

F NEWSLETTER Friends of WMU JAPAN

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

FEBRUARY 2003 No. 2

Sasakawa Fellows monopolized graduation awards

The year 2002 saw that 106 students were conferred postgraduate degrees at the WMU graduation ceremony that was held at Malmö Concert Hall on October 13.

Because of shortage of space, this article can only convey the good news that awaited the graduating Sasakawa Fellows that day. For the first time, the special awards --- Chancellor's Medal for Academic Excellence and C. P. Srivastava Award for International Fellowship --- were both conferred to Sasakawa fellows, Mr. Pedro Nolasco Terry Guillen of Peru and Mr. Josateki Tagi of Fiji, respectively.

Mr. Guillen demonstrated his capabilities through his illustrious academic achievements. He completed a dissertation entitled "A 21st Century Perspective on Peru & the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea." Now back home in Peru, he has contributed a message saying "I am profoundly thankful to Mr. Sasakawa and SOF for the invaluable opportunity they gave me to study the master degree program in Maritime Affairs at WMU over the last two years.... Undoubtedly, the rich, multi-cultural environment that I experienced at WMU is a powerful advantage when I engage in negotiations and decision making."

".... the Chancellor's Medal award is just a fair recognition to Mr. Sasakawa and SOF for giving me the opportunity of becoming a better professional today. Indeed, this award shows the success of SOF in its long history of educating and



Mr. Guillen beams with the Chancellor's Medal around his neck.

helping people in the maritime industry over the years."

Mr. Tagi is to be commended for his contribution to promoting friendship among the students of various nationalities. He did so with energy and commitment in a manner admired by his peers.

Also back home in Fiji, he is now working on the creation of the South Pacific Regional Chapter of Sasakawa Fellows. According to him, the new Chapter would aim at bringing together all WMU Graduates in the region who were sponsored by The Nippon Foundation/SOF, identifying focus areas of activity, which will include the exploitation of the members' profession; the best use of the members' expertise, and the improvement of network capability, thereby keeping contact not only

among the members but with other national chapters and the SOF headquarters.

Leading the graduation ceremony, Dr. Karl Laubstein, President/Rector of WMU, spoke with warmth, stressing the need for graduates to maintain bonds with the University. WMU Chancellor Mr. William O'Neil, Secretary-General of IMO, encouraged the graduates to face squarely the challenges confronting the international maritime community.

On the evening of October 12, SOF hosted a party for the graduating Sasakawa Fellows in the Japanese Consulate building, and Mr. Masahiro Akiyama, SOF chairman, handed to each graduand a certificate of membership with "Friends of WMU, Japan".



Mr. Tagi congratulated by Prof. Hikima.



Solidarity was strengthened among the Chapter members by the presence of Mr. Sasakawa.

Filipinos launched their national chapter

The Philippines is an archipelagic country composed of more than 7,000 islands. It boasts a long history as a maritime nation. The country is also recognized internationally as a center of the richest tropical marine biodiversity, with over 400 species of corals. It's here that more than twenty members recently initiated the first (according to Mr. Yohei Sasakawa) full-fledged national chapter of Sasakawa Fellows' Network in the world.

With the attendance of Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of "Friends of WMU, Japan", the Filipino Sasakawa Fellows staged a plenary meeting of the Association of WMU-Sasakawa Fellows (Philippine Chapter), Inc. at Shangri-La Hotel (Makati) in Manila on November 18, and evinced their commitment to the development of the maritime community in the Philippines.

The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

1. National Anthems
2. Photo Session
3. Welcome Remarks by Vice-President of the Philippine Chapter
4. Presentation of the Registration Certificate of the Chapter
5. Oath-taking of the Chapter members officiated by Mr. Sasakawa
6. Launching of the Chapter's official web site
7. Launching of the Chapter's newsletter
8. Report of accomplishments and future plans and programs
9. Free discussion with Mr. Sasakawa
10. Prayer for the Soul of Mr. Romeo Gagui (Class 1992)

The meeting's highlight was a discussion between Mr. Sasakawa and the Chapter members. Attentively listening to the members' oral reports on their current duties and the Chapter's recent activities, Mr. Sasakawa made comments as follows:

"Your reports have let me know that currently you are occupying important positions at your own workplaces. Lessons of perseverance, cooperation and leadership gleaned from two years' hard study in Malmö will continue to have a good influence in your lifetime.

