

F NEWSLETTER Friends of WMU JAPAN

The world is a family, and all humankind are brothers and sisters.

DECEMBER 2005 No. 13

The Japan Field Study Trip 2005 (September 10-18)

Twenty-eight WMU Sasakawa Fellowship recipients enrolled in WMU this year were invited to the Japan Field Study Trip, which took place from September 10-18. This program aims to give first year students opportunities to meet Japanese people in the maritime field and to exchange views and information with them, as well as to enhance the participants' knowledge about Japan.

On the morning of September 12, all 28 students and Mr. Bruce Browne visited the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT). As soon as they arrived, they paid a courtesy call to Mr. Shigeo Hoshino, Director - General of MLIT. He formally welcomed them, emphasizing to the students the importance of Maritime Affairs. After his warm hospitality, they moved on to the conference room where they received a general explanation about MLIT. The students were then divided into 5 groups according to their specialization. Their study lectures began around 10:30a.m. and lasted for about 2 hours. It



was a fruitful morning for all the students.

In the afternoon, the students paid a courtesy call to The Nippon Foundation, where they met with Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of The Nippon Foundation and the "Friends of WMU, Japan." Each student individually introduced him / herself to Mr. Sasakawa. Everyone in the room was very quiet and nervous at the beginning, but gradually, they became more friendly and communicative. Ms. Norhasliza Binti Mat Salleh then expressed the gratitude of the Sasakawa Fellows to Mr. Sasakawa, and Mr. Anish Hebbar gave him a framed picture of the 2005 Sasakawa Fellows. Mr. Bruce Browne gave Mr. Sasakawa a "WMU Cap" as a token of WMU's appreciation.

On the same day as the courtesy visit to Mr. Sasakawa, there was a Reception for WMU Sasakawa Fellows at The Nippon Foundation building. Approximately 180 guests including OPRF staff members attended. The reception began at 17:30 with the introduction of the host, Mr. Seiji Saeki, General Manager of the Maritime

Technology Department of OPRF. Then Mr. Takeju Ogata, President of The Nippon Foundation, formally welcomed the guests. Mr. Shigeo Hoshino, Director - General of MLIT was also invited to the reception as a special guest and expressed his appreciation to the participants. Towards the end of the reception, the 28 students and some WMU graduates sang the WMU Song. The conductor was Mr. Ruel Concepcion. The students had a wonderful evening and were able to meet many new people.

On the morning of September 13, they visited Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) in Futtsu-city, Chiba. When they arrived at the Futtsu Thermal Power Station, fortunately, they discovered that the LNG Carrier "Pacific Notus" was still anchored in the harbor. This was a rare and fortuitous occasion. LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) was actually first imported to Japan by TEPCO in 1969. Since then, LNG imports have been considered to have important environmental advantages. TEPCO is currently importing LNG from





Moriyama Factory, Daihatsu Diesel

The Japan Field Study Trip 2005

Malaysia, Indonesia, and other countries. While they were gazing at the "Pacific Notus" from the Control Tower, she gradually started to depart for Malaysia. After she was gone, the guide led them to the major facilities in the station. It was a very beneficial experience for the students and special thanks are due to Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Yoshida who supported this event from the beginning.

After visiting TEPCO, there was a boat ride on Tokyo Bay, guided by Mr. Sakuma, Port Promotion Manager from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The captain and his crew on the inspection boat, Shin-Tokyoumaru, which belongs to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, welcomed the students. While they were on the boat, Mr. Sakuma kindly explained about how important and well-planned a port Tokyo Bay is. It was an incredible 90-min. ride. After getting off the boat, the 28 students went on to the Tokyo Port Museum to learn about the history of Tokyo Bay by video. This was a very wonderful tour for the students.

On September 14 they traveled from Tokyo to the Kansai District. They took a

Shinkansen (Bullet Train) from Tokyo Station to Maibara Station; it took about 2 hours and 15 mins. After getting off the train at Maibara, they realized that one of the students was missing! He was supposed to get off the train with them, but nobody actually knew where he was!! I don't want to reveal the ending of this story, but if you would like to know what happened, you might want to ask the Sasakawa Fellows Class of 2006.

