The World Maritime University was established in 1983 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

As WMU celebrates its 35th Anniversary, we applaud IMO for its vision when in 1983 it established this truly remarkable academic institution – a university for the world, dedicated to advancing maritime education and research.

We can look back with pride at its achievements, impact and its tremendous success as a unique international academic institution of the UN system, with 4,654 graduates to date from 167 countries, who are experts in the maritime and ocean fields. The last 35 years have not only laid a solid foundation on which WMU can continue its key role in preparing the next generation of maritime leaders. They reflect a period when the IMO, WMU and, indeed, the global community have experienced significant changes and challenges. We have witnessed the greatly increased awareness of the influence of the oceans and of maritime activities on both the global economy and the environment. WMU, along with the IMO and many others in the oceans community, has responded.

Over the last 35 years WMU has grown in size and strength and in its ability to serve the needs of the maritime and wider oceans community. As WMU looks ahead, we envision a period of even more growth, in the reach and impact of both its academic and its research programmes. WMU will be continually enhancing its education, research and capacity-building programmes taking into account the impact of technology, innovation, regulatory developments and the importance of delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Going forward, and as it matures, WMU is now focusing even more on building and strengthening partnerships with governments, industry, international organizations and academia, and deepening the very important relationship with our WMU alumni. We expect that WMU will continue to be dynamic, forward-looking and, perhaps most importantly, relevant to the needs of the maritime industry and the oceans community of today and tomorrow.

Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry
WMU President

FROM THE CHANCELLOR

WMU’S WORK IS INDISPENSABLE FOR SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF IMO’S SHIPPING REGULATIONS. THE UNIVERSITY HAS EQUIPPED GENERATIONS OF MARITIME LEADERS WITH THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO TAKE ON THIS IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY. WMU’S 35TH ANNIVERSARY IS A CELEBRATION OF THOSE 4,654 MEN AND WOMEN FROM 167 COUNTRIES WHO GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND WENT ON TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN INCREDIBLY BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON SHIPPING FELT BY ALL THOSE WHO RELY ON THE INDUSTRY.

Mr. Kitack Lim
WMU Chancellor and Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization, WMU Class of 1991

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MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY (WMU) IS TO BE THE WORLD CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN POSTGRADUATE MARITIME AND OCEANS EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, WHILE BUILDING GLOBAL CAPACITY AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

WMU educates tomorrow’s leaders through unique programmes, undertakes interdisciplinary research in maritime and ocean-related studies, and supports the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

I AM REALLY HONOURED TO BE ONE OF THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY GRADUATES WHERE MY KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WAS BUILT AND EMBRACED UNDER THIS DISTINGUISHED AND EMINENT EDIFICE, ACKNOWLEDGING THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY TOWARDS ENRICHING THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AND PROVIDING THE WORLD WITH PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE ABLE TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST POSITIONS.

HE Hussein Souob, Jordan, MSc/1994, SM(C)
Former Minister of Transport, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
The Beginning

In the early 1980s, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) identified a shortage of well-qualified, highly educated maritime experts, particularly in developing nations.

To address this gap, the IMO established WMU to support member States with high calibre education in the maritime field. With the financial support of the Swedish government, the City of Malmö, and private donations, the World Maritime University (WMU) was officially established on 1 May and inaugurated on 4 July 1983.

I have no hesitation to state that graduating from WMU was the foundation of my future career, and was one of the most important occasions in my life.

Mr. Kitack Lim
WMU Chancellor and Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization, WMU Class of 1991
WMU TIMELINE

**FIRST DECADE**


- **1980**
  - WMU Inauguration on 4 July

- **1981**
  - US Friends of WMU established
  - First field study (Arctic - Netherlands)
  - WMU Inauguration on 4 July

- **1982**
  - WMU song composed

- **1983**
  - July - first graduation

- **1984**
  - First Nippon Foundation Sasakawa Fellowship Students
  - First field study (March - Netherlands)

- **1985**
  - WMU song composed

- **1986**
  - US Coast Guard Lecturehip established

- **1987**
  - First Nippon Foundation Sasakawa Fellowship Students

- **1988**
  - First Academic review

- **1989**
  - 11-month accelerated programme introduced

- **1990**
  - First Seminar for WMU Graduates - Jamaica
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  - The internet arrived at WMU. First computer lab established at WMU with 16 computers and at the Henrik Smith Residence with 12 computers.