"It is one of the most important challenges for me to create and maintain life-long relations with the graduate



Mr. Sasakawa presented with the Chapter's T-shirt.

Sasakawa Fellows. To this end, I inaugurated "Friends of WMU, Japan" ten years ago. In this sense, I am quite happy today to see with my own eyes the Philippine Chapter vigorously engaging in activities. You are the first national chapter of the Sasakawa Fellows' Network that has organized an alumni body into a full-fledged association, thereby touching off voluntary activities. I am deeply impressed.

"The 21st century is the century of the oceans. Ocean-related issues are complicated in nature and numerous in number. People around the world are working on ocean governance involving relevant UN agencies. Sharing common recognition on ocean-related issues, we need to further exchange information with each other. To address ocean-related issues I hope the Philippine Chapter continues taking initiative.

"The Nippon Foundation and SOF are sister

foundations. As you know, SOF established the Institute for Ocean Policy in April 2002. Since in today's Japan there exists no governmental agency playing a coordinating role in addressing ocean-related issues, expectations are high for SOF's contribution in making proposals on ocean policy. Please visit SOF's web site from time to time. I am certain that SOF can work together with the Philippine Chapter in various possible ways.

"The Nippon Foundation raises questions as a NGO and tries to urge the Japanese government to adopt multi-



lateral discussions on important questions with Asian nations. It was The Nippon Foundation that first raised the question of piracy in East Asian seas and convened an expert meeting that was attended by coast guard commandants of the countries concerned.

"Sea lanes critical for East Asian nations pass through the highly congested Malacca-Singapore Strait, where a large number of ships are navigating around the clock. The Nippon Foundation is making efforts to formulate a system for the effective use of the Strait to be operated by both user countries and custodian countries. I hope the

Philippine Chapter comes up with proposals on such important issues to work together with us in the fields of maritime safety and governance."

Fifteen Sasakawa Fellows participated in the meeting with Mr. Sasakawa:

Philippine Coast Guard

Mr. Ramon C. Liwag; Mr. Lino H. Dabi; Mr. Bon D. Chan; Mr. Joseph B. Badajoz; Mr. Elson E. Hermogino; Mr. Rolando D. Legaspi; Mr. Eduardo D. Fabricante; Mr. Rolando Lizon N. Punzalan, Jr., and Mr. Ferdinand M. Velasco.

Maritime Industry Authority

Mr. Ramon C. Hernandez; Ms. Sonia B. Malaluan; Mr. Zaldy G. Maquera, and Ms. Ninfa D. Martinez

Philippine Merchant Marine Academy

Mr. Menelieto A. Olanda

Maersk-Filipinas Crewing Inc.

Mr. Valentino H. Ferre

The meeting was followed by a lunch party, which also took place in the Hotel. Mr. Sasakawa, PCG Commandant Vice Admiral Lista, Atty. Pia, Deputy Administrator of MARINA, and RADM Aris, President of Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, gave brief speeches or greetings. The party was attended by the participants of the meeting as well as people from MARINA, PCG, DOTC, the Japanese Embassy, JICA, etc.

After the lunch party, Mr. Sasakawa left for Cebu Island to visit the leprosaria there. He is taking an active leadership in the UN campaign against leprosy that aims at eradicating the disease by the year 2005 (inclusive). In his speech to the Chapter members, Mr. Sasakawa directed their attention to the fact that an effective anti-leprosy drug was developed in the 1980s at Cebu Island.

The members of the Philippine Chapter went out on an excursion to Batangas City on November 16. With a logoed T-shirt on, eleven members left PCG headquarters at 06:30 for Batangas, where they reached after three hours' drive. First they visited Keppel Batangas Shipyard and then Shell Tabangao Refinery, where the members were warmly welcomed and allowed to observe respective facilities. At the Shell refinery, Mr. Warren Galarce, Water Front Manager and a Sasakawa Fellow of Class 1990, gave an explanatory lecture and guided the members around in the refinery including oil spill response facility. The trip was crowned with observation around the port area with the guidance of an officer of the PCG Batangas Station.



