

IMLI e-News

17TH IMLI GRADUATION CEREMONY

IMLI held its 17th Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, May 13th 2006 at the Maritime Museum in Vittoriosa, Malta. The ceremony was honored by the presence of the IMO Secretary-General Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos, the Chief Justice of Malta, Dr. V. Degaetano, the Hon. Censu Galea (*Minister for Competitiveness and Communications of Malta*), the Hon. Ninu Zammit (*Ministry for Resources and Infrastructure*), President Emeritus Ugo Misfud Bonnici, Professor J. Rizzo Naudi (*Chancellor of the University of Malta*), Ambassadors, Judges, parents and other distinguished guests.

During the ceremony 31 lawyers from 22 States were awarded the Master Degree in International Maritime Law, while one lawyer was awarded the Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law.



*Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board),
Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI), Mr. Masamichi Hasebe (Legal Counsel to the IOPC Funds),
Members of IMLI's Academic Staff and the Class of 2006 during the Graduation Ceremony*

The Welcoming Address was delivered by the Director of the Institute, Professor David J. Attard, who also presented the degrees to the 17th generation of IMLI lawyers.

The Secretary - General of IMO and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board, Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos, delivered the Graduation Address, while the Valedictory Address on behalf of the students was delivered by Ms. Regina Derkyntyte from Lithuania (*the relevant speeches will be published in the next numbers of the IMLI e- news*).



Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) with Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI) before the 2006 Graduation Ceremony.

This year's IMLI graduates come from 22 different countries and territories, including Argentina, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Germany, Iraq and Turkey. These States were represented at IMLI for the first time and will now form part of IMLI's Global Network in 107 States and Territories.

The 2006 IMLI Graduates are:

Lt. Paula Beatriz Grillo, Lieutenant Junior Grade, Lawyer, Secretariat of International Affairs, Argentine Coast Guard (Argentina)

Lt. Carla Andrade de Melo, Lieutenant, Legal Adviser, Brazilian Navy (Brazil)

Mr. Yongsheng Cai, Third Secretary, Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (China)

Ms. Xuefei Zheng, Administrator, Law Department, Liaoning Maritime Safety Administration (China)

Mr. Valerian Bodaveli, Lawyer, Maritime Transport Administration (Georgia)

Ms. Simone Vitzthum, Lawyer (Germany)

Mr. Wolfgang Dietz, Advocate, Private Practice (Germany)

Mr. Ali Abbas Khayoon, Lawyer, Legal Department of the General Company for Ports of Iraq, Ministry of Transport (Iraq)

Mr. Mohamed Alawi Hussun, Principal Legal Officer, Kenya Ports Authority (Kenya)

Mr. Kil Hwan Hwang, Director, Regulation Division, Maritime Administration Bureau (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

Mr. Chol U. Jang, Researcher, Research Institute of the Maritime Administration Bureau (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

Mr. Fauzi Milad Abou Argoub, Counsellor, Economic Affairs and Cooperation, Libyan People's Bureau - Embassy in Malta (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

Ms. Regina Derkintyte, Legal Adviser, AB DFDS LISCO (Lithuania)

Dr. Arthur Azzopardi, Advocate, Office of the Attorney General (Malta)

Mr. Larry John Gauci, Lawyer (Malta)

Dr. Simon Lungaro, Advocate, Private Practice (Malta)

Dr. Adrian Muscat Azzopardi, Advocate, Private Practice (Malta)

Ms. Thandar Khin Oo, Legal Officer, Department of Marine Administration Yangon (Myanmar)

Mr. Victor Egejuru, Assistant Chief Legal Office, National Maritime Authority (Nigeria)

Mr. Eric Onyebuchi Oji, Chief Administration Officer, National Maritime Authority (Nigeria)

Lt. Cmdr. Muhammad Ajmal, Legal Staff Officer to COMLOG, Pakistan Navy

Ms. Marisol Aguero Colunga, Counsellor in the Diplomatic Service (Peru)

Ms. Geraldine Vasquez Ruiz de Castilla, Legal Advisor, International Affairs Office of the General Directorate of Captaincies and Coast Guard (Peru)

Atty. Leo Tito L. Ausan Jr., Director, Legal / Maritime Safety and Security Divisions, Maritime and Ocean Affairs Center, Department of Foreign Affairs (Philippines)

Lt. Cmdr. Ramon B. Reblora, Philippine Coast Guard Judge Advocate (Philippines)

Dr. Dorota Lost – Sieminska, Advocate, Head Expert, Department of Maritime and Inland Water Administration, Ministry of Transport and Construction (Poland)

Ms. Kerry Kwan, Principal Legal Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Samoa)

Mr. Riyaz Mohamed Hamza, Senior State Counsel, Attorney General's Department (Sri Lanka)

Ms. Edme Lygia Pocorni, Senior Legal Officer, Ministry of Transport, Communication and Tourism (Suriname)

Ms. Arzu Tuncer, Lawyer, Research Assistant in Maritime Law Department, University of Yeditepe (Turkey)

Ms. Tamara Gaydabrus, Chief Expert, EU Integration Unit, Ministry of Transport and Communications (Ukraine)

Mr. Jiggi Urbain Tah (Cameroon) was awarded an Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law.

The following IMLI lawyers were awarded a distinction:

- **Lt. Paula Beatriz Grillo** (Argentina)
- **Mr. Yongsheng Cai** (China)
- **Ms. Regina Derkintyte** (Lithuania)
- **Mr. Larry John Gauci** (Malta)
- **Dr. Adrian Muscat Azzopardi** (Malta)
- **Ms. Marisol Aguero Colunga** (Peru)
- **Dr. Dorota Lost – Sieminska** (Poland)

The conferment of degrees was followed by the Presentation of Prizes for the best performances in the different areas of the LL.M. Programme:

The IMO Secretary - General's Prize for Best Dissertation, was presented by Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos (*Secretary - General, IMO*) to **Ms. Regina Derkintyte** (Lithuania).

Ms. Simone Vitzthum (Germany) was awarded the Malta Government Prize for Best Performance in Law of the Sea which was presented by the Hon. Censu Galea (*Minister for Competitiveness and Communications, Malta*).

The Malta Maritime Authority's Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law was presented by Dr. Marc Bonello (*Chairman, Malta Maritime Authority*) to **Dr. Dorota Lost – Sieminska** (Poland).

The next Prize to be awarded was the Professor Walter Muller Prize for Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project, which was presented by Mr. Masamichi Hasebe (*Legal Counsel to the IOPC Funds*) to **Ms. Marisol Aguero Colunga** (Peru).

Ms. Xuefei Zheng from China was then awarded the REMPEC Marine Environmental Law Prize which was presented by Mr. Frederic Hebert (*Director, REMPEC*).

And finally, the Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar which was awarded for the first time during the 2004 Graduation ceremony was presented by Mr. Masazumi Nagamitsu (*Executive Director, The Nippon Foundation*) to **Mr. Yongsheng Cai** (China).

The Graduates, Faculty and distinguished guests later celebrated the success of the IMLI Class of 2006 in a reception that took place on the terrace of the Maritime Museum.

Established under the auspices of the IMO, IMLI is an international center for training specialists in maritime law. Since its establishment in 1988 IMLI has successfully trained 361 lawyers from 107 States and Territories around the world who are now serving the rule of international maritime law and greatly contributing to IMO's aim of safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans.

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