10,000 and appealed to shipowners, shipbuilders, equipment manufacturers, port authorities, maritime organisations and individuals to support the project.

He said: 'The World Maritime University is a unique example of global co-operation between the developed and the developing, between the countries of the north and the countries of the south, between the east and the west.'

The choice of the training theme for World Maritime Day is particularly timely because of the entry into force on 28 April of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978. This convention is generally regarded as the most important international treaty dealing with crew standards ever adopted. Most merchant marine academies now base their courses on the convention and it is an important part of the syllabus of the World Maritime University.

In addition to the University, IMO provides assistance to maritime academies and other training projects in many parts of the world. The increasing emphasis now being placed in securing the more effective implementation of IMO measures is expected to make a major impact on maritime safety in the years ahead.

New IMO posts

The Secretary-General has appointed Mr Yoshio Sasamura as director of the Organization's Maritime Safety Division. This division provides secretariat services to the Maritime Safety Committee and its various sub-committees which are responsible for IMO's activities regarding the safety of shipping.

The Secretary-General has also appointed Mr Alexander P. Morozov of the Soviet Union as director of the Marine Environment Division. Mr Morozov, who succeeds Mr Sasamura in this position, was previously deputy head of the foreign department of the USSR Ministry of Merchant Marine. □