



IMLI NEWS



IMO

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IMLI

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IMO SECRETARY GENERAL INAUGURATES IMLI'S 20TH ACADEMIC YEAR



*H.E. Mr. Efsthimios Mitropoulos
(IMO Secretary-General)*

The IMO Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Efsthimios Mitropoulos, inaugurated on 29 September 2008 IMLI's twentieth academic year.

The inauguration ceremony was opened by IMLI's Director, Professor David Attard, who delivered a welcoming address which reflected the *raison d'être* of the Institute. He recalled the Institute's inception and described how the dream of twenty years ago became the reality of today. He stressed that IMLI's contribution to the

international community is best reflected in the work of its graduates who, upon completion of their studies, return to their countries to occupy senior positions which enable them to devote themselves to the service of the rule of international maritime law. He also referred to the recent creation of IMLI Alumni regional organizations and how they are increasingly participating in the international fora. He concluded by emphasizing that this was a historical moment for the Institute as it was the first time the IMO Secretary-General officially inaugurated IMLI's academic year and commended the ardent support the Secretary-General offers to IMLI's activities.

The Secretary-General then inaugurated the academic year by delivering his address as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, IMLI staff and students,

It is both an honour and a pleasure for me to be here today and to be able to say a few words to you as you embark on another academic year at the Institute – and also to welcome the new class of students who join this great institution. It will, as ever, be a year of hard work and difficult challenges both for students and for staff; but this is no more than you are accustomed to, and I have every confidence that IMLI's 20th academic year will see yet another highly successful chapter written in the history of this fine academic institution.

IMLI was established by IMO in 1988 to ensure that governments would have trained maritime legal experts available to incorporate the often complex international maritime legal framework of rules, codes and standards into national legislation. The Institute has, in fact, more than fulfilled its early promise, having become an indispensable part of IMO's success, with its graduates going on to make a major contribution to the attainment of the Organization's goals and objectives. And to remind ourselves, in London, of these excellent attributes, we commemorated IMLI's twenty years, last June, with the unveiling of a beautiful painting of the Institute, which now hangs proudly at the entrance of IMO's Main Hall.

As you know, the primary aims of IMO are to bring about genuine improvements in the safety and security of international shipping and in the prevention of environmental pollution from ships. Its success in achieving these goals depends, to a considerable extent, on skilled maritime lawyers. This is because developing the international regulatory framework that can yield such improvements is only one half of the story – the other is the highly specialized job of drafting the necessary practical and enforceable national laws without which the internationally agreed standards simply would not be effective. That is where IMLI has such an important role to play.

Take, for example, the measures currently being developed by IMO to address the emission of greenhouse gases from ships. Once adopted, these will represent a crucial element of IMO's endeavours in the field of environmental protection and will be an important milestone for IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee and its subsidiary bodies. But whatever measures are adopted will, of course, have to be integrated into the national legislative framework of as many of the IMO Member States as possible in order that they can effectively produce the desired beneficial impact on the global environment.

This example has particular resonance here, in Malta, since this forthcoming academic year

will coincide with the 20th anniversary of the initiative taken by the Maltese Government, at the United Nations General Assembly, to identify and declare climate change to be a common concern for all humankind. Indeed, it was IMLI's very own Professor Attard, then teaching international law at the University of Malta, who, in 1988, first suggested to Malta's Prime Minister at the time, Mr. Edward Fenech-Adami, that coordinated effort was the only way to address the growing concern over climate change. This initiative culminated in the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and it is under that Convention and its Kyoto Protocol that IMO has its mandate to pursue the limitation or reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases from ships. Let me take this opportunity to commend Professor Attard on his foresight all those years ago and to reassure him, and everyone else, of IMO's continuing and firm commitment in this regard.

It is a sign of the times, and one that should bring great satisfaction to all concerned, that this year, out of 37 new students, 22 are female lawyers. This can be looked upon as an important and praiseworthy achievement, bearing in mind that one of the provisions in IMLI's statutes states that "to encourage equitable participation by women, 50 per cent of the places in each regular course of the Institute shall be reserved for women candidates, provided that the necessary numbers of women candidates with the required entrance qualifications are available for each particular course"; and also taking into account the wider background of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, one of which is to achieve gender equality in education. Moreover, this remarkable achievement also contributes directly to the central tenet of IMO's technical co-operation and women-in-development programmes, which is capacity building and the strengthening of human resources.

In the shipping industry, the days when it was reasonable to assume that a ship's captain or, indeed, any other officer or rating would automatically be a man are long behind us and the same also applies, I am pleased to say, in the world of maritime law.

