



Thoughts on the Future of Our Oceans

— Interview with Chairman Yohei Sasakawa —

Interviewed by OPRF on December 25, 2014

May I congratulate you on receiving the Rule of Law Award, which is regarded as the Nobel Prize in the field of law. There are now 543 Sasakawa Fellows in 64 countries, including those who are presently studying at the WMU (World Maritime University). The next edition of the Newsletter will be the 50th.

Chairman Sasakawa: Well done! We have a saying in Japan: "Continuity is the father of success." I am grateful to all those involved for their great efforts.

May I first ask you your general thoughts on the sea?

Chairman Sasakawa: All living things, including we humans, have all come from the sea. Without the sea, human life would not exist, but we are a mysterious breed, and we only think about our problems on the land because that's where we all live.

The world's population already exceeds seven billion. In the no-so-distant future we will reach 10 billion. If acidification of the ocean proceeds unabated, if we continue to harvest fish in a reckless manner, pollute the seas with oil in our development of ocean resources, and allow maritime freight to transport vast amounts of

extremely toxic materials, we will need to reexamine the wisdom of Hugo Grotius in the 17th century when he wrote that the sea, which is the fount of all living things, is limitless.

That was the concept in his work "The Freedom of the Seas", wasn't it?

Chairman Sasakawa: The earth is finite, and so is the ocean. We are at a point when we have to consider how best to manage it and for each stakeholder to use it well. In spite of it all, we continue to use the seas in a disorganized and reckless manner. The ocean is crying in distress. We have entered an era in which we must think hard about what must be done to ensure the sustainable use of the oceans. This is why I am sounding a warning.

The CSR Era

Most people are firmly wedded to the conventional ways of doing things and are reluctant to make serious changes. You have for some time insisted that the time for social innovation has come, and encouraged the private sector to take the initiative instead of the government and for private citizens to help each other. Why must we create such a society?

Chairman Sasakawa: Well, that's most natural. After all there is only one earth, and we have only one ocean. And these are common heritage of humankind. In our globalized world, all users of the ocean have the responsibility to take disciplined actions. I believe sustainable management of the oceans requires humility on our part as we ply the oceans and use them for our own sustenance and profit.

When we were working on our own as a private initiative for the purpose of safe passage through the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, many were at first skeptical that nonprofessionals like us would succeed. It took time, but concerned persons and countries began to feel they had to do something about it, and they did.

Other efforts that were begun through your advocacy include The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), the agreement to prepare anti-piracy measures for Asia, and the Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM). What are you expecting from the parties concerned to further develop and enhance such global mechanisms and networks in the future?



Chairman Sasakawa: There is clearly a need for interdisciplinary international organizations to manage the use of the oceans. The IMO (International Maritime Organization) is doing fine work, but it alone cannot cope with other ocean-related issues including acidification of the ocean and management of fishery resources. According to our research with the University of Tokyo, it is in danger of exhausting fish stocks, except deep-sea fish, in 30 or so years if the present overfishing continues. I therefore believe that the time has come for us to establish a comprehensive system of specialists covering all ocean related issues as well, instead of the present scheme of having separate organizations for each specialized field. This will enable a sustainable and comprehensive management of the oceans.

Expectations toward WMU

Considered from such a perspective, would the role of the WMU change as well, given that it was established over 30 years ago and is expected to relocate its campus next year?

Chairman Sasakawa: The WMU was established in the beginning to study maritime international rules. Thanks to the efforts of many related parties, it has grown to a high level matching the standards of EU universities. But, as I said earlier, I personally believe the university should reach beyond the maritime world and develop into a unique university, the only one of its kind in the world, where comprehensive policy research can be undertaken across the entire range of ocean-related topics, that is, to investigate not just maritime affairs but to undertake policy research to enable the sustainable use of the ocean.

Network

Currently The Nippon Foundation has more than ten human development programs for the sea alone. What is your motivation as chairman to devote such a variety of efforts to human development? What aspects of personnel training are inadequate in today's world?

Chairman Sasakawa: It's often said that if you want to see results in one year, sow seeds and the results will soon appear. If you have a ten-year timeframe, plant a tree. Grooming people takes a hundred years. One cannot expect people to change and grow in a span of three or five years. We simply have to give them enough time. What's more, individuals are often not capable of working alone. After all is said and done, things begin to move forward when strong bonds and networks are created among co-workers and colleagues. In this sense, human development that seems the most long-winded way is in reality the shortest.

One superb leader has the power to nurture one million or even ten million people. Building infrastructure such as roads is vital for improving people's lives, but leading them in a better direction with a universal vision is what defines us as human beings. In that sense I believe developing people is of fundamental importance.

Take for example, the scholarship project—would people grow and develop if they were given scholarships to cover their tuition? That's not the real point. It is all about mutually investing long hours, building trusting relationships, broadening one's circle of friends and building a network – this is what is important. It is all about investing time and effort and, above all, selflessly loving each student and graduate.

The late Chairman Ryoichi Sasakawa, your father used to say, "A person who doesn't love his country cannot be trusted." As far as Sasakawa Fellows are concerned, that is of little concern because many of them are officials and naturally support the interest of their countries. However, there is also a limit, in a sense of having an open mind to others, because they are under many restrictions. How should Fellows relate to each other when, in the future, they will be representing their respective countries with possibly differing viewpoints?

Chairman Sasakawa: In two ways. Basically, their priority would be to do their best to serve their country. On the other hand, Fellows are also involved in policy decisions that take into account broader issues from global standpoints. They have shared their time and experience at the same university and later through the network of the Friends of WMU, Japan, and may realize that they have different ideas as individuals as do their countries. What is important is that they develop an understanding of such differences. For the Fellows to understand the differences between the national interests of their own countries and those of

others, and to do all they can to reconcile them, would all result in building trust between them. This is good for the countries each of them represents. There is a great difference between going to international conferences without understanding the positions of the other countries simply in order to assert one's own country's position, and engaging in deliberations with knowledge and understanding. The difference between the two is very significant. I believe the network is functioning extremely effectively.



Elimination of Leprosy (Hansen's disease)

The Nippon Foundation is carrying out projects in a variety of areas, including welfare, the environment, education and global peace, both in Japan and overseas. I would like to ask you what initiatives have you taken to address the problem of Hansen's disease (Leprosy). Since you were appointed WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, the number of patients has declined sharply. In July 2007, you received the Gandhi Award in recognition of your distinguished services. Could you tell us about this program, including future efforts that are being planned?

Chairman Sasakawa: My father, the late Ryoichi Sasakawa, who was the founding chairman of The Nippon Foundation, worked tirelessly to fight Hansen's disease. With the cooperation of the WHO and many generous individuals and organizations, we are closer to eliminating the disease. That does not mean we have solved all the problems. For example, no one bothers to ask whether someone has had tuberculosis or not. It is with Hansen's disease alone that individuals continue to suffer from social stigma even after they recover. They are often denied admission to restaurants or hotels. I believe it is vitally important to solve this problem because it lies at the heart of social discrimination. I do hope our efforts will have positive effects in eliminating discrimination against individuals living with other disabilities.

