



CMI FORMER PRESIDENT LECTURES AT IMLI

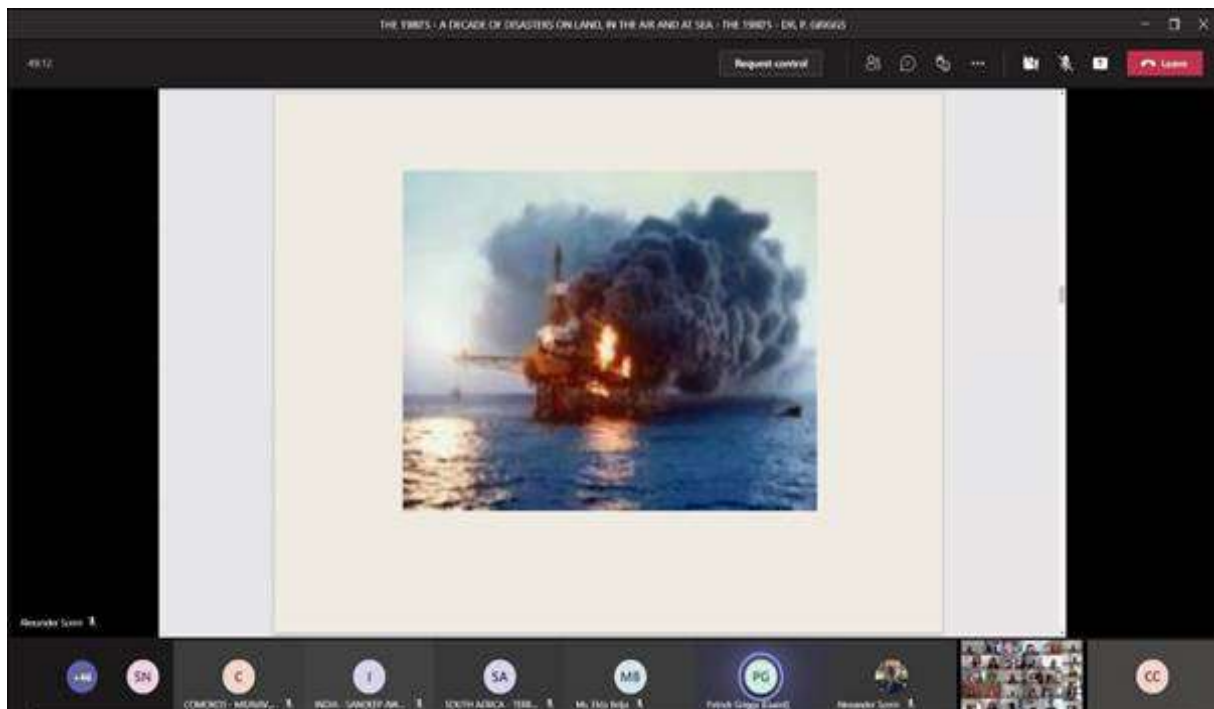
The Institute had the pleasure of welcoming online, Dr. Patrick Griggs CBE (Former President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI)) between 2-3 March. Dr. Griggs delivered three lectures entitled “*Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks*”, “*Making Maritime Law -Do Conventions Work?*” and “*The 1980's - a Decade of Disasters on Land, in the Air and at Sea.*”



*Dr. Patrick Griggs CBE
(Former President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI))*

During his first lecture, Dr. Griggs discussed the salient features of the Wreck Removal Convention and informed the students about the problems that States have encountered when opting to apply the Convention to wrecks located within territorial waters. In his second lecture

on “Making Maritime Law - Do Conventions Work?”, Dr. Griggs provided the class with interesting discussions on how international conventions on maritime law are conceived, drafted, adopted, ratified, and implemented. He said that the ultimate goal is to achieve uniformity of international maritime law. He discussed why certain conventions had failed to achieve widespread acceptance and explained that the IMO Legal Committee will now only accept into its work programme a topic where a “compelling need” for uniformity has been proved. Dr. Griggs finally cited the challenges encountered in achieving uniformity and explained that there were alternative “soft” law options available when uniformity by way of convention proves to be impossible. In his final lecture, Dr. Griggs discussed a decade of disasters on land, in the air and at sea.



Dr. Griggs joined the leading London based Maritime law firm of Ince & Co. in June 1958 and became a Partner in 1966. He was Senior Partner from January 1989 to May 1995 and remains a Consultant with the firm.

He was President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI) from 1997 to 2004 and Secretary/Treasurer of the British Maritime Law Association (BMLA) from 1995 to 2005. He is the CMI observer at meetings of the IMO Legal Committee and in that capacity has been involved in the drafting of numerous maritime law conventions of recent years including the HNS Convention 1996/2010, the LLMC Protocol 1996, the Bunkers Convention 2001, the

Athens Protocol 2002, and the Wreck Removal Convention 2006. Dr. Griggs is Chairman of the CMI International Working Group on Offshore Activities which is looking at ways in which issues of liability and compensation for oil and gas spills arising from exploration and exploitation of offshore resources might be regulated by international agreement.



Away from the law he was, between 2004 and 2012, Chairman of Opera Rara which is a company devoted to re-discovering and recording lesser-known operas of the 19th Century bel canto repertoire. In 2005, Dr. Griggs was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to maritime industry and in 2011 was awarded the Degree of Doctor of International Maritime Law *Honoris Causa* by the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, Malta.

Dr. Griggs has, throughout his professional career, specialised in marine and aviation disaster litigation, having been involved in the "**Pacific Glory**"/"**Allegro**", the "**Christos Bitas**", the "**Energy Progress**" and in the British Airtours - Manchester air crash, the "**Herald of Free Enterprise**" capsized, the Chinook Helicopter (Sumburgh) crash, the British Midland MI air crash, the "**Marchioness**"/"**Bowbelle**" collision, the **Piper Alpha** rig disaster and the "**Braer**" stranding.

He is a regular speaker at seminars and conferences on various aspects of maritime law and co-author of "Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims" (4th Ed. 2005).

Dr. Griggs is a member of the IMLI Governing Board.

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