Keppel Batangas Shipyard

On November 17, eight members gathered at the ward room of the PCG headquarters to prepare for the following day's meeting, then to hold a working group meeting 09:00-12:00. The meeting was steered by Mr. Luis M. Tuason, Jr., President, and Mr. Ramon C. Hernandez, Vice-President. Topics covered by discussion included the following:

1. The Philippine Chapter will make raise-funding efforts to secure necessary budget for its activities in 2003. Donation from the members will be a must. In particular fund must be raised to maintain its web site.
2. The Chapter will form special committees and work out a five-year plan for its future activities.

- Newsletter should be published four times a year. Donation of fund to this end should be asked of shipping companies.
- Observation tours should continue to be organized.
- Cooperation with other national chapters should be exploited.

3. The Chapter should expedite preparation of "A Forum on Maritime Safety Consciousness".

4. In March 2003 an expert meeting on piracy will be hosted by PCG in Manila, with financial support from SOF and JCG. The members of the Chapter will be involved in implementation of the event.



Bangladesh Fellows welcomed Mr. Sasakawa

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of "Friends of WMU, Japan," cordially invited the Bangladeshi WMU-Sasakawa Fellows to a lunch at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel where following eight Bangladeshi Fellows from different areas of the country were assembled on December 20, 2002.

Mr. S.M.H. Kabir (91042, PSA), Deputy Director General, Ministry of Home Coast Guard Hqs

Mr. Khondaker Md. Asaduzzaman (98079, GMAEP), Director, Power Cell, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources

Mr. A.F.M. Sirajul Islam (96042, SM), Engineer & Ship Surveyor, Mercantile & Marine Dept, Ministry of Shipping

Mr. A.S.M. Shahjahan (00033, PM), Executive Engineer, Electrical-Mechanical Dept, Chittagong Port Authority

Mr. Abu Hena M. Mamun (00069, SM), Deputy General Manager, Ship Repair Dept, BSC

Mr. Iqbal Karim (92041, TMS), Plant Manager, Dhaka Factory, Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd.

Mr. Ali Yusuf Muhammad Sultan Noor (01083, GMA,) PS to Honorable Deputy Minister of Ministry of Communications

Mr. Gopi Mohan Shaha (96041, MET) Assistant General Manager, Marine Workshop, BSC

Each fellow explained his current position and assignment.

Mr. Sasakawa stressed the need for increased cooperation and continued global communication in maritime affairs in order to make each other fully aware of different ideas and experiences. He opined that the fellows could make tremendous contribution in this regard and might help achieve the standards set by IMO, i.e. Cleaner Ocean and Safer Ships.

A new doctoral programme of WMU; necessity of high-speed patrol boats for combating violence and piracy in the Bangladeshi waters, and recruitment of Bangladeshi seamen on Japanese ships were discussed.

The Fellows highly appreciated Mr. Sasakawa's valuable efforts and contribution towards the development of world maritime sector and his commitment to build a better maritime community.

IMO, in cooperation with the China Maritime Safety Administration, conducted a Regional Training Course on ISM Code Auditing on 18-22 November 2002. The course, which was held at the Ramada Pearl Hotel in Guangzhou City, focused on the proper conduct of auditing of shipping companies and their ships in accordance with the provisions of the International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention (ISM Code). Captain Andy Morris, Regional Coordinator of Lloyd's Register of Shipping for ISM, and Captain Patrick Tso of Hong Kong PSC conducted the lecturers and exercises for the participants.

A total of 32 participants attended and successfully completed the one-week course, which provided essential information on the details of auditing procedures. The course participants were from government maritime authorities of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Macau-China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Four graduates of WMU were among them, namely: Captain Muhammad Aslam

Reunion in Guangzhou



Shaheen of Pakistan (MSA-N 1998), Commander Luis M. Tuason Jr. of the Philippines (MSA-N 1995), LCDR Nate Sujjavanich of Thailand (MA 2002), and Mr. Vo Duy Thang of Vietnam (PM 2001).

The participants thanked the IMO and the China Maritime Safety Administration for the excellent course, with special mention to the Guangzhou Maritime Safety Administration for its excellent arrangements and kind hospitality.

WMU Graduate bridges Indonesia and Japan



JICA is working on a master plan of domestic shipping promotion in Indonesia as part of its technical cooperation for the country. Preparatory research and the making of the master plan will be undertaken by a consortium consisting

of Japanese consultant companies which will work with the Indonesian Directorate General of Sea Communication.