Words for the Next Generation

The late chairman Ryoichi Sasakawa, who had a major influence on you, was a man who consistently challenged those in power, both before and after World War II. After the war he pursued activities that contributed to the world and the restoration of Japan's honor. His philosophy was very easy to understand yet resonated with profound implications: "Work for the world," "Restoring wealth to Japan is the first step towards world peace," "Japan exists because of the world," "I exist because of Japan," and "The world is one family." His words were very easy to understand yet resonated with profound implications.

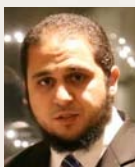
What legacy would you like to hand down, not only to WMU Fellows but to all young people around the world?

Chairman Sasakawa: I believe it is important for each of us to know who we are, to accept our fate, and to live the life we are given taking full advantage of our learning and personal situations and to act with integrity. We should all continue to do our best to live well, so that at the end of our lives we can honestly say, "I did my best," since all things given life on earth are equal in death.

Thank you very much for giving us time for this long session today.



Father and son jogging in front of the United Nations Headquarters in the 1980s



Amr Monir Ibrahim
(Egypt, 2013)

Here is the letter sent to Chairman Yohei Sasakawa in December, 2013, by one of the WMU Sasakawa Fellows, Amr Ibrahim (Egypt, 2013). This letter was drafted right before his graduation.

Dear Dr. Sasakawa,

My name is Amr Ibrahim. I graduated from WMU a few years ago, class of 2013, and I'm writing to you while packing my luggage before catching a flight tomorrow morning.

I started my WMU experience by writing to you in my application for a scholarship, and I wanted to end my stay here by writing to you as well. There are not enough words to express my gratitude toward you, The Nippon Foundation, and the OPRF.

I was honored to be chosen to represent the 2013 Sasakawa Fellows and give the Fellows' appreciation speech in Malmo on the 22nd of November. However, we were saddened not to be able to meet you in person. I am enclosing a copy of my speech at the ceremony.

"We are gathered here today to celebrate the graduation of a very special group of students from the World Maritime University, the Sasakawa Fellows, class of 2013. In addition to the great added value that we as WMU graduates have gained, we are privileged and honored to have been chosen as Sasakawa Fellows.

When I was first accepted for the Fellowship, I met a former Fellow from my organization who said something to me that I believe I will never

forget. He said, "Being a Sasakawa is a gift whose value you may not realize until years later. It can literally change your life." Now I know what he meant, and how this experience has influenced his life, and indeed, mine for that matter.

Another friend asked me one day, after finding out about my scholarship, why a foreign foundation would fund a post graduate program for a student that is not one of its own. This made me think. Why would a Japanese organization be interested in the future of a lawyer from the Solomon Islands, a university teacher from Egypt, or a Coast Guard officer from Argentina? It didn't make much sense until I understood that it's not individuals that The Nippon Foundation and OPRF are interested in, they are interested in building cadres competent enough to support their workplaces and their communities in general.

Knowing that fact, and speaking for myself and my Fellows, it's a great responsibility we have on our shoulders right now. The Nippon Foundation and OPRF are waiting for their payback, and that payback is simply to invest what we have learned here at WMU and implement it in our workplaces, not only for our own personal achievements, but for the glory of our nations. Although I'm sure that personal glory will nonetheless occur. Also, what we have right here is priceless; we are the latest gear added to a perfectly running development train, the Sasakawa Fellows train, so please let's do our very best to sync in with other Fellows in their countries and regions from all around the world, and most importantly with our mother network, the Friends of WMU, Japan.

Dear Mr. Unno, please inform Dr. Sasakawa that we really wished he were here, as we were not as lucky as some previous batches; we didn't get to meet him in person, but I'm sure that he feels as much longing to meet us as we do him. It has been 25 years since the first WMU Sasakawa Fellowship was awarded in 1989, and if he looks around the world he will find the fruits of his goodwill represented in people holding his debt for decades to come. Tell him to keep putting his trust in us, and we promise - I promise - we will not let him down.

Also, we cannot have this opportunity without acknowledging the role of Kudo-san and Shin-san, for their endless and sincere efforts to make our Sasakawa experience an unforgettable one, and for that we thank them.

Finally, before ending, I have a special request from my father. When he knew that I was to be honored to represent the Fellows here today, he told me to pass this message to Dr. Sasakawa. He said "Son, tell Dr. Sasakawa that he has made me a very proud man."

Thank you all. (end of speech)

This was my speech, I hope it wasn't too long and boring. I wanted to share it with you to get the feeling that you were with us at the ceremony.

Please accept all my respect from my family and me.

*Sincerely,
Amr Monir Ibrahim*



Memories of WMU during the Late 1980s

Hiroyuki Adachi

(TMS 1987-1990)

Former President, Ship Research Institute

It was 1987 when I took up my position at WMU as a professor.

My predecessor, the late Professor Nomoto, was one of the founding fathers at the inception of WMU (1983).

The atmosphere of the university at the time still had a feeling of excitement, carried over from the university's new establishment, as well as a degree of confusion in university operations.

Thanks to the strenuous efforts of the staff since the establishment, however, all the departments of the university have pulled together somehow, and curriculum contents have become firmly established.

Nevertheless, a significant number of classes are conducted in the form of shortterm intensive

courses (one-week units), with maritime specialists from the world outside the university as guest lecturers.

I believe this method was considered in view of the small number of fulltime professors at the university and a commitment to achieve the principles of IMO and WMU.

Due to budget constraints, however, WMU had to invite specialists without offering remuneration, and therefore, many of the specialists came from Europe. When inviting Japanese specialists, we often made requests of those living in Europe or Japanese specialists involved at IMO.

Among the people attending WMU as students are persons from communist countries, the People's

Republic of Korea, Middle Eastern countries, and landlocked African countries without any access to coastlines. I can sense the ideals of IMO in these students who aspire to enhance global common awareness in maritime safety, conservation of marine environments, and efficiency in shipping operations.

The living costs of the students have been provided by scholarships through scholarship organizations in developed countries, as well as from the students' countries of origin.

Assistance for students and contributions for educational materials by organizations such as The Nippon Foundation and Nippon Kaiji Kyokai, together with the presence of Japanese professors, have been particularly noticeable at WMU.

Since then until today, support for WMU from Japan has been ongoing. I feel very pleased that an organization dedicated to providing support for WMU was established at the Ship and Ocean Foundation.



Recollections of WMU 25 years ago

Masatsugu Kimura

(MET(E) 1990-1992)

Former Rector, Marine Technical College

Twenty five years ago, in December 1990, I took up my post as a MET(E) Course Professor at WMU. In my early days in Sweden, I found it difficult to get used to notice signs written in Swedish in my apartment as well as the long hours of winter darkness, unique to the Nordic region. This experience at the time of my posting gave me an insight into understanding the hardship experienced by students who came to a foreign country, leaving behind their families. The visiting professors, who number more than 100 annually, gave lectures continuously for one to two weeks and actively engaged in exchanges with students in the dormitories where the students stayed. During the first term, 80% of the lectures were core course subjects and focused mainly on laws relating to IMO. This curriculum at the time seemed to be somewhat dissatisfying to students who were expecting to learn

specialized subjects centered on technology, such as thermodynamics, automatic control, and internal-combustion engines. Nevertheless, in the course of their studies, their dissatisfaction dissipated as they began to understand that having knowledge about such laws would be essential for them in the future.

