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Recent developments at WMU

On several occasions the Board of Governors of WMU has stressed the need for the University to maintain close contacts with graduated students. This is obviously of vital importance, both because the University must follow the future career of its students and in particular seek a feedback of advice and suggestions regarding the overall academic programme and the content of individual courses. The WMU Newsletter plays an important role in this context and I am pleased to report that the first issue was well received and that we have been encouraged to continue.

I wrote a letter to all Alumni shortly before Christmas reporting on the Graduation and also enclosing a report summarizing the replies of Alumni to the questionnaire distributed early in 1987. The main trend of that report is decidedly encouraging. Many graduates have been promoted to important positions where their degree will no doubt assist them in serving the maritime development of their countries. Others have returned to similar positions to those held before joining WMU, but very often with added responsibilities. These two categories represent a clear majority of graduates. But the replies also contain an element of disappointment. We are still awaiting a number of replies and in a limited number of cases we have not been able to identify the whereabouts of graduates. It is also clear from a comparatively small number of answers that there are still graduates who either are unemployed or hold positions unrelated to maritime activities. In very few other cases students have upon return been given even less responsible positions than before within the maritime field, which will inevitably cause frustration.

In this context I want to mention that the letters sent to Governments and UNDP Resident Representatives last year, inviting nomination of candidates for admission to WMU contained for the first time a reference to the desirability for nominating governments and authorities to indicate which role they expect graduated students to play in the maritime development of their home countries upon completion of studies. As we now have a larger number of applications than available seats it will be possible for the University - within the limits of geographical distribution and fairness - to give preference to applications in which the future maritime role of a graduate is indicated. Because of the quickly growing interest in the University we have also had to limit the intake from each country to three students.

In accordance with another decision by the Board of Governors, an Academic Review of WMU activities is now being undertaken. The Chairman of the Board from France, Professor Pierre Bauchel, and the aim is to prepare a report for the meeting of the Board of Governors late June 1988. Again both students and graduates will play an important role in providing advice and comments to the Academic Review Team for its evaluation of the general environment at WMU as well as the curricula. The outcome of this very important task will be highlighted in a future issue of the Newsletter.

The interest in WMU is steadily growing and not only in countries wanting to send us students. Interested parties all over the world want to know more about the University and that the IMO University in Malmö will be setting the trend for future UN-related higher international education.

I would like to end by encouraging you again to keep in touch with WMU in years to come. We are still a young institution and the only reliable way of evaluating our usefulness is through the contribution of our graduates to the future maritime development of nominating countries and authorities.

Rector Erik Nordström

Graduation, Class of 1987

The Sixth Session of the Board of Governors will be held in Malmö on 28-29 June 1988.
Academic review

The Board of Governors decided in its fourth session in June 1986 that an Academic Review of WMU should be undertaken in 1986. Professor P. Bauchet, Professor in Law and Economics at the University of Paris, former Director of Studies at the renowned Ecole Nationale d’Administration and Deputy-Chairman of the French Conseil Superieur de la Marine Marchande has accepted the Chancellor’s invitation to act as Chairman of the Academic Review Board that will consist, besides him, of the following five members:

Rear Admiral M. Benkart, US Coast Guard (ret), USA
Dr. J. Cowley, CBE, Surveyor General, Department of Transport, London, UK
Professor Dr. E. Gold, Professor of Law at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Mr. G. Livanos, Chairman, CERES Hellenic Shipping Enterprises Ltd, Piraeus, Greece
Captain D.M. Waters, Principal, Australian Maritime College, Launceston, Tasmania
Ambassador B. Zagorin serves as Rapporteur to the Academic Review Team.

Document WMU 5/3 (Rev.1) of the fifth session of the Board of Governors, dated 15 May 1987, specifies

(a) The purpose of the Academic Review 1988 is to:

(i) assess the structure content, delivery, examinations and outcome of the Courses of Study presently offered at the WMU, the programme of practical training for students, including field trips and on-the-job training, as well as the academic facilities generally;

(ii) assess if the present academic programme corresponds to the aims of the World Maritime University as detailed in the WMU Charter, and if this programme is efficient and adapted to the needs and capacities of the students, and

(iii) make recommendations for any improvement in courses, teaching methods or other related matters, appropriate to the level and purpose of each course.