The students next visited Daihatsu Diesel MFG. CO., LTD (Moriyama Factory). Mr. Yousuke Uchida, Executive Vice President, and other related members warmly welcomed them. As soon as the students arrived in the Technical Development Center, Mr. Bruce Browne offered his appreciation as their representative. Then Mr. Uchida gave a welcome speech for the students. After the speech, Mr. Hiroshi Miyata, Director of the Moriyama Factory also welcomed them and began to explain about the factory by showing a video. All the students afterwards were guided through the entire factory. They visited not only the factory itself but also the historical museum, DISCOVERIUM. In the museum, the students learned about the history of various engines and Daihatsu Diesel Co. itself. It was one of the unforgettable visits for the students during this field study trip. We owe special thanks to Mr. Uchida, Mr. Sasaki, Mr. Miyata, Mr. Harada, Mr. Hashiguchi, and more, but especially, Mr. Masao Hirota who has been deeply involved and very supportive from the beginning.

Dr. Kinzo Inoue, the Dean of the Faculty of Maritime Sciences, Kobe



University, formally welcomed the students and explained the structure of the school. The students were then divided into two groups, and they toured the facilities. One facility was called, "Ship Handling Simulator." As you may imagine, this is where trainees learn how to handle the ship, which made me so sea sick, as a matter of fact. Then the students moved on to "Ship Model Basin", where they viewed a shallow water tank, a wind-wave water tank, anchor dragging tanks, and a circulating water channel. After visiting the "Ship Model Basin" facility, they visited the Maritime Museum. This museum was established in 1958 and exhibits models of European-type sailing ships, nautical instruments, and many other maritime objects. We owe a special thanks to Dr. Kenji Ishida, who has been involved with WMU and helped plan this portion of the field trip.

Next we visited the Marine Technical College ("Kaigi Daigakko" - the only government institute of vocational education and training for seafarers). In this college, there are actually four courses: Marine Technology Course, Maritime Officer Course, Training Course, and Correspondence Course. The students were divided into three groups and





Futtsu LNG Terminal, Tokyo Electric Power Company

guided through the facilities in this college, including the Bridge Resource Management with its simulator, the Navigation Weather Information Laboratory, GMDSS (The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System) Simulator Training, the Crude Oil Tanker Simulator Training, the Engine Room Simulator, the Remote Control System, and many more. The students appeared very interested in the facilities and the college itself. We owe special thanks to Dr. Toshio Hikima, who has been involved with WMU and helped plan this portion of the field trip.

Amagasaki Motor Boat Racing was an



item on the program that the students really looked forward to. As soon as the bus arrived at the front gate of Amagasaki Motor Boat Racing, the students were guided to the pit where they could hear the sound of motor engines and feel the Boat Heart Beat!! (This is a line out of the TV commercial for Motor Boat Racing and is supposed to be funny). The students were also able to look at the repair shop. The students were extremely lucky to have this experience. After the tour, they were led to the VIP room where they could watch the Motor Boat Races. The students bet on the race, and if I remember correctly, Mr. Antonio Monteiro and Mr. Antoni Priadi won some money. This was a very lucky day for both Toni and Toni!

On the seventh day, the students visited the Japan Coast Guard School in Maizuru City, Kyoto. As soon as they arrived, Mr. Enrico Efen Evangelista (Philippine Coast Guard) met Mr. Masao Isogai (Superintendent) and Mr. Hiroshi Takasaki (Vice Superintendent) and gave some

words of appreciation as a representative of the students of 2006. They got a brief description of the Japan Coast Guard School, and afterwards, were separated into two groups for the campus tour. I was very impressed with this school. It is strict and tough to finish; therefore, completing the program is all the more satisfying.

After visiting the Japan Coast Guard School, the students moved onto the Training Ship, "Miura." They were led onto the ship and guided through the facilities, such as the Operation Information Center, the Medical Room, the Engine Control Room, and more, as well as the deck of the ship.

