



Mariners Polytechnic Colleges Foundation (MPCF)
with the support of the Elsevier Foundation

*This Conference is
part of*

SALT

Student Alternative
Learning-Teaching of
the Library for Safe
Seafaring (L4SS) of
Mariners
Polytechnic Colleges
Foundation and
Elsevier Foundation
to promote quality
Maritime Education
& Training

CONFERENCE

“Towards Higher Quality Maritime Education & Training: Innovations in Continuing Learning for Safe Seafaring”

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, 20 April 2016
Lagoon, Hotel H20, Ocean Park, Manila

BACKGROUND

Maritime disasters are a continuing cause of global concern despite safety-conscious systems established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The preparedness, competence and ongoing education of shipping crews to ensure maritime safety are crucial to the industry and global distribution of goods and services. Since the 1990s, the Philippines has become a major source of seafarers worldwide – one out of every five is Filipino with Manila, now crewing capital of the world.

A relevant and most responsive maritime education and training (MET) program for seafarers is therefore imperative. It is in this context that the Mariners Polytechnic Colleges Foundation (MPCF), Canaman, Camarines Sur in the Bicol region with the assistance of the Elsevier Foundation, a world-leading provider of information solutions that enhance the performance of science, health, and technology professionals endeavored in 2013 to develop the Library for Safe Seafaring (L4SS) as a globally connected evidence based learning and advocacy facility providing cadets with continuing education to research the latest maritime trends, relevant references, teaching tools and learning materials to become maritime professionals imbued with a deep sense of responsibility and discipline. Part of the L4SS is the Student Alternative Learning-Teaching which puts premium to continuing learning where students and teachers alike engage in a dynamic exchange of experiences and newfound knowledge on maritime safety. Once onboard, learning continues with the vast seas and the ships as the new classroom with technological tools -both wired and wireless- and social media.

The study Conference on April 20, 2016 culminates the three year L4SS project as an alternative venue for shared learning and resources especially among seafarers –those who are responsible in sailing ships that move goods from and to any part of the world. A library or a continually developing learning facility on safe seafaring at every seafarer’s abode’ avowed mission.

The end goal for the L4SS project at the MPCF campus is to institutionalize the use of the upgraded library as a valuable innovative learning facility for quality education and training to develop more safety-conscious and trained, licensed officers and crew-- compliant with international quality standards. As a common concern, sharing of knowledge, best practices and resources become a compelling need if we are to work toward higher quality in maritime learning. The L4SS as a developed library equipped with modern tools like global connectivity for E-learning forms a critical part of an institution’s continuing academic program to enhance MET in the country. In this light, government should therefore mandate and provide greater support to seafarers’ free access to tools and facilities of learning in order to respond more effectively to international standards and requirements.

OBJECTIVES

- To gather major stakeholders in the maritime sector -- from the industry to the academe - to arrive at a common understanding and shared plans to achieve higher standards and quality of MET to address the increasingly challenging environment on seas.
- To serve as a platform for experts to share their thoughts and experiences as well as resources that would benefit each other's desire to have safety consciousness and practices in seafaring.
- To arrive at a consensus on collective and innovative actions to make seafaring not just a mechanical job of watch keeping on board ships but a dynamic profession responding both to national development needs and global requirements to ensure safety at sea through continuing learning using all available tools accessible to stakeholders like the internet and social media.
- To help encourage innovation among schools and training centers – the so called molders of professional Mariners-- in finding ways and means to respond to pressing issues and concerns of achieving quality MET to promote safe seafaring including rights and welfare of seafarers
- To contribute to meaningful policy reform in maritime education and training to make seafaring more responsive and people-centered – both the users and navigators.

TOPICS

Conference tracks are the following:

Track A: SEASCAPE: Where Seafarers Dare to Sail

Track B: Imperatives, Challenges, Trends and Standards of Quality MET

Track C: Issues and Concerns of Stakeholders on Safe Seafaring

Women, Health, Rights & Welfare, Ship Safety, Security, Family

Track D: Innovative Tools: Globally linked Library, Wireless and E-Learning, Social Media & Other Apps

Track E: Policy Reform in Raising Standards for MET: A Shared Goal

THE SPONSORS

- The Library for Safe Seafaring (L4SS) of the Mariners Polytechnic Colleges Foundation (MPCF) Canaman Camarines Sur with MPCF Legaspi City, MPC Naga and MPTC
- Elsevier Foundation – Amsterdam, The Netherlands and the USA
- Philippine Association of Maritime Institutions (PAMI)
- Philippine Association of Maritime Training Centers Inc. (PAMTCI)
- The Nautical Institute
- Institute of Marine Engineering Science and Technology (IMarEST)

PROGRAM

The conference will be organized in the following two sessions, morning and afternoon:

MORNING: IMPERATIVES OF CONTINUING LEARNING

- Seascope: A Situationer
- Theory and Practice of Best Learning in Maritime Safety
- Global Challenges and Trends in MET. Who Sets the Standards?

AFTERNOON: ISSUES & CONCERNS of Stakeholders in QUALITY MET 4 SAFE SEAFARING

- Shipping
- Government
- Women
- Seafarers
- Health

Technological Tools

Conversing with the Overseas Seafarers and Experts

Developing A Consensus and a Platform on Policy Reform in Raising Standards for MET

Conference features:

- A BOOK LAUNCH of the Philippine edition of

A MARINERS' GUIDE to Preventing Collisions

Author: Capt. Yashwant Chhabra, Fellow of Nautical Institute
Philippine edition by C & E Publishers

- Safe Seafaring website launch in cooperation with the UP-IT Development Center (ITDC)
- EXHIBITS

ORGANIZERS & STEERING COMMITTEE/SECRETARIAT

Library for Safe Seafaring (L4SS) Team of the Mariners Polytechnic Colleges Foundation
(MPCF)- Canaman, Camarines Sur and MPCF Legazpi City
Mariners Manila

VENUE

Lagoon, Hotel H2O at Ocean Park by the Manila Bay, Philippines