At the time WMU was in financially difficult straits, and had little choice but to reduce the number of visiting professors and curtail field trips. To cut expenses I drove the school's van, and sometimes shepherded students around neighboring countries. It was also difficult for Japan's Government to provide further financial assistance to WMU, because it was making donations to the IMO. The Nippon Foundation was accepting about eight scholars for SASAKAWA Fellowships each year. Also during the time I was at WMU, Mr. Kudo came to conduct a field investigation, and afterwards funding was

increased and today, in addition to fellowships for 20 individuals, professorships also are provided annually, which needless to say is contributing to WMU's development. The Friends of WMU, Japan Newsletter was begun in 2002, and this issue is No. 50. At times when I read the Newsletter, I'm proud of my friendship with the Sasakawa scholars and their activities, and at times I learn of the passing of both teachers and students with whom I spent the days together in Malmö, and sadly but fondly recall their memories. So I wish to express here my respect for and gratitude to the individuals involved in the editing of the Newsletter.

I'm now 76, and spend my time working as a volunteer guide on the S.S. Nippon Maru, a sailing ship moored at Yokohama Minato Mirai, and singing shanties (sea songs) as a member of The S.S. Nippon Maru Fan Male Choir. Last year I participated in a music festival (Shanty Concert) in Bergen, Norway that was one event of The Tall Ship Races 2014. I dream of revisiting Malmö. If you can come to Yokohama, please come to visit the Nippon Maru.



Backbone of the Sasakawa Fellows Network

Toshio Hikima

(MET 1999-2002)

Rector, Marine Technical College

When I left WMU and returned to Japan in the summer of 2002, the number of Sasakawa scholarship recipients had reached 230 individuals, and the formation of an international network comprising these scholars as a means to exchange their opinions and information internationally was being planned. A decision was taken to create a homepage and launch an English newsletter as a medium for establishing and maintaining this network. The first issue of the Newsletter No. 1, was released in October of that year. As the individual who has served as Editing Committee chair from that founding issue, I am deeply moved by the release of Newsletter No. 50, which commemorates 13 years of success. I take off my hat to everyone involved at OPRF, where such a

wonderful idea for creating a network among Sasakawa scholars was envisaged.

I first learned of WMU when I received an invitation to a special lecture as a Visiting Professor from Dr. Kenji Ishida, a senior of mine at university who had worked as a WMU Associate Professor, after it was announced at an international colloquium convened in Hamburg in September 1992.

When I entered the hall to present my lecture, I was first surprised that so many people were gathered at this remote countryside in Sweden. I gave my talk in front of students who had come from perhaps more than ten countries to study, and felt great admiration for Kenji's leadership, which he handled as chairman, and as his junior I felt great pride and a yearning that this wonderful person was playing an active part in Malmö, such a great distance from Japan.

I had no relationship with the program after that,

but in 1995 had the good fortune to be asked to serve as Kenji's successor. However, the Marine Technical College in Ashiya, Japan, where I had just taken a post, was severely damaged by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, and I had to devote my efforts to the school's restoration. After our recovery was completed, I was to take over the MET in 1999 as Dr. T. Nakazawa's successor, but in all honesty, although I felt happy, my uneasiness was even greater. That I was equal to my responsibilities for nearly four years reflected nothing less than the varied advice I received from many professors, including Kenji, Takeshi, Gunther Zade, and Peter Muirhead.

I sincerely wish for the further development of WMU and expansion of its network, and hope I will further strive to publish the Newsletter in the future.



Jan Horck
Former Faculty Member
World Maritime University

Dear colleagues,
it is with great pleasure that I have been given this opportunity to address you.

Those of you that have been nominated to study at WMU should be very proud. Take this opportunity to learn about shipping in all its different areas. Marinate yourself. Listen to people that can tell you how to do things in the best and most economical way. You should support your arguments with theoretical knowledge, otherwise there will be no trust in your words. Take home and introduce what you believe will be suitable in your

own environment. There is always room for improvement. Broaden your views during fieldtrips, not only on technical issues but also on the way people live. Take advantage of meeting people from different cultures. Learn how to present and the pedagogy of presenting and then practice this on your colleagues. You will need this skill when you perhaps come to IMO and will argue in favour of your country. Be keen to help, it is a learning experience in itself. Show empathy and take it as another learning opportunity during your time at WMU. You most probably will not get this fantastic opportunity again. Be thankful to your sponsor. In modern shipping you cannot operate alone – learn to cooperate. Learn how to implement and diligently exercise ratified IMO conventions, it is a survival factor for your country.

To those of you that already have graduated, do not fall back on an attitude of being a guru. Be

humble and realise that there are those who are better than yourself. But continue to learn and teach others what you have learnt and experienced – cooperate. Keep contact with other WMU graduates and exchange experiences, free of charge. Being alone is not strong in the sphere of shipping. Be green from your heart and in your actions. Be an example, become a model for others to respect. You know what I mean, now you have the potential.

It has been a great pleasure to meet many of you during my time at WMU. Without doubt, from the rostrum, during fieldtrips and at parties, it has been very enriching to meet you, a maritime focused group that represents such a variety of qualifications. You have professionally grown and many of you have been well marinated.

Good luck to all of you in your professional endeavours.

Shuo Ma
Vice President (International)
World Maritime University

I started my teaching career at the World Maritime University in 1995. The very first group of students I was responsible for in the Port Management course at WMU had a “course representative” from Indonesia Port Corporation IV, Herman Harianja. Thanks to him, I formed an interest in the development of Indonesian ports. Over the years, I have been very pleased that this particular knowledge of mine has been kept up-to-date because almost every year there are students from Indonesian ports at WMU. And of course, many Indonesian students have been sponsored by the Sasakawa Fellowship Programme.

In 2013, the Indonesian Port Corporation II invited WMU to conduct an executive development course in Jakarta. I was happy to have the



opportunity to exchange ideas with the Indonesian Friends, to observe the tremendous progress of the port development, and particularly to see WMU graduates in their home country. During the long and enjoyable time the graduates and I had together, apart from sharing the wonderful experiences and unforgettable time they had had at WMU, they told me, proudly, about Jakarta's more than 6 million TEU performance, the brand new container terminal with deep water draft, the state

of the art logistics park, and more... They also told me about their jobs, promotions, new responsibilities and increased pressures, as well as showing me the photos of their families.

Seeing our graduates in their homeland is such a satisfying experience: they are doing marvelously well. They are full of energy, so optimistic, very proud of their work and extremely confident about the future. This is really great! For a teacher, what could be more rewarding?



Patrick Donner
Acting Vice-President (Academic)
World Maritime University

The most distinguishing aspect of the World Maritime University (WMU) is its international character; a truly global institution of higher education in and for a truly global industry. The MSc in Maritime Affairs offers comprehensive insight into all aspects of maritime administration, governance, pollution prevention and sustainability for developing as well as developed maritime countries. In addition to that, students at WMU face another challenge – that of international coopera-

tion. Any student will spend between a year and a year and a half working and living together with other students of varying age (roughly between 25 and 50) of up to 50 different nationalities. As a result, our graduates have a thorough practical education in multiculturalism, preparing them for their continued careers. I believe this adds significant value to their education, which no other university can offer to the same degree.