As the students arrived at the Universal Shipbuilding Co., Maizuru Shipyard, they were warmly welcomed and led to a large presentation room for the introduction to the Shipbuilding Co., its history, and its products. On October 1, 2002, NKK Corporation and Hitachi Zosen Corporation integrated their shipbuilding operations to begin a new era of efficiency and effectiveness as the Universal Shipbuilding Co. After the presentation, they were taken on the Ship Yard Tour where they viewed steel marking & cutting, assembly, drydock, the quay, and more.

Then, the students boarded an unfinished tanker by the quay. Yes, unbelievably, they were allowed to get on the tanker and take a look inside even though the tanker itself was unfinished. This was very unusual, and all of the students and Mr. Kudo, especially, were very grateful for the hospitality.

The last program of the Japan Field Study was a small trip to Nara and Kyoto on September 17 where the students encountered traditional Japanese culture through visits to Todaiji Temple and Kasugataisha Shrine. They also went to visit Kiyomizu Temple, which means "Pure Water." There were many souvenir stores for shopping. Unfortunately, it started sprinkling, but they had a wonderful visit to Kiyomizu Temple anyway!



Maizuru Shipyard, Universal Shipbuilding Corporation

That evening, a farewell party was held at the New Miyako Hotel. There were two special guests for that night. The first was Dr. Kiyoshi Hara, Kyoto University Auditor, and the other was Dr. Toshio Hikima, a Professor at Marine Technical College. All the participants including the staff members of OPRF spent the last evening in Japan singing and laughing with their friends. I still remember Mr. Ahmad Irfan, who performed a magic show. It was very funny, and I think he is a very talented man, even though he cheated in his magic!!

Overall, it seemed everyone had a wonderful time in Japan and an intellectually rewarding experience. I hope all 28 students will reach or surpass their goals. They all have bright futures.

by Shinichi Icbikawa





On October 9th, 2005, the WMU Graduation Ceremony was held at the Concert Hall in the city of Malmö, Sweden.

Before the Ceremony began, an orchestra played for about half an hour. The Graduation Ceremony promptly began at 14:00 with opening remarks by Dr. Karl Laubstein, the President of WMU. He welcomed the guests, congratulated the graduates, and expressed his appreciation to all the WMU supporters, such as the city of Malmö, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), The Nippon Foundation, and the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF).

Following Dr. Laubstein's remarks, Mr. Andre Sukawaty, the Chairman and CEO of Inmarsat Limited; Mr. Ilimar Reepalu, the Chairman of the Malmö City Board; and Mr. E.E. Mitropoulos, the Chancellor of WMU and Secretary-General of IMO delivered their congratulatory addresses.

Conferring of degrees and awards was carried out by Mr. Mitropoulos, who presented a diploma to each graduate.

After the awarding of diplomas, Mr. Angel Faris Lobaton IV, President of the Student Council (Sasakawa Fellows, Philippine 2005) expressed his appreciation to all the guests, professors, faculty, families, and the city of Malmö on behalf of the Graduates of 2005. A nursery plant was given by the Graduates of 2005 to the city of Malmö.



The Ceremony was followed by a lovely reception. Approximately more than a thousand guests attended the Graduation Ceremony and the reception and several kinds of drinks and snacks were served. The graduates gathered to take pictures and were unwilling to part from their friends and faculty. Separation is always painful; however, overall, the Graduation Ceremony 2005 was a very unforgettable one and enjoyed by one and all.

A Present from the World

Every year the graduating class give a gift to the city of Malmö, in thanks for the hospitality of its people.

For the second year, the students have chosen to give a lasting present: new trees that all Malmö's people can enjoy.

21 new trees were planted this year, to join the 21 planted in 2004. The students chose trees to symbolise the real and growing friendship between the WMU family and the people of the city.

Kent Andersson and Angel Lobaton IV, watched by two members of the Class of 2005: another Sasakawa Fellow, Ronaldo Bandalaria (behind, right), and Moharam Fekri of the Ports & Shipping Organization of Iran (left).



