



**EDUCATION – Dr Karl Laubstein, President, World Maritime University (WMU)**

Karl has over 30 years of professional experience in maritime transportation, government service and higher education. He holds a nautical diploma from Bremen Nautical School and sailed as a ship's officer in the West German merchant marine. He emigrated to Canada and after gaining a B.A. (Hons) degree from Carleton University in Ottawa, and a Ph.D. and an M.A. degree in Political Economy from the University of Toronto, he taught at universities in Canada and Africa. He went on to serve for some twenty years in the Government of Canada, holding a succession of senior management positions dealing with ocean management and policy. Since 1996, Karl has been President of the World Maritime University (WMU), which was established by, and is operating under the auspices of, the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The University's mandate is to provide advanced maritime education and research to meet the needs of the IMO and the international maritime community, with particular emphasis on maritime safety and marine environmental protection.

WMU and members of IAMU are committed to, and working towards, the achievement of the goals of the Poseidon Challenge of INTERTANKO. The Maritime Education and Training (MET) sector can and must play its role in the chain of responsibility for the realisation of this challenge to the maritime transportation sector.

**MET can enhance maritime safety (ms) and marine environmental protection (mep) by:**

- teaching necessary skills and knowledge.
- fostering greater awareness of and sensitivity to ms and mep.
- conducting research of different aspects of ms and mep.

BUT are the MET institutions doing this effectively? Is the MET sector effectively meeting the Poseidon Challenge?

Historically no regional or global standards for MET, no formal mechanisms for international coordination and collaboration. But MET has changed since late 1990s with STCW95, ISM Code, ISPS Code, Marpol alterations, which led to improved, expanded and more focused training. Also establishment in 2000 of International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU - some 50 leading institutions) evidences emerging trend towards global and increased standards in MET.

IAMU aims to foster international cooperation and collaboration; to promote and contribute to the development of increased global standards; to sponsor research on ms and mep. IAMU has been sponsoring research projects, offering international symposia, introducing standards of training and certification of LNG seafarers and promoting the accelerated build-up of dedicated LNG training capability.

**COMMITMENTS:**

- Provide advanced professional education for shore-based maritime personnel including those manager and teachers at MET institutions.
- Help propagate and enhance global standards of marine safety and marine environment protection, producing a steadily increasing international network of highly-qualified maritime professionals
- Develop new courses, new sponsored professorial chairs, contract work, studies, teaching materials.