One thing often forgotten is that the faculty faces the same challenges – and rewards – working with such a diverse group of students as well as the multinational staff, and we learn from it every day. In my 20 years at WMU, I have taught and mentored well over 2,000 students from 139 countries in the MSc programme, and the staff complement at WMU also represents about 25 nationalities, which shows just how truly global WMU is. We have solid

education and experience, but when we come to WMU we are normally not trained to deal with this multicultural variety. It is something that we have to learn, just like the students do.

Teaching at WMU has given me constant inspiration and challenges as well as rewards. One of the most enjoyable facets is the network of graduates. In the “old days” it was more difficult, but now hardly a day goes by without an e-mail from a graduate or a post on LinkedIn or Facebook, which helps me keep track of how “my graduates” advance in their careers or private life. Sometimes, actually quite often, it may be a request for a reference to support further studies or a career development, sometimes a question relating to work, but often it is just an update. These messages give me a sense of still being part of their lives and give me great pleasure.

Sasakawa Fellows' Current Activities



IAPH,PAPC Report 2014

Fiona Mbandi (Kenya, 2013)

The setting was the Leisure Lodge in Diani, Kwale County, Mombasa, Kenya. This is a popular, beautiful beach resort on the southern coast in Kenya's second largest city.

The date was November 16-17, 2014, and the occasion, the 10th PAPC and IAPH Conference. The theme was "Contemporary Port Developments and Management: Alignment with AIMS 2050."

My country hosted the conference, which was facilitated by the Kenya Ports Authority, where I work, and was organized by the regional body, PMAESA. As hosts, it was our mandate to coordinate and ensure a successful conference.

However, we experienced some very unnerving months prior to the event. Kenya has had many security challenges by terrorists originating from outside our borders, attacks in our coastal host city and in other towns. These attacks intensified within months of the conference date, and activities had to be monitored closely to make quick changes if necessary. Yet another challenge was the Ebola

outbreak in West African countries, which gave the organizers a huge nightmare. How were we going to deal with a possible failed conference? What of travel advisories? The massive withdrawal of delegates from those countries directly or indirectly affected? The ripple effect in other countries apprehensive about visiting Africa due to security issues and Ebola?

The publicity and technical teams had to remain courteous and keep everyone informed about the latest information and changes.

I was part of the logistics team, and the event was especially memorable for me. Being a WMU alumni made it even more exciting, as we all networked. I had some opportune time to discuss and share experiences with many speakers, all of whom were seasoned experts from Kenya, the rest of Africa, Europe and Japan. Some of the interesting topics I listened to were: Candid steps towards exploitation of African maritime wealth by Juvenal Shiundu, IMO; Current maritime trade performance and

future outlook by Vincent Valentine, UNCTAD; a goodwill speech by Susumu Naruse, Sec. Gen. IAPH, Japan; Role of ICT to enhance innovative models of competitive intelligence for the port sector by Hugo Diogo, Glinnt.

I was particularly impressed by senior WMU alumnus, Mr. Juvenal Shiundu, who focused on maritime education in promoting maritime subjects, technology, establishing maritime research, training and information centres, and creating jobs for today's youth.

The conference has awakened my desire to be a speaker, as I promised in my motivational statement to Mr. Sasakawa in 2011, and I now actively seek such an opportunity.

This gives me new impetus to soldier on in promoting maritime education, and as a WOMESA member, to support more women in the maritime field.

This has been a good year, and the above is just one of the events I participated in.



Step-by-Step to Progressive National Development

Felicity Ankoma-Sey
(Ghana, 2001)

Maritime transport and its allied industries have been and will continue to be instrumental to the development of Ghana due to the nature of international trade commodities throughout the country. I am honoured to contribute my efforts to this industry in support of national development. After my studies at WMU in 2001, I have shared with, and imparted knowledge about this global industry to many young people from Ghana and from the West African region, as I lecture at the Regional Maritime University in Ghana. It has been gratifying to find myself supporting one of our mentor Dr. Yohei's

principles, which may be paraphrased as: "It is better to teach a hungry man to fish rather than to give him fish to eat".

Research that is of relevance to the progress of our indigenous communities has also been a passion. The objectives of my research have mostly been to suggest ways based on empirical evidence to ensure and sustain peace, harmony, friendliness and wellbeing amongst all people linked somehow to the maritime industry. These are also principles which I learned from our most admirable mentor. To this cause, I was glad to hear that some recommendations from my

work in 2009, entitled 'An investigation of Tema Port's impact on the Port Community (A case of Tema Newtown)', had been useful for the enhancement of security in Ghana's Ports. The research interestingly revealed amongst other things that the indigenous fishing community had the potential to support the protection of ships in the port area from the menace of petty stealing, armed robbery, or even piracy. Today these modest fisher folk are informally engaged by the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, for which Ghanaian waters and ports are branded as amongst the safest in the sub-region.

Visit to Japan for Pre-Shipment Inspection (PSI)

A S M Shahjahan (Bangladesh, 2000)

We, the 3-member team of senior officers from Chittagong Port Authority (CPA), visited Japan from April 10-13, 2014 for a PSI of 2 units of "TADANO" Brand Cranes, Model GR-600EX, under a project for procurement of equipment. The International Inspection Agency, Bureau-Veritas, was also appointed by CPA for this inspection. TADANO Ltd. is a crane manufacturing company, with its factory in Takamatsu. We completed our inspection successfully in two days, and the time remaining we spent visiting remarkable places in Takamatsu, Hiroshima and Tokyo.

2 big projects have recently been completed - The Container Terminal Management System (CTMS) and the Vessel Traffic Management Information System (VTMIS) - and a good number of



on-going and up-coming projects are being handled by CPA, including Procurement of 61 nos. Equipment for the New Mooring Container Terminal. It should be mentioned that CPA is currently enjoying dramatic maritime change. It handled

million TEUs of containers and 50 million Metric Tons of cargo in 2013-2014, which is about 90% of the total maritime trade of Bangladesh. The container traffic growth at CPA is about 14%.

My visit to Japan was my 3rd in all, after a gap of 12 years. My 1st visit was in 1999 on a Field Study Tour while at WMU, and the 2nd occurred in 2001, to participate in the Sasakawa Fellows Forum in Tokyo. I still remember one of the happiest moments of my life when I was nominated to study at WMU with help from The Nippon Foundation. Presently, I am working as Deputy Chief Engineer (Mechanical) and am responsible for Administration of Mechanical Department and procurement of Cargo/Container handling Equipment at CPA.



Doubly and Eternally Grateful

Jean Ver P. Pia (Philippines, 2003)

I graduated from the World Maritime University, where I obtained my Master of Science (MSc.) degree in Maritime Affairs, specializing in Maritime Administration (MA). After graduation, I went back to the Philippines to continue my service in the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), where I have been working for the past twenty years. As Hearing Officer at the Franchising Office, I handle the grant of franchise to ships plying the domestic trade. Although I mainly work in the domestic shipping sector at MARINA, I was able to apply what I learned at WMU as Technical Assistant at the MARINA Foreign Desk and in writing decisions

relative to MARINA's quasi-judicial function.