Alumni News

Reunion by ISME Tokyo 2005



From left, Prof. Ishida, President Uy and Prof. Hikima

IAMU 2005 Annual Meeting in WMU

Wei Ruan (China 1999)
Shanghai Maritime University



From left, Prof. Zhang, Dr. Laubstein, Mr. Yamamoto, and Prof. Ruan

Jakarta Meeting on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, Enhancing Safety, Security and Environmental Protection

Dyah Umiyarti Purnamaningrum
(Indonesia 2004)



The Seventh International Symposium on Marine Engineering (ISME) TOKYO 2005 was held from October 24 to 28, 2005 in Tokyo. About 350 attendants from 20 countries and regions participated in the symposium.

Focusing on the theme Seeking New Concepts for Future Marine Engineering, there were extensive discussions on a wide range of relevant topics which included: pollution-free systems, environmental conservation, future engine technology and energy conversion systems, future marine fuels and lubricants, electric and electronic systems, robotics and automation systems, safety systems and human-machine interfacing, operation and information systems, and advanced propulsion systems.

Shipowners, shipbuilders, machinery and equipment manufacturers, classification societies, research institutes, universities and others from related organizations around the world were invited to present their views, opinions, experiences, and results of their studies, research, and development on these subjects.

Professor Uy, President of the Vietnam Maritime University, spoke about conditions in Vietnam in a panel discussion on marine education in Asia led by organizer and chairman, Professor Hikima, formerly of the WMU.

From Oct. 24 to 26, 2005, the International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU) held its 6th Annual Meeting in Malmö, Sweden. The meeting was organized jointly by the IAMU secretariat (Tokyo) and the World Maritime University (WMU) on the theme Maritime Security and MET. The aim of the meeting was to exchange news on the latest achievements in the research of maritime security and maritime education and training, which are ongoing topics of interest in the maritime industry.

More than 100 professors, maritime specialists, presidents from maritime education institutions and universities as well as maritime students from more than 40 countries were represented. During the two-day meeting, more than 40 high-quality papers and reports on the progress of research programs entrusted by the IAMU were presented.

There were two Sasakawa Fellows attending from China, Professor Zhang Ren Ping (China 1999), who is now posted at the Chinese Embassy in London, and Professor Ruan Wei (China 1999), who is now responsible for the largest Seafarer Training Center in China and the Continuing Education College of the Shanghai Maritime University, China. Professor Ruan Wei presented his paper "Examining and Promoting ISPS training for Chinese Seafarers". News of their deep involvement in maritime education and training and international maritime meetings, such as IAMU, left a deep impression on all the attendants at the assembly.

On September 7 to 8, 2005, Indonesia hosted the Jakarta Meeting on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, Enhancing Safety, Security and Environmental Protection. Sponsored by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and organized in cooperation with Malaysia and Singapore, the meeting was convened in accordance with decisions made at the 93rd and 94th sessions of the IMO Council on the Protection of Vital Shipping Lanes. Attending were delegations representing 34 countries, two intergovernmental and seven non-governmental organizations.

In his opening remarks, IMO Secretary General Mr. Efthimios Mitsopoulos stated that the Jakarta meeting offered a unique opportunity to engage the three littoral States, user States, industry and all other stakeholders in ensuring in the years to come the continuous, unhindered and uninterrupted use of the Straits by ships engaging in international trade. He also acknowledged the work of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, through the Tripartite Technical Expert Group (TTEG) on Safety of Navigation and the newly established TTEG on Maritime Security.

At the meeting, the littoral States had the opportunity to discuss their views on a number of topics which included: recent developments and the way forward; the perspective of the user States; co-operation; industry; social responsibility; the Marine Electronic Highway (MEH) demonstration project and navigation through the Straits; and exploring modalities for Co-operation: burden sharing for the Straits of Malacca and Singapore.

Outcomes of the meeting were announced in a statement entitled the Jakarta Statement on the Enhancement of Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore.

Four Indonesian Sasakawa Fellows played an important part in ensuring its success through their contribution as the organizing committee: Ms. Retno Windari (Indonesia 2001), Mr. Heru Prasetyo (Indonesia 1992), Mr. Alamsyah Maparessa (Indonesia 2002), and Ms. Dyah Umiyarti Purnamaningrum (Indonesia 2004).

