

## **Hong Kong Maritime News Issue 72**

### **Proactively nurturing young talents to join maritime industry**

Hong Kong is an international maritime centre and an important regional hub port. To foster the sustainable development of the shipping and port industry, the Government is committed to nurturing talents and encouraging young people to participate in internship programmes to acquire more knowledge and enhance their skills thereon. During this summer, 19 students from the Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI), the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE) (Tsing Yi), and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) participated in the 11-day Yu Kun Training Programme funded by the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund and organised by the Hong Kong Seamen's Union in collaboration with the Dalian Maritime University (DMU). They flew to Dalian to taste the life of seafaring.

### **Yu Kun Training Programme to experience the life of seafaring**

Yu Kun, a 116-meter vessel, is China's first self-designed modern training vessel well-equipped with necessary facilities and advanced testing and measuring instruments. It is one of the world's most advanced training vessels.

In the training programme, 19 Hong Kong students received training on board together with students from DMU and were assigned to work with mentors from corresponding professions, i.e. the chief mates, second officers and third officers; or the chief engineers, second engineers and third engineers. They practiced vessel mooring, berthing and navigation in accordance with the international convention on watchkeeping for seafarers. Mentors also taught practical nautical knowledge and introduced various advanced equipment on board.

Apart from the training on board, the visit to DMU's exhibition hall and training facilities was another highlight of the programme where there were 360 degree navigation simulation training facilities and a survival drill tank which could simulate a rescue using a helicopter! Students were astonished by the advanced facilities. "It is an exceptional opportunity to join the visit and have a taste of seafaring life. We have also worked with peers from the Mainland and exchanged ideas on various issues. We have even made dumplings together for our dinner! This training has strengthened my confidence in joining the maritime industry after graduation," said Chan Chun Hei, a participant (deck) from PolyU. Yip Chun Ho, a student (deck) from MSTI, was amazed by the training facilities in DMU, "the Chinese students are knowledgeable

with international insights. I have learnt much from the exchange event.” Chan Tsz Man, from IVE (Tsing Yi), said that by joining the programme, he can ascertain whether seafaring is suitable to him. The programme has allowed him to have hands-on the machines on board and realise his inadequacy. “I need to work harder before graduation to prepare for my future career,” he concluded.

### **An insight of MD’s role – strive hard to safeguard maritime safety**

As mentioned in the last issue, 14 students under the MD’s 2018 Post- Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme were attached to various divisions of the Department. They also visited the Container Terminal and a shipping company. A sharing session was held towards the end of the programme in late August where the students shared their feelings and feedback. They have found out that the roles of MD are not limited to the sea. The Department has all along strived hard to maintain maritime safety. Finally, they thanked the Department for offering such a valuable opportunity. The Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan, attended the tea gathering of the sharing session. He encouraged the students to study hard and hoped that students would actively consider joining the maritime industry after graduation.

### **MD appointed as Assessment Agency for Professional Maritime Qualifications**

The MD has been appointed by the Secretary for Education as the Assessment Agency for Professional Maritime Qualifications under the Qualifications Framework (QF) for a period of five years commencing on September 3, 2018. Candidates sitting for the examination to attain seven specified seagoing Certificates of Competency starting September 3 will be accredited by the MD with the relevant professional maritime qualification under the QF. Meanwhile, the Assistant Director of Marine (Shipping), Mr Cheng Yeung-ming, spoke at a session “Education and Employment: An Alternative Pathway for Progression” at the QF International Conference 2018 on September 18 to explore how HKQF serves to align with vocational and professional education and training services to meet industry needs, nurture young talents, and provide flexible and diverse trainings to people who are serving the field.

### **Policy Address to support high value-added maritime services**

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, announced her policy address on October

10, in which there are measures to support and enhance the development of high value-added maritime services. She noted that the maritime industry is a major driving force and bedrock for supporting the development of Hong Kong's trade and logistics industries, the Government will entrench Hong Kong's status as a high value-added maritime services centre and an important transshipment hub of the Asia-Pacific region. The measures include formulating tax measures to foster ship leasing business; providing tax concessions for the marine insurance sector; supporting Hong Kong to provide dispute resolution services to the global maritime industry; and injecting \$200 million into the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund. In addition, the Government will further enhance the services of Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR) by setting up Regional Desks in selected Government's overseas and Mainland offices in phases to provide support to shipowners and promote HKSR.

### **Hong Kong Maritime Week to be held in November**

The third Hong Kong Maritime Week, organized by the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, will be held from November 18 to 24, to "propel Hong Kong" as a renowned international maritime centre. Through an intensive week of maritime activities, it aims to showcase the maritime industry as a strong cluster, raise the community's awareness of the economic contributions of Hong Kong's maritime and port industries, and promote Hong Kong as a preferred base for operating maritime business. International and local industry luminaries and practitioners will come together to participate in a myriad of diversified and fun-filled activities ranging from conferences and seminars, school workshops and family fun days. For details of the activities, please visit [www.hkmw.hk/en/activities.html](http://www.hkmw.hk/en/activities.html).

### **Departmental News**

To enhance passenger awareness of fastening seat belts on high-speed craft plying between Hong Kong and Macau, the MD launched a new round of publicity campaign in September at the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal in Sheung Wan, the China Ferry Terminal in Tsim Sha Tsui and the Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal.

In addition to the daily work of collecting and scavenging floating refuse, the MD conducted a large scale Cleansing Operation at Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter on September 27 to step up keeping the sea clean. Promotional leaflets were also

distributed by MD's officers to remind the public to keep the harbour clean.

Representatives of Maritime Safety Administration of People's Republic of China (PRC), Bureau of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the PRC, Fishery Administration General Brigade and Registry of Fishing Vessel of Guangdong Province, the MD and the Marine and the Water Bureau of the Macao SAR Government held the 6th Tripartite Cooperation Meeting on the inspection of fishing vessels in Hong Kong on October 23 to enhance tripartite cooperation.

The regular meeting between the Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) of the People's Republic of China and the MD was held in Haikou, Hainan on October 26 to enhance communication and cooperation of maritime issues and ensure maritime safety in relevant waters. The Directorgeneral of China MSA, Mr Xu Ruqing; the Director of Marine, Ms Maisie Cheng; the Director of Hainan MSA, Mr Wu Hui, as well as the relevant representatives attended the meeting.