I am currently pursuing a fully-funded scholarship as a Seafarers International Research Centre (SIRC)/Nippon Foundation Post-graduate Research Fellow to study for my Ph.D. at the School of Social Sciences of Cardiff University in Wales, United Kingdom. SIRC is an international research facility which conducts research on seafarers and their lives. My thesis explores the seafarers' work and employment experience on the effective implementation of the government prescribed standard employment contract for seafarers onboard overseas ships. My research has developed in relation to issues of regula-

tion, globalization, migrant labour, and the protection of seafarers.

My modest achievements were certainly inspired by the benevolence of Mr. Yohei Sasakawa. The knowledge, skills and exposure I gained from WMU certainly fueled my ardent desire in furthering my competence to keep pace with international developments, not only for my personal advancement but more for the love of service. This makes me eternally grateful to Mr. Sasakawa and The Nippon Foundation for giving me this rare opportunity. Twice.

MABUHAY!



Grateful for My Achievements!

Rolando Lizor N. Punzalan, Jr. (Philippines, 2002)

I graduated from the World Maritime University in 2002, majoring in Maritime Safety and Environmental Protection. Thereafter, I continued my service in the Philippine Coast Guard and am a proud member of the Friends of WMU, Japan.

Right after graduation, I got assigned to our Education and Training Command, where I found my studies extremely useful. It was a very good opportunity to impart the knowledge I gained. The vast knowledge I was able to impart to my students, in addition to other exploits in the course of my work, were duly recognized and I was promoted to Lieutenant Commander.

A few years later, I skippered search and rescue

vessels and realized the relevance of my studies, which resulted in the successful completion of this tour of duty. This episode of my career was highlighted by accomplishments which include successful maritime security and marine environmental missions to Malaysia and Indonesia, respectively, as well as garnering the award for the PCG's Best Ship of the Year in 2009! Soon after, I was bestowed the rank of Commander.

My service continued at the Coast Guard Station in Cebu, where I ensured maritime safety, marine environmental protection and maritime security right in the heart of the Philippine archipelago. My two years plus of service at Cebu resulted in over 600 lives rescued and contraband seized in maritime traffic

amounting to millions of pesos. As a result, my men and I were awarded the best Coast Guard station in 2011. This award was handed over by no less than the President of the Republic of the Philippines during the PCG's anniversary in October that year!

I am now a Coast Guard Captain and have advanced to a post of much higher responsibility. All my achievements are certainly anchored in the knowledge and skills I developed at WMU. My wholehearted, continued service in our Coast Guard is humbly dedicated to Mr. Yohei Sasakawa and to the Sasakawa Foundation, which have given me this very treasured opportunity. Domo arigato gozaimasu!

WMU beyond WMU

Shantanu Paul (India, 2009)

I think we were among the very few lucky WMU students and Sasakawa Fellows to visit WMU again after our graduation to attend a course. Although the course was for only five days, it was a very different feeling to meet some of our old -and a few new - professors, and staying at Henrik Smith hostel. I graduated in 2009, and my friend Mr. Aji Vasudevan, who is working in the Indian Administration, graduated in 2010.

The course was "WMU & IMO train-the-trainer initiative on energy efficient operations of ships," held in May 2013. There were 20 participants from different parts of the world. The objective of the



course was to develop regional expertise in this area. I have tried to do justice to my training sponsored by IMO, and my friend also extended his full cooperation. In March 2014, I conducted a one-day awareness course on energy efficient operations of ships (MARPOL Annex VI, Ch-4) at the Maritime Training Institute (MTI) in Mumbai, where both of us shared our knowledge of WMU.

However, the most exciting thing happened after that. I received a message from IMO to be a consultant for the South Asia Regional Workshop on the same topic held at Mumbai, Oct.10-12, 2014. Being a govt. employee, it was difficult for me to accept the assignment immediately, but my obligation to contribute to this noble initiative of IMO was haunting me, especially when Dr. Raphael Baumler and Dr. Zabi Bazari, lecturers of the WMU & IMO course, recommended my name for the event.

Finally, I could only attend the workshop, but made a one-hour presentation on behalf of my company, The Shipping Corporation Of India, Ltd. (A Govt. of India Enterprise) on the "Indian Perspective" of the workshop theme. It was a great event and a real honor for me.

Teaching at the United States Naval Academy

Yusuf Mohammad Bala (Nigeria, 2008)

It's been a while since I graduated from the World Maritime University, and a lot has happened both in my professional and personal life. Professionally, I have had some exciting moments, which includes delivering papers at different forums in Asia, Europe and North America. I did meet with our indefatigable Mr. Eisuke Kudo and the ever-present Mr. Shinichi Ichikawa in one of those events, the International Conference on Piracy At Sea (ICOPAS 2011), held in Malmö. Most interestingly, over the last two years (February of 2013 and 2014) I have delivered lectures to the Midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. It is an exciting experience to have young naval officers



as students, learning about their varied experiences onboard. They have mostly served on naval ships like Frigates, Destroyers, and Cruisers, among others, before returning to the classroom. Many others have also served on Aircraft Carriers (some on the Nimitz

class) and submarines. One of my students was even a Navy pilot, and another a Mexican Navy Officer. This year, I also had an exceptionally brilliant female submariner in the class.

Teaching this group of individuals has been a wonderful experience for me, discovering their varied backgrounds, which always come to bear in classroom discussions. I always leave the class with greater knowledge and cherishing the experience, while looking forward to teaching the next group of exceptional professionals.

I give thanks and appreciation to The Nippon Foundation for the opportunity to study at WMU, which has helped me to contribute what I can to the global maritime Industry.



WMU Sasakawa Fellows of the Philippine Coast Guard: Dependable Pillars of the Organization

Rodolfo D. Isorena
Vice Admiral
Philippine Coast Guard

The Philippine Coast Guard is a major recipient of sponsorship from The Nippon Foundation, with several of its officers having received Fellowship Grants for studies at the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden. Of a total of fifty graduates and current students at WMU, 56% have been sponsored by The Nippon Foundation, all twenty-eight being PCG officers.

The sponsorship by The Nippon Foundation of PCG officers started in 1994 with the aim of assisting the PCG to professionalize and develop their competence, notwithstanding the need to develop a network of maritime professionals in the country.

True enough, the Philippine Coast Guard has

fully benefited from this support. Of the twenty-eight graduates, six are currently designated as Commanders of Coast Guard Districts, which are the major operational units of the PCG. Three hold Functional and Support Command positions, three hold Central Staff positions, another three are currently assigned onboard ships, seven hold other important staff positions, two are now studying at WMU, and five have retired from service.

Of the retirees, one was a former Commandant of the PCG, one is currently serving as an Assistant Secretary at the Department of Transportation and Communications, another is working with the Bureau of Customs, the fourth is working with the Foreign Service, and the last has emigrated to

another country.

The Nippon Foundation-sponsored WMU graduates have played vital roles in molding the PCG to what it is now – a dynamic and service-oriented organization for the Filipino people.

They could be considered as dependable pillars who have withstood the challenges of time and nature, which the PCG has faced recently as well as in the past. They have provided policy-making decisions and have been in the thick of the action as they perform their functions.

To this, the PCG is very thankful to The Nippon Foundation for its continuous trust and support towards our organization.



The Newsletter's Beginnings

Masato Mori
Deputy Minister for Technical Affairs, MLIT
(Former Director-General, Maritime Bureau, MLIT)

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations to the Japan Newsletter of the Friends of WMU on the publication of its 50th issue since the beginning of publication in October 2002.