Ladies and gentlemen, IMLI's progress over the years has been dependent upon the continuing support received from donors, who have contributed either to the Institute's general fund or by the provision of fellowships, and I would like to take this opportunity to add my thanks to them for this most valuable assistance. I look forward to a continuation of this vital aid, and I am confident that the consistently high quality of the graduates, which is widely recognized and acknowledged, will encourage additional development partners and recipient countries to contribute to the excellent training that is being offered here in Malta.

I would also, once again, thank the Government of Malta for its far-sightedness and generosity in agreeing to host the Institute over twenty years ago – an arrangement which, I am certain, has been mutually beneficial. We are also especially indebted to the Maritime Authority of Malta for its continued assistance. The positive impact of this institution on the international maritime community is immeasurable and is greatly appreciated by all Members of IMO.

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H.E. Efsthimios Mitropoulos (IMO Secretary-General), with Professor David Attard (IMLI Director), guests and the 20th generation of IMLI lawyers

DONORS 2008-2009

IMO



Mr. Efsthimos Mitropoulos, IMO Secretary General, presents the IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation to Mrs. Karina Hansford (Russian Federation) and Mr. Murat Bassaran (Turkey) during the 2008 Graduation Ceremony

The International Maritime Organization continues to support IMLI's funding requirements. It annually provides scholarships which are intended for deserving government-nominated candidates who wish to pursue post-graduate studies in international maritime law at IMLI. This academic year IMO provided five full and one partial scholarships which were awarded to: Mrs. Amanza Walton-Desir (Guyana), Mr. Farouq Al-Bdour (Jordan), Mr. Choe Kun Song (DPR Korea), Mr. Jo Se Gwan (DPR Korea), Ms. Primrose Chimwaza (Malawi), and Ms. Alison Gili (Malta).

At the end of every academic year, the IMO Secretary-General's Prize is awarded to the student who writes the best dissertation.

The 2008 Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation was awarded jointly to Mrs. Karina Hansford (Russian Federation) and Mr. Murat Basaran (Turkey).

LLOYD'S REGISTER

Lloyd's Register continues to support training at IMLI. With its aim to enhance safety and to approve assets and systems at sea, on land and in the air Lloyd's Register sets, upholds and applies high technical standards of design, manufacture, construction, maintenance, operation and performance across many sectors to the benefit of many businesses. This academic year the following students have been awarded scholarships by Lloyd's Register: Ms. Paola Acuña (Costa Rica), Ms. Katja Pecek (Slovenia), and Mrs. Agatha James Andries (St. Kitts and Nevis).



Mr Jim Harrison, Group Legal Director of Lloyd's Register addressing the IMLI class 2007/2008 during a visit to Lloyd's Register.

IMLI ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Applications to the following academic programmes are now being invited:

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME – The Programme is solely researched-based and involves a high degree of independence from candidates. It requires the submission and successful defence of a thesis of not more than 100,000 words. Studies for the degree should be completed within three to five years from first enrolment. To qualify for the Programme, candidates must hold a Master's Degree from a recognized university or academic institution, or hold qualifications of comparable standard.

MASTER OF LAWS IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW – The one-year study Programme consists of education in international law, law of the sea, shipping law, marine environmental law and drafting of maritime legislation. Admission to the Programme is open to a limited number of students in any academic year. A university degree in law and proficiency in the English language are prerequisites to admission. Financial assistance may be available.

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW – The Programme requires the candidate to earn a total of 25 credits by successfully following and completing credits on distinct subject areas either within the Public International Maritime Law strand, the Private International Maritime Law strand or the General International Maritime Law strand. Credits must be undertaken between one to five academic years from first enrolment.

NIPPON FOUNDATION

The Nippon Foundation, through its joint project with IMLI, known as the "Human Resources Development Project for the Advancement of a More Effective Legal Order for the Oceans", continues to support deserving government nominated scholars. For the academic year 2008-2009 the following students were selected as scholars under the Project: Mr. Farhad Mammadov (Azerbaijan), Ms. Melisa Wright (The Bahamas), Mr. Feng Jianzhong (China), Ms. Kathy Buffong (Dominica), Mr. Zaza Pirveli (Georgia), Mr. Samuel Darse (India), Ms. Renny Meirina (Indonesia), Mr. Lazaro Valdez (The Philippines), Mrs. Anusha Fernando (Sri Lanka), and Mrs. Tran Thi Hai Yen (Viet Nam).



Mr. Masazumi Nagamitsu, Executive Director of the Nippon Foundation, presents the Sasakawa Prize for Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar to Ms. Elda Belja (Albania) during the 2008 Graduation Ceremony.