(b) On the basis of its findings the Academic Review Team is to produce a report to the Chancellor containing its conclusions and recommendations."

New faculty members

Professor Ernst Hansen-Tangen (Norway)
Dr. Hercules Haralambides (Greece), lecturer

Goodbye and thank you!

The Professional staff of WMU and in particular faculty staff, has remained fairly stable since the University began operations in July 1983. This element of continuity was of course beneficial during the first difficult years when a promising experiment gradually settled and stabilized. But considerable changes have occurred recently. Apart from Professor Tom Balmer who left in February 1987, two more of the "founding fathers" and one other professor have also departed.

Professor Kensaku Nomoto retired from WMU at the end of April 1987 after nearly four years of distinguished and devoted service. He has since been sailing in Scandinavian waters and left for Japan together with his wife in November 1987.

End of December 1987 Professor Ahmed Monsel left us to take up a very distinguished position at the Alexandria Maritime Transport Academy. Just as Professor Nomoto, Professor Monsel has served the University from the very beginning and both have unselfishly and energetically helped to put WMU on the right course.

End of June 1987 Professor Age Os, who succeeded Professor Gunnar Stubberud, left the University after two years of service leaving a lasting impression with both staff and students. He successfully contributed to the further development of GMA-courses and has returned to service with the Government of Norway.

End of June 1987 the Administrator Mr. Lars Ohlin left to take up other duties. Mr. Ohlin has always impressed both staff and students with his ability to provide friendly and efficient assistance and he did establish a very useful network of contacts both in Sweden and abroad.

We thank you and wish you every success professionally and personally.

The new students (Class of ’89)

In 1987 the University enrolled 102 students its largest class to date. The decision of the Board of Governors was to maintain the level of admissions at 100 new students in each forthcoming year.

The University has again received a strong response to the invitation to nominate candidates and the new class for admission in ’88 is now almost fully enrolled. Countries sending students to WMU for the first time include: Burma, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Kiribati, Malta, Namibia, Niger, Oman and Sao Tome and Principe, bringing the total number of countries represented at the University, from the 1983 inauguration to the present, to 97.

Fellowship financing

The availability of funds from donor sources to provide fellowships for WMU varies from year to year and it is therefore essential that nominating governments and authorities ensure admission of their key personnel by themselves providing fellowship financing where possible, or by taking positive and early action to ensure the inclusion of fellowships in UNDP country programmes, or within existing bilateral aid assistance to their countries.

INTENSIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

The Intensive English Language Programme (IELP) Part 1 for the ’89 Class was held from the beginning of November 1987 until the first week of January 1988 with 27 students in attendance and 17 countries represented. Part 2 of the programme commenced on 7 January 1988 with the addition of 22 participants, bringing the total up to 49 students from 26 countries.

Once again this means that approximately half of the incoming students will have received intensive English training before embarking upon their technical studies in March 1988. This year, apart from the resident lecturers Inger Sund Batista (Sweden), Clive Cole (UK) and Alison Howe (USA), the IELP is being assisted by Colin Moon (UK), returning for the fourth time, Joanna Collins from the Central School of English, London, (UK), returning for the second time, Geoffrey Holden, also from the Central School of English (UK), Lakshimee Kumaranatunga from the Ministry of Education (Sri Lanka) and Verne Ranni from the Federal Inventory of Language Teachers, Canada, Suellen Mrtensson (USA) is acting as programme secretary.

For future classes WMU emphasizes the vital need for nominating authorities whose students are not of English mother tongue and who need to join the English Programme, to take very early action to complete nomination procedures and identify fellowship financing to enable their students to fully participate in the English courses. The importance cannot be over-emphasized for students to enter technical courses with sufficient proficiency in English to fully comprehend lectures and to be able to express themselves clearly in written reports and examinations.