Life in Malmö



by Ms. Carmen Browne

When I was first asked to write this article I was honored to have been given the chance to voice the experiences that I have had in Sweden as a receptionist at Henrik Smith Hostel. As I began thinking about my job and the responsibilities that it requires it occurred to me what an immense opportunity I was given the day I accepted this position.

Although I've lived in our hostel since 1992 it wasn't until 1997 that I was given the chance to interact with the students on a deeper level. As the hostel receptionist I am responsible for many

daily duties, such as delivering the post, greeting new students, opening the doors to locked-out students, and acting as the liaison between students, visiting guests, and the university.

At first I thought that this position would be "light"; one in which I would interact with the students on a simple level. As I grew accustomed to my position, however, a gradual change came over both myself and the students. I began to notice that our relationship was somehow taking on a new form that also included my husband and two daughters, one which made us part of a unique and broader "family", if you will.

As a "family member" I have come to know, and hold dear to my heart, more than 1,000 students from over 100 countries of which about 250 of those are Sasakawa Fellows. I have also been involved in many different adventures, such as helping escort pregnant women to the hospital in time to deliver their babies, catching would-be bicycle criminals outside of our building, holding "tea" parties and baking hundreds of muffins at a time, opening doors at all hours of the day and night, and consoling broken-hearted students both during their arrival and departure from Sweden.

Coming from a developing country myself I am honored to hold a position that allows me to make a student's life a little more comforting by reminding them of the culture that they left behind. I also must mention how special it is to be close to so many people of different backgrounds. My job here is certainly more than just a job to me, it is a way of life. I have an extended family and every opportunity in the world to make people feel at home.



by Mr. & Ms. Telse and Sigvard Hedtjarn

After having returned home to Sweden after seven years in China, we decided to become the "Swedish family" to two Chinese WMU students.

We were very happy to get Zhang Xiaodong and Sun Dabin, both graduated from a university in the city where we had lived, thus giving us a lot of common things to talk about.

The first time we invited them, we made a small sightseeing tour by car around where we live, before we had dinner at our home. The wife of one of the students also participated.

From our time in China we know that Chinese love Chinese food. We therefore served them dishes we know Chinese like, e.g. fish and

chicken, but prepared in an international way, combined with for them unknown dishes. It turned out to be a very successful decision.

Before Christmas we invited them for a typical Swedish "Julbord" in our home, with pickled herring, meatballs, sausages, ham, etc. and different kinds of mustards. They were very suspicious and tasted everything carefully, before they dared to take bigger portions. They liked the mustard very much and even the home-made meatballs.

We were also happy to get invited to their domicile to have a traditional Chinese "get together" dish, dumpling. The final preparation of the dish was carried out in the kitchen in our presence.

Some months before graduation we all took a two-hour bicycle tour in our neighborhood among others, inspecting a yacht harbour, looking at birds and tasting some wild growing berries unknown to them.

Whenever we met, we had open discussions about Sweden and China in a very relaxed atmosphere. Real friendship developed and it was very sad to say farewell to them at the Graduation in October 2005. All of us are however hoping to meet again and we think we will soon see them in either China or Sweden.





WMU School Song

by Mr. Ambrose C. H. Wong
(Malaysia 1993)

WMU, OUR BELOVED SCHOOL

Initial Melody by Larry Muller

Refined Melody, Music & Lyrics by Ambrose Wong



It was a very special inspiration that led Mr. Larry Muller of Marshall Island and me to write the song. Let me give an account of how this song came into existence:

I guess it was in August of 1993 when Larry came to my room at Henrik Smith (the WMU hostel) and gave me a tape he had recorded. He said it was a tune that he hummed under special inspiration, and he hoped it would become a song that we could sing during the 10th Anniversary of WMU. I listened to the tape and found the tune interesting. I am not a musician, but I did learn some music theory before and composed some songs at leisure. With the help of my guitar, I followed the tune of Larry's inspired song and wrote down the music with some adjustment to the melody. Inspired some more, I quickly came up with the lyrics. I named the song, "WMU, Our Beloved School!" I went to see Larry and we started singing the song together. With Larry's keyboard and my guitar, the song sounded nice and we liked it.