In December 2002, a kick-off meeting took place in Jakarta between DGSC and the Japanese partners, where the scope and method of research were discussed along with expected results.

Prior to the kick-off meeting, the Japanese partners paid a visit to a WMU Graduate at DGSC, Mr. Roy Kasiono, who is knowledgeable about legal aspects of Indonesian domestic shipping, and received from him suggestions on the foreign investment environment in Indonesia such as rules and regulations, business licenses and taxation, as well as advice on research policy and procedures. Mr. Kasiono kindly explained the Indonesian system of domestic shipping and introduced key persons from relevant government agencies and the shipping world.

Regional Activities

In response to a request from IMO, the Tokyo MOU implemented the first joint training program for PSC officers from the Asia-Pacific region. From September 24 through October 11, 2002, eighteen people from the region gathered at the Overseas Shipbuilding Cooperation Center in Yokosuka to participate in the training program. Among the participants were two Sasakawa Fellows of the Class of 1996: Capt. Kyaw Zeya from Myanmar and Mr. A. F. M. Sirajul Islam from Bangladesh. The program included classroom lectures as well as practical training on PSC inspections.

Sasakawa Fellows participated in PSC training



Message from a colleague in IOI



Designated as Director, IOI-Ukraine, I am supporting the activities of the International Ocean Institute (IOI), which was founded by Prof. Elisabeth Mann Borgese in 1972. It is a global network of 21 operational centers around the world coordinated by the Headquarters in Malta. IOI focuses on meeting global human needs linking scientific results in the field of ocean exploration and their users. One of its main activities is organizing the Pacem in Maribus (PIM) conferences. The last 29th PIM conference took place in

December, 2002 in Cape Town, South Africa, and addressed issues of ocean governance and sustainable development in the era of globalization. The 30th PIM entitled "A Year after Johannesburg: Trends in Ocean and Coastal Sustainable Development – a Glimpse into the Future" will be held October 27-31, 2003 in Kiev (Ukraine) and will discuss the challenges and trends of sustainable development of the oceans and coasts in the light of the decisions and recommendations of WSSD 2002 and World Water Forum 2003. The conference topics will include: ocean and human health, coastal and ocean integrated management, living and non-living resources, safety and security of human activities at sea, and problems of semi-closed and closed seas.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to invite "Friends of WMU, Japan" and Sasakawa Fellows to participate in PIM 2003.

Victoria N. Radchenko 2001033, GMA

International Maritime Information

IMO adopts SOLAS amendments on maritime security

The 5th meeting of the SOLAS diplomatic conference was held from 9th to 13th December 2002 at the IMO headquarters in London. Both the SOLAS amendments and the international code for the security of ships and of port facilities (ISPS code) were agreed upon, which will introduce new measures on maritime security. Such measures will enter into force on 1st July 2004 and include:

1. Security measures for companies and ships

i) Provision of ships' identification

Ships are required to mark their own IMO numbers on the hull permanently and to retain the continuous synopsis record onboard, which contains historical data of its name(s), port of registry(s), name of owner(s), etc. Early implementation of AIS installation was also agreed upon.

ii) Development and implementation of a ship security plan

A ship security plan approved by the Administration must be retained onboard. In the plan, restricted areas, onboard patrols, monitoring outsiders coming on

and going off ship, etc. shall be determined adequately in accordance with each of three security levels. According to the plan, a ship is required to respond to the security levels set by the Administration and contracting government of the port it intends to enter.

iii) Installation of a ship security alert

It was decided that a ship shall install a ship security alert for reporting to coastal states when a security incident is imminent or has happened.

2. Security measures with regard to port facilities

A contracting government is required to secure development and implementation of a port facility security plan in its territory. The plan shall describe restricted areas, monitoring of entry to and exit from a port facility, etc.

3. Security levels and threat information

The Administration is required to set security levels for ships entitled to fly its flag and to provide such information to

them. A contracting government is required to set security levels and to provide such information to port facilities in its territory. A contracting government is also required to set security levels for ships intending to enter a port in its territory and to provide such information as well as risk of attack.