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We thank you and wish you every success professionally and personally.
Monday 7 December was Graduation Day celebrated as usual in the magnificent City Hall of Malmö. 85 students from 48 countries graduated on that occasion and received their degrees from the hands of the Chancellor, C.P. Srivastava. Guest of honour was the Minister for Transport and Communications of Sweden, Mr. Sven Hultström and the City of Malmö was served in Knutssalen and we had the pleasure of making no less than 600 persons welcome, including of course the WMU staff, the graduates and the students of the 1988 and 1989 classes.

Class of 1988
The Graduation this year will take place on Tuesday 6 December.

Library receives outstanding donations
Several outstanding donations were received by the library during the past year adding money and materials to the budget and the library.

On 28 July 100,000 kronor was donated to the University by the Salén Foundation (Sweden) for library development and the binding of student theses. Later, the Wellenius Foundation (also of Sweden), donated 53,000 kronor for the direct purchase of Lloyd’s Law Reports, an essential source of primary legal material. The library also received US $5,000 from the Friends of World Maritime University, Inc. (USA) for general purchases and expenses. A further 14,000 kronor was received in September from the International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD), (Canada) for the purchase of back issues of various marine affairs journals.

Earlier in the year the library was given first choice of the Kockums Shipyard library collection from which several hundred books and periodical volumes were selected. This was an excellent opportunity to acquire some hard to find out-of-print publications, and to obtain the back issues of shipping and shipbuilding periodicals.

In addition to these outstanding donations the library also received gifts of individual books and publications from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), among others. Individual donations were also received from Visiting Professors and friends.

All in all the receipt of these donations and the promise of more indicates a healthy and promising future for the library. There is always a constant need for new library materials beyond the limits of the budget, and it is only through the support of donors that this need can be met.

In the spring of last year a more structured approach was undertaken to gather data about your whereabouts and activities, as a result of which a questionnaire was distributed. Although this questionnaire seemed rather elaborate to some, others indicated that it was not detailed enough. As always, the number and detail of the questions are a compromise. We have to think about you, remaining motivated to complete all questions, and about ourselves, processing the information. To date more than 50% was returned and the data stored and categorized by Hans van Walen and Cynthia Mrigate to produce reference material for a report on WMU alumni produced for the IMO Assembly.

In addition we have received a large number of replies, more than a few are still missing. Don’t think it is too late to send those to Malmö. The information is quite welcome, even though it could not be incorporated in the Assembly report, as there will be others. Do not wait to despatch the questionnaire until you actually change position/responsibilities. Please send it now and advise us later of other changes.

Of course we will also make use of the information during the Academic Review, now getting under way.

Visitors
The University is by now fairly well known, both in maritime circles all over the world and in Sweden. A growing number of governments, organizations and individuals show considerable interest in its activities and at a time when this Newsletter is being issued the interest has in fact reached such proportions that it has been necessary to impose certain restrictions on the number of groups which can be accommodated.

We have been very fortunate since the issue of the first Newsletter to have many prominent visitors from abroad. You might have heard that the Commandant of the US Coast Guard, Admiral Paul Yost, and his wife visited the University together with our Chancellor Mr. C.P. Srivastava but there have also been many others.

A delegation from the University of Lund, headed by the Vice Chancellor, Mr. Håkan Westling, visited the University at their request on 28 April 1987. In May that year we received a visit of representatives of Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft, the organization which administers the FRG fellowship programme which sponsors so many of our students.

Later in May the United Nations Information Centre for the Nordic countries paid us a visit, together with many Nordic representatives.

Several representatives from the City of Malmö have been briefed on our activities and the Ambassadors of the People’s Republic of China, of Cuba and of the Republic of Korea have been at WMU and also a representative of the British Council.

WMU has also had the pleasure of receiving representatives from the World Health Organization in Geneva, led by the Secretary-General, Dr. Mahler, and a delegation from Mozambique headed by the Minister of Transport.