In 2001, the administration of Japan's WMU scholarship system was transferred from the Tokyo Foundation to the Ocean Policy Research Foundation. For a two-year period commencing in August 2000, I was temporarily transferred to OPRF from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and took part in preparations for the transfer.

During that time my senior officer at the ministry, Mr. Kudo, and I often had long, passionate discussions from early in the morning until late at night. The focus of our discussions can be summa-

rized in the following two points:

(1) What should Japan as a maritime nation do to make a more active and effective contribution to IMO and WMU?

(2) What should be done to continue and maintain a close-knit network among and between fellows and maritime-related persons in Japan not only during their studies but also after graduation?

These discussions in fact resulted in a number of positive outcomes, thanks to the heart-warming understanding of Chairman Sasakawa. These include a significant increase in the number of Fellows (1st year, from 12 to 25 students), the establishment of an endowed chair, and the holding of meetings to build a Sasakawa Fellow network. At the meeting held in July 2001, 145 Fellows from 28

countries joined in discussions regarding measures to build a close-knit, long-lasting network, and the newsletter plays a key role in this.

In the past I was in a position where I assisted in the selection of Japanese scholarship students and later received them in the workplace after graduation. It is clear to me that the graduates have a sound understanding of the international nature of the oceans and that they are leaders in their workplaces.

I sincerely hope that the Fellow network will be passed on to your children's generation and that the newsletter will continue publication well beyond the 100th or 200th issue.



The Impact of Sasakawa Scholarship Programmes in Kenya

Nancy W. Karigithu
Director General
Kenya Maritime Authority

It is a fact that the single most important asset a company or country can be said to possess is its human resources. This is what determines its development. It is with this realization that Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) embarked on the training of its employees, in order to address the major challenge of lack of skilled and appropriately qualified human resources in the maritime sector. This gap came about due to the fact that Kenya was for a long time not on the 'white list' of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and under those circumstances it was not entitled to train seafarers as per the clear provisions of the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW), 1978, (as amended).

In this regard, we take great pride in the Sasakawa scholarships granted to our employees, which have assisted the completion of critical training

programmes at the World Maritime Authority (WMU) and International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) in Sweden and Malta, respectively. The scholarships granted to our employees through Sasakawa Fellowship programmes are evident fruits of the warm, cordial and brotherly relationship that exists between Kenya and Japan.

Since the inception of the Authority, six employees have undertaken post graduate programmes at WMU. Two of them were fully sponsored by Sasakawa Fellowship programmes. These highly trained and skilled personnel have been instrumental in the development of our country's framework for the implementation of international conventions that Kenya has ratified for the maritime sector. The employees represent the Authority and our country in international meetings and forums and have also assisted in the development of the curricula necessary

for national maritime training. Based on this and other areas of performance, Kenya has since entered the IMO 'white list,' and the country's maritime education and training is back on course. The staff also represents the country in various negotiations for bilateral and multi-lateral agreements. Currently, most of the employees who occupy senior positions in the Authority are either graduates of WMU or IMLI.

On behalf of KMA, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to The Nippon Foundation for granting me and my fellow employees the prestigious Sasakawa Fellowship scholarships. These scholarships have gone a long way towards building sorely needed capacity in our country's maritime sector. The strides we have made as a nation could not have been possible without these generous and noble Sasakawa scholarships.



Benefits that Lecturers Obtained at WMU

Nguyen Van Thu

President

Ho Chi Minh City University of Transport

First of all I would like to express my sincere appreciation to OPRF and The Nippon Foundation for their continuing, tremendous support. For all the fellowship students, having the opportunity to study at WMU not only offers them the chance to be in a very good academic setting, embracing new knowledge and expertise, but it also gives them a unique chance to experience a multicultural working environment, which is an important factor in this modern, flat world.

At the moment, there are about 4 lecturers at the University of Transport in Ho Chi Minh City (UT-HCMC) who have received scholarships to WMU. These colleagues are really valuable assets of our university. After studying in Sweden, the obvious improvement that I can see is that they are more confident, better at English, with significantly improved communicative skills, and most importantly, enriched knowledge and expertise,

allowing them to be more creative and work enthusiastically.

It is good news that after completing their Master's Degree at WMU, many of these students confidently continue to pursue greater challenges by getting their PhD, studying in many other countries such as Germany, Japan, etc. Personally, I think this is a beneficial result of their previous multicultural learning experiences at WMU.

At UT-HCMC, they have organized many workshops, such as "Scientific Research Methods at University," which they were taught very assiduously at WMU, and "Logistics and Transport in Vietnam – the Reality and New Trends." Some young lecturers also attracted projects from other countries, allowing UT-HCMC to become a part of the global academic network.

They do more research and guide their students to do the same. They also eagerly participate in many

seminars and workshops domestically and internationally. Moreover, lecturers who have studied at WMU always get good reviews from the students in our biannual surveys.

We are proud that we have such good and talented people, particularly those returning from WMU, where they have obtained a good background and a solid foundation from their studies.

Therefore, I would like to express my thanks once again to Mr. Yohei Sasakawa and all the staff members from OPRF and The Nippon Foundation for your extraordinary efforts in supporting the future intellectual generation of Vietnam. As for HCMC, we are committed to continue to support and encourage our people to actively contribute to the development of our nation and to humanitarian efforts around the world, with their energy, their newly gained knowledge and expertise.

Maritime Information from Sasakawa Fellows



Maritime Logistics Infrastructure Development Strategy in Myanmar

Swe Swe Zin (Myanmar, 2010)

Myanmar, one of the developing countries in Southeast Asia, has been well-known in the region for its rich natural resources, abundant labor force and being strategically located between two economic giants: the People's Republic of China and India. Myanmar is now in a transition period of opening up to trade, encouraging foreign investment, and deepening its financial sector in line with wide-ranging national economic and policy reforms. Accordingly, it is expected to increase its maritime trade with foreign countries in the near future. The vital role of logistics service in the maritime transport industry has also been acknowledged in this regard.

However, UNCTAD (2003) reported that most

developing countries are usually confronted with a number of factors that are particularly detrimental to their nation's logistics service quality, and thus many importers, exporters, and manufacturers have only limited access to logistics service offered by local service providers in these countries. Therefore, taking into consideration how to assess maritime logistics service quality and what influencing factors are of critical importance to its substantial improvement in terms of Myanmar, I concentrated my PhD research on an empirical assessment of my country's maritime logistics service quality.

The research findings indicate that physical infrastructure has the greatest impact on the level of

service quality, not only for local logistics operations but also for the successful integration of its logistics service into the regional and international logistics network. Under these circumstances, the government's logistics infrastructure development strategy through encouraging private sector participation - for instance, investment in the current implementation of the Yangon inner harbor development plan; deep sea port projects in the strategic location of the country's coastal areas - would be beneficial to the sustainable development of maritime logistics service with improved quality in Myanmar.



Quality Training for the Human Element - a Way to Reduce Casualties in Maritime Transportation

Khalid Mahmud (Bangladesh, 2007)

Over the past three decades, it has been observed that shipping accidents are rife in the maritime field, even though there has been a tremendous integration of innovative technologies in this sector.