- **1991**
  - Inauguration of CP Smith Conference Hall

- **1992**
  - First Nippon Foundation Sasakawa Fellowship Students

- **1993**
  - Friends of WMU Japan established

- **1994**
  - First WMU website

- **1995**
  - Friends of WMU Japan established

- **1996**
  - First Seminar for WMU Graduates - Jamaica

- **1997**
  - First seminar for WMU Graduates - Jamaica

- **1998**
  - First WMU research agenda

- **1999**
  - First WMU International Day

- **2000**
  - First WMU website

- **2001**
  - First WMU website

- **2002**
  - First WMU website

- **2003**
  - First WMU research agenda

**SECOND DECADE**


- **1994**
  - WMU Inauguration on 4 July

- **1995**
  - Friends of WMU Japan established

- **1996**
  - University launches comprehensive portfolio of professional development courses

- **1997**
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- **1999**
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- **2000**
  - First WMU website

- **2001**
  - First WMU website

- **2002**
  - First WMU website

- **2003**
  - First WMU website

- **2004**
  - First WMU website

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THIRD DECADE

2005
- First distance learning programme – Marine Insurance
- Inaugural Sheldon Kinney lecture
- WMU hosts 6th IAMU Annual General Assembly
- China programme established

2006
- First graduations in the China Programmes
- First students enrolled on WMU stand-alone PhD programme

2007
- Mauer of Laws in Maritime Law launched with Lund University
- First Executive Development Programme

2008
- WMU Shanghai Centre launched with a mission to expand research and teaching connections, funding and academic influence in China and recruit more students and scholarships to Malmö

2009

2010

2011

2012
- WMU Shanghai Centre launched
- First WMU regional alumni conference - Myanmar
- Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry becomes first female President appointed and first from a developing country

2013
- First volume of the WMU Springer Book Series published

2014

2015
- WMU commits to UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda
- First WMU regional alumni conference - Myanmar
- Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry becomes first female President appointed and first from a developing country

2016
- Germany announces contribution of €1 million euros for WMU Endowment Fund
- First WMU EMI Seminar
- Reassessment of 37% women in Malmö (dramatic increase)

2017
- First MPhil enrolment

2018
- AEO celebrates 70 years
- Shanghai Class of 2018 sets a WMU record for gender parity with 16 female students representing 51% of the enrolment

RECENT YEARS

2015
- Ocean Institute Inauguration and Global Ocean Conference convened
- One fifth of WMU faculty are female

2016
- Kitack Lim becomes first WMU alumnus to be IMO Secretary General and Chancellor of WMU
- WMU building short listed for World Architecture Festival Award

2017
- New building Inaugurated
- New building receives City of Malmö and Region Skåne Architecture Awards

2018
- Study on the financial sustainability of WMU adopted by the Board of Governors
- IMO celebrates 70 years
- Shanghai Class of 2018 sets a WMU record for gender parity with 16 female students representing 51% of the enrolment

2019
- New building Inaugurated
- New building receives City of Malmö and Region Skåne Architecture Awards

2020
- Study on the financial sustainability of WMU adopted by the Board of Governors
WMU continues to serve IMO and its mission offering stakeholders unrivalled access to a global network of experts, knowledge and capacity-building while supporting governments, organizations and the industry worldwide, including with knowledge and expertise to support the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

WMU is an effective means for the sharing and transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, with a view to promoting the achievement of the highest practicable standards in matters concerning maritime safety and security, efficiency of international shipping, the prevention and control of marine pollution, including air pollution from ships, and other marine and related ocean issues.

As part of the United Nations system, WMU is the embodiment of the principle that education is the engine of economic growth, building capacity for developing countries, promoting social justice and inclusive societies. WMU alumni today hold positions of prominence around the world in ministries, as directors of shipping companies and ports, as heads of maritime academies and naval organizations, and many represent their home countries at the IMO and in international organizations and other fora.

WMU TODAY

H.E. Binali Yıldırım
Prime Minister, Republic of Turkey, MSc 1991

"I learned so much, not only about maritime, but also social, cultural, political, and economic interactions during my stay at WMU. The education I received, and being a graduate of WMU, have played a very important role in my personal and professional career."
Research and Publications

Research is integral to achieving WMU’s mission. WMU’s core research areas are maritime administration; maritime energy; maritime environmental research; maritime risk and system safety; maritime technology; maritime education, training and human and organizational development; ocean policy and management; and shipping and port management.