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In SIGHT
As the IMO Assembly is always a major gathering of maritime interests from all over the world, we thought it a good idea to inform you of those from WMU who participated in the 15th session, November 1987.

Left to right (front row) Mr. Francis Bockari (Sierra Leone), Comrade Commander Nega Negere (Ethiopia), the Secretary-General of IMO Mr. C.P. Srivastava (Chancellor of WMU), Mr. Abou B. Jallow (The Gambia), (second row) Mr. Eun Lee (Republic of Korea), Mr. Joao Jaime Sitoe (Mozambique), former WMU Professor Aage Os (Norway), Ambassador Bernardo Zagom (Senior Adviser to the Chancellor), (third row) Capitan Oswaldo Jarrin (Ecuador), Comrade Samson Shiferaw (Ethiopia), Captain Freddy Bob-Jones (Sierra Leone), Mr. Eun Lee (Republic of Korea), Mr. Joao Jaime Sitoe (Mozambique), former WMU Professor Aage Os (Norway), Ambassador Bernardo Zagom (Senior Adviser to the Chancellor), (fourth row) Capitan de Corbeta Ruben Pilladovilla (Chile), Mr. Ali Amphar (Algeria) (rear) Capitan Santiago Garcia Gonzalez (Mexico), Not shown: Mr. Hamad Elni Hammad (Sudan).
The WMU Student Council organized a very successful graduation party for the Class of '87 at the Henrik Smith Residence, where the students managed to escape from the event with a 3-3 draw! The students' goals were scored by: Hussein Ali Hamad of Sudan (TMS-87), Mohamed Ahmed of Somalia (GMA2-88) and Sabina Gonzales Solis of Panama (GMA1-87). We always play mixed. The staff was saved by three goals scored by the new Administrator Peter Rohnèe.

20 August
For the first time WMU students entered the Malmö Festival "Dragon Boat Race". Because of navigational difficulties on the Malmö Canal and a certain lack of practice, defeat came already in the first qualification race. Next year, hopefully, a brave new crew of 17 men and 5 women will give their all for the name of the University.

06 October
The annual trip to the Kosta glass factory was attended by some 35 students and family members. It was a beautiful Swedish autumn day and as usual the tour leader, Mr. Philip Moding, also showed his favourite saw-mill!

13 October
The Zonta Club International of Malmö (a ladies organization) was invited to WMU. The Rector gave a talk on the aims and functions of the University and a WMU promotional film was shown. Almost all the female students participated and we hope that many good contacts were made.

05 December
The WMU Student Council organized a very successful graduation party for the Class of '87 at the Henrik Smith Residence, to which all students, families, WMU faculty and staff and other guests were invited. All new students joining WMU for the November/December portion of the intensive English Language Programme were accommodated at the Hotel Neptun for the first six weeks, until rooms vacated by the graduating class became available at Henrik Smith.

WE NEED INFORMATION!
Regular information from the alumni is very important to WMU. Please keep us advised of new appointments, promotions, transfers and participation in international events. Please address to:
The Rector
World Maritime University
PO Box 500
S-201 24 Malmö
Sweden

Fulgent and green
is the meeting I inaugurate
in each of your frugal
summertime sunny days,
oh Sweden, my friend!

In the soft warmth of your meridian sun,
while waiting for the caressing
of your fresh vespertine breeze,
let me dream, awake,
a poem of sincere friendship.

In the moderate cadency of the succeeding days,
let me, oh Sweden, my friend,
re-encounter uncountable times
the generous smile of your beloved people,
while I put to sleep the longing
for my tropical sun.

Malmö, 13 August 1987
Julia V Maulea (GMAI-88)
Mozambique

With deep shock WMU learned of the very sad death of Philip Nwoko (Nigeria), Graduate of the Inaugural Class. In him we have lost a devoted pioneer.

The 97 countries represented in the student body admissions 1983 - 1988