At the end of every academic year, the Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar is awarded to the Nippon Scholar who has the best overall performance in the LL.M. Programme. The 2008 Sasakawa Prize was awarded to Ms. Elda Belja (Albania).



Mr. Frederic Hebert, Director of REMPEC presents the Marine Environment Law Prize to Capt. Arvind Kumar (India) during the 2008 Graduation Ceremony.

SAFEMED

The "Euro-med Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships – SAFEMED" (SAFEMED) is an EU-funded project which is being implemented by REMPEC. The SAFEMED project seeks to mitigate the imbalance in the application of maritime legislation in the region among Mediterranean partners who are not members of the European Union (EU) and those who are. The SAFEMED project provided 10 scholarships to qualified, government-nominated IMLI students coming from the Mediterranean partners of Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. The last three scholarships under the Project were awarded to: Mr. Abdeerrazak Titraoui (Algeria), Mr. Ibrahim El Diwany (Egypt), and Mr. Saber Fayez Alaiwah (Jordan).

Under the follow up project "SAFEMED II" which has just commenced an additional five scholarships will be granted during the three year implementation period. All the project beneficiaries will be invited to nominate possible candidates, but priority will be given to those beneficiaries whose staff has not yet had the opportunity to participate in the IMLI programme.

FOR INFORMATION ON ADMISSIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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The IMO International Maritime Law Institute was established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZES THE WORK OF IMLI

On 5 December 2008 the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution A/Res/ 63/111 entitled "Oceans and the Law of the Sea". The Resolution, which was adopted by 155 votes in favour, tackles the main aspects of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and related agreements including the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of UNCLOS relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stock ("The Fish Stocks Agreement"). It calls upon States and International Organizations to cooperate towards the effective implementation of the provisions of UNCLOS.

The Resolution highlights the need of capacity-building for States to be able to achieve the aims set out in UNCLOS. In this respect, it calls upon States and international financial institutions to strengthen the capacity-building activities, in particular, in developing States and Small Island developing States, in diverse areas as maritime safety and security issues, protection of marine environment, marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology.

Furthermore, the Resolution encourages the capacity-building in the development of national maritime administrations and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities, to promote the effective compliance with, and effective implementation and enforcement of States' responsibilities under international law.

In acknowledgment of the Institute's contribution the international community officially recognized in the Resolution A/Res/ 63/111 the importance of IMLI's work. The text of paragraph 13 of this Resolution - adopted by the UN's highest representative body - reads as follows:

"Recognizes the importance of the work of the International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization as a centre of education and training of Government legal advisers, mainly from developing States, notes that the number of its graduates in more than 102 States confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute".

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), was, indeed, established by IMO in 1988 to ensure that governments would have trained maritime legal experts available to incorporate the often complex international maritime legal framework of rules, codes and standards into national legislation. IMLI students are usually nominated by their governments and generally occupy senior posts in their national

NEW MEMBER IN IMLI FACULTY

Ms. Elda Belja (IMLI graduate) from Albania has been recently appointed as the new IMLI's Assistant Lecturer.

Ms. Belja is a maritime lawyer who, prior to the appointment at IMLI, held a post at the Maritime Transport Department in the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunications in Albania.

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Of course, the continuing smooth functioning of the Institute is due, in no small measure, to the tremendous commitment of its able and dedicated faculty and administrative staff, and to the high standard of teaching given by the large number of visiting lecturers who provide their services voluntarily. To those who willingly give their time and expertise, I offer my sincere gratitude. And to Professor Attard, who provides such able and admirable leadership, I once again extend my immense appreciation.

Finally, in this year of anniversaries for both IMO and for IMLI, it would be remiss of me to overlook this opportunity to pay tribute to two individuals, without whom we might not be here today, looking forward to the start of yet another academic year.

administrations. Upon completion of their studies at the Institute, IMLI graduates are able to provide the expertise required for the implementation of international conventions into their respective national legal systems.

Over the twenty year period, since its inception, the Institute – through its different programmes and courses - has trained a total of 466 students who have hailed from the following countries:

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote D'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Thailand, The Bahamas, The Gambia, The Philippines, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Samoa, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

During its 20 years' devotion to the service of the rule of international maritime law, IMLI, in the words of IMO Secretary-General Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos "has, in fact, more than fulfilled its early promise, having become an indispensable part of IMO's success, with its graduates going on to make a major contribution to the attainment of the Organization's goals and objectives".

IMLI ALUMNI

Ms. Sharon Rose (The Bahamas, class 1993-1994) has been appointed Vice President of the BNP PARIBAS [Bahamas] Ltd.