Through our research, we explore the interconnected nature of the maritime industry, international rule of law, and the effect on the environment. Funds from research projects support Research Associates and Research Assistants, and have considerably extended WMU’s publication record, reputation, and international impact.

The Maritime Commons, the digital repository of the World Maritime University, is an internationally recognized outlet for WMU research publications. With more than 1900 publications and over 15,000 full-text downloads, the World Maritime University scholarship was read by 1255 institutions across 166 countries by the end of 2017.

WMU is a leading university in its contributions to the body of knowledge in maritime and ocean affairs. The successful WMU Book Series represents a range of scholarly books on maritime and ocean affairs written by WMU staff and external experts linked to the University. To date, seven books have been published on topics ranging from piracy at sea to maritime women and corporate social responsibility in the maritime industry.

The Journal of Maritime Affairs, originally established in 2002 and since 2011 published by Springer, aims at serving the international maritime community by presenting fresh ideas and current thinking on subjects of topical interest, reporting on relevant research findings and addressing interrelationships between safety, environment protection and efficiency of maritime transport.

The WMU Book Series and the WMU Journal of Maritime Affairs are important mechanisms to share knowledge more broadly, particularly with developing countries.
WMU PROGRAMMES TODAY AND UN SDGS

WMU is continually focused on supporting IMO member States and maritime industry stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Recognizing that all of the Sustainable Development Goals are interrelated and indivisible, WMU is committed, in particular, to the goals that are of direct relevance to the maritime and ocean agenda: 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17

MSC PROGRAMMES

The programme educates future maritime and ocean leaders and strengthens the capacity of national administrations in developing countries. They serve the maritime and ocean sectors and their value chains, building on IMO’s global reach. They are responsive to the real needs of the maritime and ocean sectors, balancing academic study and practical experience, and providing a unique insight into the whole range of maritime endeavour. The following specializations are offered:

- Malmö, Sweden
  - Maritime Safety & Environmental Administration
  - Maritime Law & Policy
  - Maritime Education & Training
  - Port Management
  - Shipping Management & Logistics
  - Maritime Energy Management
  - Ocean Sustainability, Governance & Management

- Shanghai, China
  - International Transport & Logistics

- Dalian, China
  - Maritime Safety & Environmental Management

PHD PROGRAMME

WMU’s PhD programme offers students the opportunity to carry out research across the maritime field with an emphasis on issues related to the International Maritime Organization’s mission relating to maritime safety, security and marine environmental protection. WMU’s PhD programme offers unparalleled access to international maritime experts both inside and outside academia, and to organizations working at the forefront of research and development.

MPhil

The MPhil is a groundbreaking new degree programme leading to the degree of Master of Philosophy in International Maritime Law and Ocean Policy in cooperation with the IMO International Maritime Law Institute.

DISTANCE LEARNING

WMU collaborates with internationally renowned partners to deliver a variety of online Postgraduate Diplomas (PgDip) as well as an LLM in International Maritime Law.

EXECUTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

WMU offers customized Executive and Professional Development Courses (EPDC) around the world providing maritime professionals with innovative training and knowledge.
OCEAN INSTITUTE

The WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute (Global Ocean Institute), funded with a generous contribution from The Nippon Foundation, became operational in 2018. It is a concrete implementation of WMU’s official commitment to UN SDG 14 which seeks to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.

The Institute is an international focal point for the ocean-science-policy-law-industry interface acting as a convener and convergence point where policy makers, the scientific community, regulators, industry actors, academics, and representatives of civil society meet to discuss how best to manage and use ocean spaces and their resources for the sustainable development of present and future generations. Evidence-based research, educational programmes and capacity building of the Institute will enhance the capacity of all stakeholders to implement legal requirements and policies.

“CONSCIOUS THAT THE PROBLEMS OF OCEAN SPACE ARE INTERRELATED AND NEED TO BE BASED UPON THE RULE OF LAW, THE INSTITUTE IS WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OCEAN RELATED GOALS OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, TO BRIDGE THE OCEAN AND CLIMATE CHANGE TREATY REGIMES, AS WELL AS TO DELIVERING EFFECTIVE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES TO ENSURE A SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY.”