4. Port state control and compliance measures

Provisions on controls and compliance measures are agreed upon, which will verify that a ship complies with requirements on security measures. Security measure controls may apply not only to ships in a port but also to those intending to enter a port. The controls include expulsion from a port and denial to enter a port, but such measures can be imposed only where duly authorized personnel have clear grounds to believe that the ship poses an immediate threat to the security or safety of persons, or of ships or other property and that there are no other appropriate means for removing that threat.



WMU Graduates attended the 5th SOLAS Diplomatic Conference

Activities of WMU graduates in connection with IMO

WMU, established in 1983 as a centre of excellence for maritime education and training, seems to have played a crucial role in human resource development. In fact, some graduates play crucial roles in the technical discussions at the IMO meetings. One of them is Chairman of the Technical Co-operation Committee, the highest IMO body relating to technical co-operation, and others have been appointed to lead the working groups of Sub-Committees or the

Committee to sort out contentious issues. Some graduates, working for Permanent Representatives to IMO, or even for IMO, have contributed to legislation of IMO requirements through their participation in debates. Others, in leading positions in their maritime Administrations, have endeavoured to further enhance their expertise through participation in training courses organized by IMO, with an expectation that they will promote the highest practicable standards in the maritime field in their respective countries.

I believe that roles played by the graduates of WMU will be increasingly important, possibly even Chairman of some technical IMO bodies in the near future.

Noriaki USUI
Associate Professional Officer
Maritime Safety Division IMO



LI Yong

1999046, MET, China
Prof./Capt. Wuhan University
of Technology

The following is a summary of the report concerning one of the most important issues in China's transportation area.

Inland Waterway Transportation Education/Training (IWTET) in China

More than 900 lakes and 50,000 rivers with a total length of 430,000km form a broad inland waterway network in China, among which 5,600 rivers have navigable waterways with a total length of 109,000km. Therefore, inland waterway transport is an important mode of transport, where IWTET becomes one of the fundamentals of development and safety.

Since the navigational environments and characteristics of river ships are different from ones of ocean going ships, IWTET should be

defined as a specific system for educating/training specialists such as river ship officers, engineers and pilots. The roles of Chinese IWTET are:

1. Operation of IWTET institutions, founded in the early 1950s.

2. Changing the system from a traditional one which relied only on OJT to a new one that combines OJT and a school training model.

3. Introduction of new knowledge and skills in order to manage the developing traffic involving ships with larger capacities and/or larger power, as well as to accommodate new technology.

4. Centre of education and science research.

As the development of inland waterway transport in China has a large potential capacity, the roles of IWTET are becoming more important.

The full text of LI Yong's essay will be seen at the website: <http://www.wmu.sof.or.jp/>

Essays

Mohammad Ashraf ZAFAR

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September 5, 2002

His Excellency Mr. Yohei Sasakawa,

A long time has passed since the WMU Japanese Sasakawa Fellows Forum, but it is never too late to acknowledge and appreciate the good work and noble gestures of someone, who was the motivating force in holding such a wonderful event.

When I studied at WMU in 1993, I met Mr. Kudo on his visit to the university. I spoke to him about my dream of inviting WMU Sasakawa Fellowship students to Japan, so that they could be introduced to Japanese people, culture, and way of life, and at the same time could say thank-you to their sponsor. It is an unforgettable memory; thanks to the efforts of The Sasakawa Peace Foundation staff and your kind understanding, the dream came true quickly.

So our Batch (1993 - 94) of WMU Japanese Sasakawa Fellowship students was the first to visit Japan in December 1993. Although I had visited Japan a number of times while sailing on board ships between 1970 - 1988, but being a guest as a WMU Japanese Sasakawa Fellow was a new and unique experience.

During that brief stay in Japan, we visited many maritime institutions and shipping related industrial units and enjoyed Japanese hospitality. I distinctly remember making another proposal that after 5 years or so an international seminar should be held so that ex-WMU Japanese

Sasakawa fellowship graduates could gather in some central location like Tokyo and discuss various topics relating to maritime activity, particularly shipping.

Thank God, due to your keen interest in maritime affairs and desire to promote goodwill, and due to Ship & Ocean Foundation's sincere efforts, the dream of holding wonderful seminar/forum became a reality in July 2001. The Maritime Community of the world witnessed and acknowledged that some one with vision, wisdom and will, can perform wonders by showing love and respect the humanity. Human values are always higher than religions, races and other worldly considerations. All the WMU Japanese Sasakawa Fellowship graduates and delegates from all over the world gathered in Tokyo in July 2001 to demonstrate the faith and unity of mankind. The presence of IMO, WMU delegates and particularly the WMU Japanese Sasakawa Fellowship students attended the seminar with fervor added grace to the occasion.

