

# MARITIME AND SEAFARER RESEARCH: STATE OF THE ART

Compiled by Prof. Maragtas SV Amante

## **Discussion outline:**

1. What is maritime research? Why should maritime students and seafarers care?
  - ⇒ scope could be gleaned from leading maritime and seafarer industry online resources
  - ⇒ Neil Ellis 2008: research on seafarers does not always come from industry, but from academe. Samples: maritime accident, fatigue, stress
2. Seafarer welfare research is a component of maritime research, as part of the shipping industry.

Mckay & Wright 2006:

The work of seafarers has undergone dramatic changes in recent years in response to upheavals in a global industry such as the increased use of 'flags of convenience' and containerisation. This has changed the way in which seafarers work and rest, spending less time in port and working with smaller crews, often containing a wide mix of nationalities. This paper explores the needs of seafarers in a rapidly changing global industry, and in particular the means by which they gain information, support and advice for both workplace problems and their wider needs in relation to health and welfare that are specific to workers who spend large parts of their working lives away from home.

### **3. Research methods: best practices**

Bloor 2007 et al: risks of qualitative research

Professional guidelines: code of practice on researcher safety issued by the Social Research Association (2006), which includes not just safety tips, such as working in pairs and scheduled reporting back to base, but also good research management practice, especially the early planning of researcher safety to allow the factoring of safety costs into project budgets. The extensive academic literature may be subdivided into physical risks, emotional risks (the largest category), institutional risk management and gender and risk.

Physical risks includes reportage of deaths to fieldworkers; risks of injury and disease, physical risks have been reported in a wide range of research settings, including home interviews. Dangerous position of research participants

Emotional risks: researchers protect research participants from harm, researchers have neglected to protect themselves. Establishing and maintaining good fieldwork relationships requires emotional labour and such labour can be draining. Empathic relationships may generate distress. Quasitherapeutic relationships may generate role conflict.

- WMU: various maritime research themes
- SIRC: seafarer welfare research

- University of Southern Denmark: Sisse & Gron on maritime accidents
4. Steps forward: LS4 project as a vehicle for sharing maritime research resources
- ⇒ Research proposal writing workshops
  - ⇒ Submission to research funding agencies / institutions.

## Seafarers International Research Centre

<http://www.sirc.cf.ac.uk/>

The Seafarers International Research Centre is part of the [Cardiff University School of Social Sciences](#).

SIRC was established in 1995 with a view to conducting research on seafarers. The Centre has a particular emphasis on issues of occupational health and safety. It is the only international research facility of its kind and has built up unparalleled experience of research in this field.

SIRC aims to:

- Produce independent, high quality, research relating to seafarers' lives.
- Develop work in relation to contemporary social debates (for example debates around globalisation).
- Disseminate findings widely across the maritime and academic community.
- Stimulate greater interest and understanding of seafarers and their lives.
- Contribute positively to the welfare of seafarers.

Downloadable resources: [http://www.sirc.cf.ac.uk/Downloadable\\_Resources.aspx](http://www.sirc.cf.ac.uk/Downloadable_Resources.aspx)

Education and Training	Seafarers' Working and Living Conditions
<u>Environmental Regulations</u>	Social Isolation
Family Life	The Impact of Globalisation on Seafarers and their Families
Health and Safety	The Impact of Technology on Seafarers' Lives
Labour Market Issues	Women Seafarers
Multinational Crews	Welfare
Regulation	Other
Research Methods	

### **Research Methods (Downloadable)**

Galam, R. (2011) '[Navigating Lives: The Spatiotemporality of the Gender Identity, Agency and](#)

[Subjectivity of Filipino Seamen's Wives'](#), PhD Thesis, Cardiff University.

Ellis, N. (2008) '[Why should seafarers care about what researchers do?](#)', The Sea, London: Mission to Seafarers, Issue 193 May/June 2008, pp4-5.

Bloor, M., Fincham, B., Sampson, H. (2007) [QUALITI \(NCRM\) Commissioned Inquiry Into the Risk to Well-being of Researchers in Qualitative Research](#), Cardiff: QUALITI.