Mr. Abdullah Saeed (Maldives, class 1998-1999) has been appointed Chief Justice of Maldives.

Ms. Geraldine Spiteri (Malta, class 2006-2007) has been appointed Chairperson of the Yachting Subcommittee at MLAC.

Mr. Filimon Manoni (Marshall Islands, class 2006-2007) has been appointed Marshall Islands' Attorney General.

Mr. Gerald Zackios (Marshall Islands, class 1991-1992) has been appointed Marshall Islands' Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Gilbert Asuque (The Philippines, class 2004-2005) has been appointed Ambassador to Lebanon.

Mr. Sornchai Sirariyakul (Thailand, class 2001-2002) has been appointed Deputy Chief Judge of the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court, Thailand.

Ms. Miriam Samaru (Trinidad and Tobago, class 1990-1991) has been appointed Principal of the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad.

First, **Dr. C.P. Srivastava**, whose vision, foresight and determination to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries in matters related to their performance under IMO instruments, gave birth, first to the World Maritime University in Malmö, and then to IMLI. Following its inception, he served IMLI as Chairman of its Governing Board until 1990, when he passed the baton to the second person to whom I wish to pay tribute, my distinguished predecessor at IMO, **Mr. William O'Neil**. He, in turn, served in the same capacity, with equal energy and resourcefulness, for 14 years. Both deserve great credit for the pivotal role they have played in helping to pilot IMLI, through hard and difficult times, to the point where, today, it can face the future, and the start of a new academic year, with confidence and anticipation.

It remains only for me to wish the staff and students of IMLI an enjoyable and fruitful year here in these most pleasant of surroundings; and I look forward to seeing you again, in due course, when, as I am sure it will, all your hard work brings the appropriate reward.

IMLI STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009 ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



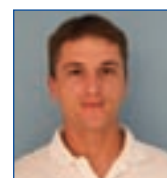
Elchin Qadir Ganjaliyev
(AZERBAIJAN)



Emanuel Mallia
(MALTA)



Clinton O'Neil
(MALTA)



Edric Zahra
(MALTA)



IMLI STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009 LL.M. PROGRAMME



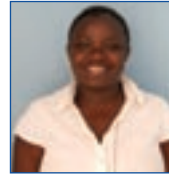
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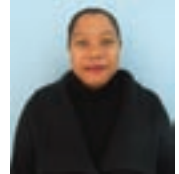
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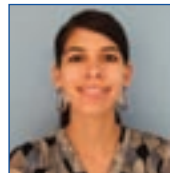
Kenia Nottage
(THE BAHAMAS)



Melisa Wright
(THE BAHAMAS)



Feng Jianzhong
(PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA)



Paola Acuña
(COSTA RICA)



Kathy Buffong
(DOMINICA)



Ibrahim El Diwany
(EGYPT)



Zaza Pirveli
(GEORGIA)



Amanza Walton-Desir
(GUYANA)



Samuel Darse
(INDIA)



Unni Ramachandran
(INDIA)



Renny Meirina
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Farouq Al-Bdour
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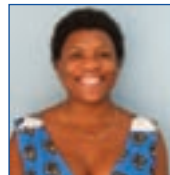
Saber Alaiwah
(JORDAN)



Choe Kun Song
(DPR KOREA)



Jo Se Gwan
(DPR KOREA)



Primrose Chimwaza
(MALAWI)



Jessica Curmi
(MALTA)



Alison Gili
(MALTA)



Matthew Xerri
(MALTA)



Adenike Iyelolu
(NIGERIA)



Lilian King-Chibuzor
(NIGERIA)



Ruth Malafa
(NIGERIA)



Adeola Shona
(NIGERIA)



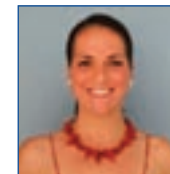
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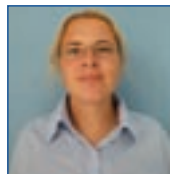
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Lazaro Valdez
(THE PHILIPPINES)



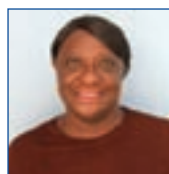
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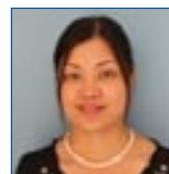
Anusha Fernando
(SRI LANKA)



Agatha James Andries
(ST. KITTS AND NEVIS)



Jennifer Pelosi
(SWITZERLAND)



Tran Thi Hai Yen
(VIETNAM)

"Serving the Rule of International Maritime Law"