Professor Ronan Long
Director of the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute
The maritime industry is missing out on the skills and talent of outstanding female maritime and ocean leaders. Approximately one percent of the total seafaring population are women while there are only 4% female Heads or Directors in the maritime sector. WMU is actively contributing to the closing of the gender and skills gap in the industry. Until the late 1990s, female students made up less than 5% of the Malmö student body. A recruitment strategy with strong support from fellowship donors has resulted in the proportion of female students rising to around a third of the annual enrolment in 2017.

In addition, almost a quarter of WMU faculty are female. Through the provision of high-level education and training for maritime women from developing countries, WMU contributes to the achievement of UN SDG 4 on quality education and UN SDG 5 on gender equality. Over the past 35 years, 562 female students have successfully completed the MSc programme in Malmö while a total of 950 female maritime leaders have graduated with a degree from WMU.

I was enrolled at the World Maritime University with the expectation of growing at a professional and personal level. Those expectations were truly accomplished during the Master’s Degree Programme where I studied not only aspects related to safety, security and environmental protection in the maritime field, but also as a WMU student I had the wonderful experience to live in a multicultural atmosphere, share knowledge and experiences with professionals from around the world and contribute to the creation of strong bonds among maritime administrations and furthermore, unforgettable international friends.

Captain Analia Viggiano
Argentina, first female Captain in Argentinian Coast Guard and 2016 WISTA Personality of the Year, WMU Class of 2013

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With 4,654 alumni from 167 countries, WMU has created a global network of leaders in the maritime and oceans sector.
WMU continuously collaborates with key stakeholders from governments, shipping industry, international organizations, academia, NGOs and civil society. The University’s engagement with the EU, IMO and other UN agencies delivers much needed technical assistance in maritime and ocean affairs to developing countries. In addition, the outcomes of WMU’s international engagement feed into international policy decisions. Since 2008, WMU has organized and hosted a range of successful international maritime conferences, often co-hosted with international organizations, such as IMO, UNEP, and the EU. With keynote speakers and participants from government, industry, and academia from around the globe, these events underscore the University’s commitment to develop effective partnerships in the maritime and ocean community in support of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION HAS BEEN A LONG-STANDING SUPPORTER OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY WORKING TO ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE OCEAN THAT WE CAN PASS ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION. TO DATE, THE NIPPON FOUNDATION HAS GRANTED FELLOWSHIPS TO OVER 600 STUDENTS FROM MORE THAN 60 COUNTRIES AND THE HOLDERS OF THE NIPPON FOUNDATION PROFESSIONAL CHAIRS HAVE EDUCATED THOUSANDS OF WMU ALUMNI. WE ARE PLEASED TO SEE THAT WMU IS CONTINUING TO ADVANCE ITS MISSION, ESTABLISHING ITSELF AS EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTION THAT CAN ADDRESS OCEAN ISSUES NOT ONLY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY BUT ALSO MOST IMPORTANTLY TODAY, IN SUPPORT OF THE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR OCEANS.

Dr. Yohei Sasakawa
Chairman of The Nippon Foundation
THE ENGAGEMENT WITH PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS BROADENED MY HORIZON AND SERVED ME IN MANY USEFUL WAYS IN ADDRESSING MULTIDISCIPLINARY ISSUES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE.

Dr. Kofi Mbiah
CEO, Ghana Shippers’ Council (ret.),
former Chairman of the Legal Committee of IMO
WMU PhD 2011
SUSTAINING THE FUTURE

With a holistic approach to education, raising the competency of the sector and providing research that contributes to the development of responsible shipping practices and operations, WMU works towards a more sustainable future for our oceans and the maritime industry.

To build upon the legacy of global leadership in maritime and oceans education, research, training and capacity building, an Endowment Fund was established in 2016. A fund-raising campaign has been launched in 2018 to support WMU’s future and lasting impact.

“With the new Global Ocean Institute, the World Maritime University will not only continue to be a center of excellence in maritime and ocean education, training and research but also a hub and meeting place bringing people and knowledge from policy, industry, academia, law and civil society together to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 and the broader 2030 Agenda. I am proud that Sweden hosts these institutions.”

Isabella Lövin
Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate and Deputy Prime Minister, Sweden
WMU would not be the academic institution that it is today without the constant support of the donors who make it possible for WMU to advance its global maritime and ocean capacity-building mission.

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