## World Maritime University (WMU)

<http://wmu.se/project/maritime-spill-incident-intervention-policies-and-approaches-msiipa>

### Research

- [ACCREDIMET](#)
- [Development and Piracy at Sea](#)
- [European Maritime Policy](#)
- [Globallast Regional Training on CME](#)
- [IMO Mandatory Instruments](#)
- [IMPACT](#)
- [JMC - Global Trends in Maritime Education](#)
- [JMC-Seafarer Education](#)
- [Lectures on BWMC](#)
- [MarTEL Plus](#)
- [MG & CSR](#)
- [PGMS](#)
- [PROMERC](#)
- [REMPEC/BWMC Training Course](#)
- [Risk Assessment and BWMC](#)
- [SeaTalk](#)
- [SEEMP](#)
- [Tonnage Measurement](#)
- [Maritime Environmental Research Group](#)
  - [ARTWEI](#)
  - [BMSP Oil Spill Forum](#)
  - [Baltic Master II](#)
  - [Baltic Port Species](#)
  - [Env. Ass. of the Abidjan Lagoon](#)
  - [HERRING](#)
  - [Invasive species in the Arctic](#)
  - [MONALISA 2.0](#)
  - [MSB Oil Consultancy](#)
  - [North Sea Ballast Water Opportunity](#)

- [PACe Sri Lanka](#)
- [PartiSEApate](#)
- [PSSA](#)
- [MaRiSa Research Group](#)
  - [ACCSEAS](#)
  - [ADOPTMAN](#)
  - [CyClaDes](#)
  - [MARE-WINT](#)
  - [METPROM](#)
  - [ProGreen Ship Operation](#)
  - [TeamSafety](#)
- [Maritime Energy Research Group](#)
  - [GHG Training Package](#)
  - [Improving Energy Efficiency of Ships through Optimisation of Ship Operations](#)

## Japan Maritime Centre

### JMC - Global Trends in Maritime Education

By cef / December 10, 2012

Development of a Report on Global Trends in Maritime Education and EU's Strategic Approaches to the Development of Shipping Policy.

- [Read more about JMC - Global Trends in Maritime Education](#)

### European Maritime Policy

By cef / December 10, 2012

WMU performed the following consultancy services for JMC:

- provide information and case studies about the maritime policies in European countries, and;
- provide information and case studies about the policies in European countries on implementation of Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

Note focus on countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania

<http://wmu.se/project/jmc-seafarer-education-bulgaria-croatia-and-romania>

## Project description

As part of the Memorandum for Academic Co-operation between the World Maritime University (WMU) and Japan Maritime Centre (JMC), WMU will be carrying on research work concerning

the "Historical Background and Current Situation of Seafarer Education in Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania". The report should be ready for submission to JMC by June 30, 2014.

## **Principal Investigator**

### **Neil Bellefontaine**



Professor Neil Bellefontaine has been Vice President (Academics) at WMU since April 2011. He previously held the Canadian Chair in Marine Environmental Protection from October 2006 to April 2013. He was formerly a senior executive with the Canadian Fisheries and Oceans Department with broad professional experience in maritime administration, fisheries and marine aquaculture and coastal and oceans management.

- [Read more about Neil Bellefontaine](#)

## **Project Officer**

### **Michael Ekow Manuel**



Dr. Michael Ekow MANUEL was until May 2013 the Dean of Faculty of Maritime Studies at the Regional Maritime University in Ghana. Previous to that, he was Head of Research and Consultancy at the same Institution. He is a Master Mariner and worked on ships for eleven years culminating in an appointment as Master (Ship Captain).

He holds degrees in Maritime Affairs (MSc.) and Maritime Administration (PhD) from the World Maritime University with ITF and Sheldon Kinney Fellowships respectively.

- [Read more about Michael Ekow Manuel](#)

### **Momoko Kitada**



Momoko Kitada is a former seafarer and her research interests lie in women seafarers and their identities as well as a multi-cultural work environment on board vessels. She also teaches cultural issues in the maritime community and other social aspects in Maritime Education and Training (MET) at World Maritime University.

**NIPPON FOUNDATION** <http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/en/what/spotlight/>

## Maritime Scholarships and Fellowships

- [Centre of Excellence](#)
- [DOALOS Fellowship and Training Program](#)
- [IMLI Scholarships](#)
- [NF-ITLOS Training Program](#)
- [The Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Project](#)
- [Seafarers International Research Centre Nippon Foundation Scholarship](#)
- [Strengthening Principled Ocean Governance Networks](#)
- [WMU Sasakawa Fellowships](#)

Almost daily, we receive queries about obtaining scholarship funding from The Nippon Foundation. While, we do not conduct any such programs on our own, we do fund several programs through different organizations. Some of those that we support in the maritime field are listed below. If you are looking for such funding, please feel free to peruse them to see if there is a program that fits you.

Further, at the bottom of some of the descriptions is a link to a list of scholars that are receiving funding through that program. Please click these links if you are interested in seeing what kind of research projects the fellows are pursuing, or what kinds of people have studied under these programs.