Although some statistical analysis shows that maritime accidents and disasters occur due to cyclones, collisions, design error, overloading, structural or navigational or other such failures, researchers and casualty investigators have discovered that around 80% of accidents are due to human error and the human element. Hence, there is a definite need for an adequate safety culture, which will be brought about by the values,

attitudes, competency and patterns of behavior seen in the lifestyle, commitment, and proficiency of seafarers, as well as the shipping industry.

There is no denying that maritime transportation is trusted worldwide, both for international and inland shipping, due to its lower operating costs, higher accessibility and comparatively safe nature. Nevertheless, recent recurring global shipping accidents are changing the state of affairs. Although Bangladeshi local and international maritime accidents are different in nature, all of these occur due to the miscalculation of humans.

At this point in time, we are looking at circumstances that cause people to make dangerous

mistakes. The most common is people on duty during emergency episodes who are found to be physically tired, drowsy, or asleep. Symptoms of fatigue are forgetfulness, distractedness, difficulty in keeping the eyes open, sore muscles, reduction in motivation, and inability to properly operate equipment. This affects reaction time, manual dexterity, mental arithmetic, cognitive reasoning, mood, attention span, and motivation. With the aim of increasing awareness on the effects of fatigue on the human element, various functional and inspectional documents indicate that quality training towards a safety culture is of paramount importance.

Host Family in Malmö

Bengt and Carin Bergman

To be a WMU host family gives us so much pleasure and insight into other cultures and ways of being and thinking. Another bonus: in September 2014, we visited our student (now a WMU graduate) Baigalmaa Damba, in Mongolia.

We spent lovely days in Ulaanbaatar with Baigalmaa's family; friendship, culture and pleasure. Then began the real adventure: a visit to the nomads of the Gobi Desert.

Baigalmaa planned the trip for us with some true "desert foxes," all of whom had roots in the Gobi. After some days off-road driving on the steppe and semi-desert visiting friendly nomads, we arrived at the home of our hosts' brother, Zurig, and his wife. How do you find them and their yurt (nomad tent) in the vast desert? You call their satellite phone and ask where they are! Nomads today have solar panels for electricity.



We shared their nomad life for a couple of days and tried to be helpful. Survival in this vast sand and gravel environment looked impossible, with only very few dried-up tufts of grass around. It was fascinating to see how the animals were cared for and their milk used. Camels, goats and sheep wandered back to the camp each evening after their

day grazing. The nomads used a system of milking and allowing young animals to nurse at separate times, so that everyone got what they needed. Fascinating to see the huge camels milked by hand by our hosts: I was too frightened to try.

The milk was fermented to yoghurt, distilled, and then dried on the roof of the yurt to curd. Distillation gives "camel-vodka": not for sale, but a real elixir of life!

After sharing this nomad life my view of surviving in the desert has totally changed. It is not only possible to survive, in many ways it is a good life of high quality, with little stress. So relaxing to sit together on the carpets in the yurt eating and drinking. If it's chilly, put on a shirt. If you're tired, take a nap.

Our thanks to Baigalmaa for this unforgettable experience!

Kjell and Britt-Marie Wernebecker

We are a Swedish family living in Malmö. For many years we have been meeting students from WMU, and in 2010 we decided to apply to be an official host family. That decision also gave us the opportunity to learn more about the organizations and people behind the scenes, like OPRF. Through the years we have hosted many Sasakawa Fellows from different countries, mostly from Asia. Every year we ask for 2-3 students, and the funny thing is that we always "adopt" a couple of their friends, so sometimes we have 6-8 students with us in our home or on trips that we arrange.

When we meet our students we try to introduce them to Swedish culture. We invite them to our home to celebrate Swedish holidays with traditional food and drink. Sometimes we also do outdoor activities like ice skating in winter, or celebrate Spring, or just a picnic in the



summertime. But for us it's also important to learn about their cultures, so we feel this is a win-win situation for all of us. One of the most joyful days for us is International Day, which is arranged each year by the students, where we can see the cultures of so many countries. Of course, Graduation Day is also one of the highlights, but it's a sad day as well, since we realize that our

soon be leaving us. However, as we are a couple that likes to travel, we never say goodbye to them. We always say "See you!"

On our journeys we have met a couple of students in their own environment and in their homes. In 2012 we went to Australia to visit relatives, and at the same time we met one of our students and Sasakawa Fellow, Mr. Alim Fazley from Bangladesh, who had just moved to Sydney!

Last year (2014) we visited Thailand and Vietnam and had a reunion with students from there. In Thailand we saw Sasakawa Fellow Mr. Sopun Maneechot and some other WMU students. In Vietnam we met Ms. Doan Thu Nga and Mr. Khuong Duy Hiep and many more students from years back.

Our trip this year is planned for the Philippines, where we hope to see Mr. Jose Romualdo Denzon and many, many more.

Patrik and Shara Andersson

My wife and I became a host family for WMU students sponsored by the OPRF in 2013. I am Swedish but have my roots in Sri Lanka, where I am adopted from, and my wife is Sinhalese. This is why so far we have hosted students from Sri Lanka. By chance we made friends with WMU students in 2012, and we spent a lot of time with them during the spring, fall and winter that year. It was due to this experience that we had the pleasure of becoming a host family for the coming WMU batches.

Apart from introducing the students to Swedish traditions in terms of cultural events associated with Christmas, Easter and of course Swedish midsummer, we have engaged them in other activities, including seeing and experiencing Giants' kettles, skiing and looking for the Northern Lights.



The most memorable event was when three WMU students and I went to northern Sweden, a trip of about 1500km, to try skiing and to see the northern countryside. We had a great time, and they have told me many times afterwards that those days will stay in their memories forever. Especially, all the falls and pain and bruises on their "behinds"

that they endured during our cross country training!

Last summer we took the students to my Swedish parents' summer house, which is close to the west coast of Sweden. It's a small cabin in the middle of the forest, with sites and historical remains nearby from the last ice age, as well as from the time of the Vikings.

Recently, we have been taking this year's batch of students onto our family sailboat to show them the Öresund sea, outside the cities of Malmö and Copenhagen. These have been very happy times, especially since the Swedish summer this year was so nice.

We look forward to continuing to host and support WMU students for decades to come, building a long-lasting network and friendships that will span over generations.

A city in transition



Kent Andersson
Mayor of Malmö

Now as the World Maritime University is preparing to move into its new premises, it seems a good time to reflect on the 30 year period the University has been in Malmö. Clearly, the University is not the same as it was in 1984. WMU has developed from an institution offering top class education to one accommodating both education and research at the very cutting edge of world maritime affairs.

Just as WMU is not the same institution as it was 30 years ago, Malmö is not the same city. During the decades that have passed, the city has changed fundamentally in many important ways.

In common with many other cities, Malmö has changed its business structure. It has transformed from a traditional city dominated by large industries – the metal industry, textile and similar manufacturing industries – into the city we see today, hallmarked instead by small and medium-sized companies with a much more knowledge-based economy.

This change has, like all significant changes, brought with it challenges as well as opportunities.

