Appeal on behalf of the World Maritime University

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Appeal on behalf of the World Maritime University

DEAR Lloyd's List Reader,

Today marks the launch of an International Appeal on behalf of the World Maritime University. As you may be aware, the university has introduced a valuable new dimension to global maritime training since its inception in 1983.

The university's students and graduates, who represent more than 100 countries, are the shipping policy-makers and commercial decision-makers of the future. They hold the key to the development of the maritime industries in the years ahead.

In my capacity as Chancellor of the university, I address this appeal to the shipping interests, professional firms, commercial agencies and all other organisations which make up the world maritime community.

This is an auspicious occasion on which to launch the appeal, as today is celebrated as World Maritime Day by the 133 member states of the International Maritime Organisation.

Accordingly, I ask you to extend your support to the university, a unique international venture for the training of tomorrow's decision-makers.

An earlier appeal, made at the very beginning of the university's life, resulted in a warm response from governments, shipping companies, port authorities, oil companies, educational and charitable foundations and private individuals throughout the world. Many have made subsequent donations, in cash and kind, which continue to enhance the academic life of the university. Once more, I take the opportunity to express my deep gratitude for the generosity and encouragement which has been shown by so many over the past six years.

From the outset, our objective was to create an institution making available education at the highest level. Today, the university offers MSc courses in maritime administration, education and training, maritime safety administration, the technical management of shipping companies and ports and shipping administration.

Based at Malmo, Sweden, the university satisfies a crucial need within the industry. The majority of students are drawn from the emerging shipping nations. However, established maritime countries area also represented, in order to foster the international exchange of expertise which is so central to our aims.

Students entering the university already hold key positions within national maritime administrations, training colleges, academies, port authorities, shipping companies and other maritime organisations around the world. On graduation, they assume senior positions of responsibility in their home countries.

The principal aim of the 1989 appeal is to enhance the long-term financial security of the university. Since our original appeal, the economic fortunes of the shipping industry have shown a welcome and long overdue revival. Graduates of the World Maritime University will play a role — out all proportion to their numbers — in securing that prosperity in the future.

I do hope that you will join us in an endeavour which is helping to give form to a safer, more efficient and commercially rewarding shipping industry in the 1990s and beyond.

There are many ways in which you can help. They include:

- Cash donations: to the world Maritime University's Capital Fund or for specific purposes.
- Fellowships: supporting one or more students throughout their two-year course.
- Academic staff: funding a course professor or lecturer.
- Exchanging expertise: providing a student or student group with practical field experience, including on-the-job training.
- Equipment and library: making contributions in cash or in kind for training equipment and library acquisitions.

Please send your contributions to: The World Maritime University Appeal Organiser, The International Maritime Organisation, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR, UK. Tel: London (01) 735 7611. Fax: London (01) 587 3210.

With best wishes,

C.P. Srivastava,
Secretary-General,
International Maritime Organisation,
Chancellor,
World Maritime University.