Finally, if you are looking for a scholarship in a non-maritime field, please feel free to visit the scholarships listed in our International Affairs section.

### NiPpON FOUNdaTioN Projects

#### Centre of Excellence

Established 2006

**Coordinator** Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans

**Length of program** 6-12 months

**Fund size** \$522,800 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** Developing countries currently suffer from a lack of skilled researchers in the field of international oceanography. In order to correct this imbalance, we are sending promising young researchers from developing countries for intensive studies at top-level research institutions, in order to give them the skills to enable them to study and control their country's maritime resources, forecast maritime weather and reduce the impact of natural disasters.



**Website** <http://ocean-partners.org/>

### **DOALOS Fellowship and Training Program**

**Established** 2004

**Coordinator** United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs

**Length of program** 6-12 months

**Fund size** \$580,261 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** This fellowship program provides government officials/researchers of ocean affairs from developing countries with the opportunity to undertake a training program composed of university training and an internship period at DOALOS or other relevant organizations, with the purpose of enhancing their countries' capacity to implement and enforce UNCLOS and related international instruments.

**Website** <http://www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm>



## IMLI Scholarships (NF-IMLI Scholarship Project)

**Established** 2003

**Coordinator** IMLI (International Maritime Law Institute)

**Length of program** 1 year

**Fund size** €340,000 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** The International Maritime Organization has laid out the fundamental framework under which the nations of the world should use our collective resource, the ocean. However, many countries are experiencing a severe shortage of brainpower in this fundamental area. The Nippon Foundation scholarship program at IMLI exists to rectify this problem, by providing the resources for 10 students per year, mostly from Asian countries, to pursue graduate-level degrees in maritime law.

**Website** <http://www.imli.org>

## NF-ITLOS Training Program

**Established** 2007

**Coordinator** International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Germany)

**Length of program** 6-12 months

**Fund size** €230,000 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** In order to peaceably and smoothly resolve international maritime conflicts, this program provides training for maritime legal professionals from developing countries. After completion of the program, participants return to their own countries to work as governmental advisors in maritime policy.

**Website** <http://www.itlos.org/>



## The Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Project

**Established** 2004





**Coordinator** University of New Hampshire

**Length of program** 2-3 years

**Fund size** \$555,000 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** The Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Project, held at the University of New Hampshire, USA, is a program under which maritime experts from around the world are brought together to become experts in deep-ocean mapping. The program's ultimate goal is to create a cadre of such experts, working together all over the world. GEBCO is an acronym for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean, and is an organization with formal links to the International Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, and the International Hydrographic Organization. It is in the process of developing a world-wide chart of the ocean floor.

**Website** <http://www.ccom.unh.edu/>

### Seafarers International Research Centre Nippon Foundation Scholarship

**Established** 2004

**Coordinator** Cardiff University

**Length of program** 1-4 years

**Fund size** £374,000 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** SIRC, the Seafarers International Research Centre, is a constituent centre of the Cardiff University School of Social Sciences. At this institution The Nippon Foundation has established a PhD programme under which participants study maritime-related social science. During their studies students are given training in social science research methods and required to write a thesis of up to 80,000 words. The purpose of the programme is to create an international network of social scientists studying the lives of seafarers.

**Website** [http://www.sirc.cf.ac.uk/Postgraduate\\_Fellowships.aspx](http://www.sirc.cf.ac.uk/Postgraduate_Fellowships.aspx)



## Strengthening Principled Ocean Governance Networks

**Established** 2007

**Coordinator** Dalhousie University

**Length of program** 6-12 months

**Fund size** C\$310,000 (FY 2009)

**Purpose** In response to the problem of ocean governance in the Caribbean, Dalhousie University is leading an international, multifaceted effort to develop human resources in the developing countries of that region with the purpose of building an international network in the region.

It also works with the International Ocean Governance Network, creating model human resources development systems between South East Asia and the Pac Rim, and between South East Asia and Africa.



**Website** <http://www.dal.ca/>

## WMU Sasakawa Fellowships

**Established** 1988

**Coordinator** WMU (The World Maritime University)

**Length of program** 2 years

**Fund size** Chairs: €430,360 (FY 2010) Fellowships: €972,000 (FY 2010)

**Purpose** In an effort to improve the quality of maritime experts around the world, The Nippon Foundation supports two programs at the World Maritime University. First, we sponsor a scholarship program that enables people from developing countries to obtain a two-year master's degree in maritime affairs, which they can then use to improve the level of maritime expertise in their home countries. Secondly, we have created three endowed

chairs, enabling the university to raise the level of its education with a PhD-level course in maritime affairs.

**Website** <http://www.wmu.se/>