I must congratulate the officers and staff of "Friends of WMU, Japan," the Nippon Foundation and SOF, working under your able guidance and control for holding such a magnificent international event, which otherwise would not have been possible. I also want to take this opportunity to wish you good health and long life to keep on giving financial as well as moral support in improving the quality of life of the underprivileged masses, irrespective of color or creed. By the grace of God Almighty you are already blessed and your noble gestures for mankind will be rewarded in heaven too.

Profound Regards,

Sincerely

To the memory of the late Prof. Nomoto Eisuke KUDO



Some readers may remember an alumni magazine "Haru Ichiban" that was published for review of Japanese-funded WMU graduates for a certain period of time succeeding to the creation of "Friends of WMU, Japan" in 1995. "Haru Ichiban" was the name of a yacht belonging to the late Prof. Kensaku Nomoto.

At an earnest request of the then Secretary General of IMO, Prof. Nomoto of Osaka University held a chair at the newly founded WMU for 1983-87. In those earliest days of university history there were no Sasakawa Fellow or Japanese-funded student studying at WMU.

Prof. Nomoto was then the world famous authority of ship's maneuverability. His theoretical research in 1960s into the relation of steering wheels and ship's movements laid foundation for development of ship maneuverability simulators in current use. In 1984 he was conferred the year's Christopher Columbus Award for his contribution to human welfare in the areas of communication and transportation through the said research.

After returning to Japan, Prof. Nomoto became involved with a project to restore traditional Japanese shipbuilding techniques and the designing of a yacht Japan built to participate in the America's Cup Yacht Race. In recent years, he joined in volunteer activities in order to let children enjoy yachting. He met untimely death on July 20, 2002. It was the Day of the Sea, and Prof. Nomoto came to the Shin-Nishinomiya Yacht Harbor to participate in an event commemorating the marine day holiday. Prof. Nomoto jumped into the water to hold his yacht that began drifting and was drowned.

He consistently wished prosperity of WMU. He was loved and respected by a lot of people in the international maritime community. WMU has recently adopted a praiseworthy resolution to establish a doctoral course named after him in recognition of his contribution to the university.

Join us in praying for the repose of his soul that has gone back to the sea --- the place he loved dearly.



*The first issue of
"Haru Ichiban"*

Information

We welcome your contribution!

The Secretariat invites you to contribute either to the Newsletter or Website. Photographs are also welcome. (We prefer to have printed copies sent by post, but for those who wish to send by e-mail, the resolution must be at least 400 dpi.) Please note, however, that due to space limitations some contributions might be reduced in volume, held over to the next issue, or be changed for inclusion in the website at the Secretariat's discretion.

The renewal of the "Friends of WMU, Japan" Website will be completed by early March, and will include a message board for free use by WMU Sasakawa Fellows. Please use it for exchanging messages, inquiries, discussions or opinions with other members.

The Filipino Chapter has set up its own website at <http://www.phwmu.sof.or.jp>.

Editors' Postscript

It is a pleasure to hear from the Philippines that the first national network of the friends of WMU was established and it will no doubt foster closer communication among Sasakawa Fellows in the Philippines. I hope that the movement is extended to others and that another network will be established soon, not only at the national level but also at a regional level.

I am now involved in the decision-making process in Japan with regard to maritime safety and marine environmental protection and so am attending some

meetings in London. At my first IMO meeting, it was impressive to find so many WMU alumni attending the meeting and taking a lead.

I believe that other alumni are also playing an active role in various sectors; close communication among them is surely important. This newsletter as well as regional networks and our efforts will help strengthen communications in the near future.

Ko KOISO

Chief Researcher, Regulation Div.

The Shipbuilding Research Association of Japan

This newsletter is published under a grant from The Nippon Foundation to promote communication among the Sasakawa Fellows of WMU (World Maritime University) and edited by the Ship & Ocean Foundation in cooperation with Mr. Ko Koiso, Prof. Toshio Hikima, Ms. Masako B. Otsuka, and Ms. Sue Jackson.

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