One of those challenges is employment: Malmö has, of course, lost tens of thousands of jobs in industry and manufacture and many people have become unemployed as a consequence. Malmö still has a level of unemployment higher than many other cities in the region and we need to dedicate a lot of resources towards helping people attain new skills. As many unemployed are in the middle of their working lives, strategies for life-long learning are central to addressing this challenge.

Amongst the possibilities brought about by the changes in Malmö are the centrally-located sites previously occupied by industry. These areas make possible modern, environmentally-sustainable town planning. The Western Harbour area is the clearest example of the way such sites are being developed.

When WMU opened, this site was part of Malmö Kockums' shipyard, an industry of particular importance to Malmö's economy and in fact to its identity. But it was an industry which closed just a few years later, in the mid-1980s. What remained was an industrial site that for many years stood abandoned, a constant reminder of a closed chapter in the city's history.

Today, the Western Harbour area has truly put Malmö on the world map as a prime example of sustainable development. An area that was once a



run-down, environmentally soiled industrial site is today the home of thousands of people and also a work-place offering many more job opportunities than the shipbuilding industry could in its last years. Instead of these jobs being offered by one large employer, today there are hundreds of small and medium-sized businesses offering work.

Another large change we can trace in Malmö is the difference in its demography. The city now has an international population, providing a fitting context for the diversity that WMU so wonderfully typifies. In the course of its history, WMU has enabled over 3,900 to gain skills and education; these students have come from a total of 165 countries. Over the same period, Malmö has changed from being a traditional Swedish city into an international home to residents from more than 175 countries. That Malmö is a city people choose to move to also means that we have a young population, envied by many. WMU's young, international students fit in well here.

A third big change in recent years for Malmö is of course the opening of the Öresund Bridge which connects Sweden and Denmark, Copenhagen and Malmö. This developing

Öresund Region has an economic and demographic significance that gives this area enormous potential for development. Not least, it gives Malmö a wonderful strategic connection to Copenhagen Airport, something that WMU can take great advantage of when it moves to its new building. The new premises is situated just a few metres from the train station and the connection to Copenhagen Airport, which runs every 20 minutes every day. And the journey itself takes under half an hour!

As I noted at the beginning, Malmö is not the same city it was when WMU opened its doors. However, we feel the same pride now as we did then to be the host city for IMO's important centre of education for maritime specialists. We are delighted to be able to contribute to WMU's development in a positive way. At the same time we are aware that there are many supporters who make important and essential contributions to WMU, not least the Nippon Foundation and the Ocean Policy Research Foundation. In this context, we are pleased that WMU continues to strengthen our city's international contact network.

Japan's Support for WMU (A Review of the Past 30 Some Odd Years)

1) Since World War II, ships have become remarkably specialized and large-sized. In addition, the system of ownership and operation of vessels has become extremely complex, with an increasing number of ships flying flags of convenience and having crews of diverse nationalities. In tandem with these developments, international treaties have also been growing in complexity and scope. Against this backdrop, the IMO has recognized the need for high-level elite training, particularly in developing countries.

2) In 1983, the same year as the establishment of WMU, Professor Kensaku Nomoto of Osaka University, a global figure in the field of naval architecture, was dispatched to WMU at the request of the IMO. Moreover, from 1987 onwards the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation (currently, The Nippon Foundation), headed by the late Ryoichi Sasakawa, donated scholarship funds of one million dollars to WMU. Under the management of WMU, these funds were allocated to scholarships for seven to nine students every year from 1988 to 1994.

3) When these funds were running out, the IMO strongly requested that Japan continue the WMU scholarship program. Upon receiving this request, The Nippon Foundation established the Sasakawa Scholarship Fund with an amount equivalent to four million US dollars. The Nippon Foundation provided

scholarships for 10 students from 1995 to 1996. The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, affiliated with The Nippon Foundation, was entrusted with the management of this scholarship fund.

4) Japan's shipping industry, shipbuilding industry, and classification society expressed their gratitude for the scholarship program that The Nippon Foundation managed on behalf of the Japanese maritime societies, and provided scholarships to more than 10 students from 1993 to 1998 in total. Reacting in concert with their generosity, The Nippon Foundation increased its contributing scholarships at a rate of 25 every year since 1997.

5) In 1998, the management of the scholarship fund was transferred to the Global Foundation for Research and Scholarship (currently, The Tokyo Foundation), and in 2001 was again transferred to the Ship and Ocean Foundation (currently, Ocean Policy Research Foundation).

6) In July 2001, at the initiative of Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, the "WMU Japan Sasakawa Fellow Forum" was held in Tokyo, inviting almost all graduates sponsored by Japan. At that time the launch of the network was decided unanimously in earnest. Methods of communication with Fellows since then have been further enriched by various means, including the publication of the Friends of WMU Japan Newsletter, which commenced in 2002, the establishment of the WMU website in 2005, and the launch of a

Facebook page in 2014.

7) Little by little, the activities of the Sasakawa Fellows network are becoming more widespread through various efforts, including the following:

① Sasakawa Fellows regional meetings every few years (Bangkok, Thailand in 2008, Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2010, Accra, Ghana in 2013)

② Collaboration with WMU projects (such as the Commemorative International Conference for the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of WMU in 2008)

③ Publication of the Directory of the WMU Sasakawa Fellows (first issued in 2008)



The Ship and Ocean Foundation, known today as the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF), was established in 1975 as the Japan Foundation for Shipbuilding Advancement. Since then it has actively worked to promote shipbuilding and related industries, as well as engaging in research activities covering all aspects of the ocean.

As of April 1, 2015, our Foundation will be consolidated with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, and will continue as before to carry on our activities in the maritime and related fields. We look forward to working with you and for your continued support and guidance.

Friends of WMU, Japan Secretariat, OPRF

Editor's note

I still remember a straightforward question raised by an Indian Fellow when I visited there in 2008, "Mr. Kudo, what do you mean by a network?" It took some time for me to be convinced that network meant 'a circle of trust'. Since Fellows come from various organizations in different countries, it is no wonder that their interests do not always match. Even so, they can expect each other to find a solution in common somehow, under "a circle of trust".

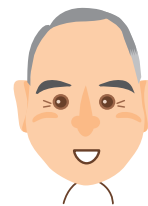
We have continued to publish these Newsletters with the sole wish to create such an atmosphere. What I enjoy most is reading reports and looking at photographs you send us, which reflect friendships engaging in serious discussions, while sharing good camaraderie.

Chairman Yohei Sasakawa says, "our acquaintanceships are for our lifetime." That is the true value of being part of the

"Sasakawa family". As a member of this family, it is really important to relay our bond to junior Fellows, so we also encourage retired Fellows to tell us what you have been up to recently. Because we are FAMILY. Please feel free to write to us about anything.

Your active contribution is an expression of your affection to our network and your pride in being a Sasakawa Fellow. Therefore, the protagonist of this Newsletter is supposed to be YOU. If your passionate feelings toward it ever disappear, that is when this Newsletter will come to the end, and so might the scholarship program.

Let me express my sincere gratitude to Professor Hikima and Mme. Sue Jackson and the staff of the WMU, who have been with us since the first issue, and all who are involved in the editing of the Newsletter. Also, it is our great hope that the interview with Chairman Sasakawa - which honors the 50th anniversary of this Newsletter - expresses his deepest thoughts and feelings to you all. Thank you.



Eisuke Kudo,
Special Adviser, OPRF