If I am not mistaken, the celebration for WMU's 10th Anniversary was scheduled to be in September 1993. Students were asked to give some presentations (traditional costumes, songs, dances, etc.). I proposed to Larry that we form a choir to

sing the song we wrote. We started with our fellow students from different countries. To our surprise, some WMU staff were also interested in joining the singing group. I added full music notes with four parts. As most of the students were not musically inclined we had a tough time getting the singing to what we desired. Larry came up with a very nice keyboard accompaniment and I was the guitarist as well as conductor. It took us about 3 weekends, before the performance, to master and harmonise the song. On the night of the celebration, we were very excited and had a couple of rounds of practice before we took the stage. I was glad that we managed to present the song in front of all the important guests from the city of Malmö, other parts of Sweden, IMO and friends of WMU from all over the world.

We did not know that the song had caught the attention of our Rector. It was a pleasant surprise to all of us when the Malmö Fire Brigade Orchestra played the WMU song during the 1993 graduation ceremony in December. Both Larry and I were shocked and at the same time felt honoured. I understand that in subsequent years, the song was played or sung during the graduation ceremonies. I do not know whether it is still an item of the graduation ceremony now.

Anyway, both Larry and I were proud that we had the courage to write the song and had it sung in 1993 during the 10th Anniversary of the University. We hope one day we can sing this song again at WMU!





Dr. Uy paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Sasakawa

On October 24, 2005, Dr. Dang Van Uy, President of Vietnam Maritime University (VIMARU), paid a courtesy visit to Chairman Sasakawa for the first time in a year during his visit to Japan.

At that time Dr. Uy expressed his desire to learn as much as possible from Japan's maritime society which has a long history and extensive experience in the field. Dr. Uy also invited Chairman Sasakawa to visit his country next year for the university's celebration of its 50th anniversary in April.

In response, Mr. Sasakawa expressed his joy at the rapid development of relations between their two countries in various areas and added that he placed particularly high value on the earnest efforts of the young people in nation building.

He also expressed his intentions to visit Vietnam next year if his schedule allows it.



Information from the Secretariat

Ms. Fumi Yakabe, M.Sc., a Sasakawa Fellow and staff member at the Safety Standards Division, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan joined our Friends of WMU newsletter staff in Japan as an editorial member as of this 13th edition.

In October 2004, Ms. Yakabe completed her thesis on the subject of the vessel tonnage systems. Her thesis covers a broad range of topics including its formation, categories,

descriptions of international legal frameworks, how tonnage is used, how it is utilized in maritime transport in the world, and various problems relating to the tonnage system.

Web site details where Ms. Yakabe's thesis can be found are as follows:

The Scandinavian Shipping Gazette

http://www.shipgaz.com/english/magazine/issues/2005/18/1805_article.asp (English)



Welcome to our New "Friends of WMU, Japan" Website

Please go visit our new "Friends of WMU, Japan" website at the following address:
www.wmu.sof.or.jp

Our new "Fellows' Directory" page in this site is for WMU Sasakawa Fellows and current WMU Sasakawa scholarship students only. If this pertains to you, you will need to contact the "Friends of WMU, Japan" Secretariat to get your own "user name" and "password."

Once you log on to the page, please update all of your information so that we can have your latest data without any problems. We would be very appreciative if you updated your information regularly.

For more information, please e-mail the "Friends of WMU, Japan" Secretariat:
wmuJapan@sof.or.jp

Editor's Postscript

We organized ISME2005 (International Symposium on Marine Engineering) in Tokyo in October, and then took part in ICERS7 (International Conference on Engine Room Simulators) in Slovenia in November, where we made presentations. Both conferences were attended by many people from overseas, including those in marine education organizations, as well as engineers of ship equipment manufacturers.

It was our pleasure to be able to see among them some old familiar faces from the time when we studied at WMU.

Although it is well known that many of the WMU graduates attend IMO conferences, we actually had had no experience of seeing WMU graduates before at any marine-related

international conferences except for the ones of IMLA (International Maritime Lecturers Association). It is all the more significant for us that we were able to have such a reunion at an engine-related conference.

We look forward to seeing more and more WMU graduates succeeding in many different fields.



Prof. Toshio Hikima
Marine Technical College

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