



## ADVERTORIAL

# Moving with maritime

A decade on, the MaritimeONE Scholarship Programme continues to offer a great opportunity for graduates to chart a successful course as leaders in a dynamic industry. Three scholars tell us more about their motivations and the future they see for themselves



Poh Cheng Yew



Nur Hazirah



Eric Tan

### IN APRIL 2007, FOUR MARITIME

bodies – The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, Singapore Maritime Foundation, Association of Singapore Marine Industries, Singapore Shipping Association – came together to create the Maritime Outreach Network (MaritimeONE) and the MaritimeONE Scholarship Programme to attract young talent into the industry. Backed by many organisations, graduates are assured of gaining recognition that will open doors throughout their career. The scholarship allows students to gain access to multiple companies with a single application, and currently supports courses at eight institutions including Nanyang Technological University, National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University, Chung-Ang University, Korea, University of Plymouth, UK, and University of Newcastle, UK.

Nur Hazirah, Poh Cheng Yew and Eric Tan are three MaritimeONE scholars drawn to the maritime industry from different paths but all are keen to contribute towards Singapore's role as a maritime nation on the world stage. Through exchange stints overseas,

scholars can broaden their horizons and have the opportunity to meet peers with whom they may work with in the future.

For Nur Hazirah, the flexibility of the MaritimeONE Scholarship was a major factor that influenced her decision to apply. "There are many roles that you can pursue, from brokering to port management, and I discovered that the industry is not a male-dominated one as there are many women who work in roles such as maritime and offshore services." Her exchange trip to Norway proved especially beneficial: "I learned to understand myself and my future goals, to be more self-sufficient and also the importance of work-life balance."

Poh Cheng Yew's original career direction in banking and finance was diverted when he found true purpose and meaning in a maritime career. "Maritime's tangible contribution to the world – it facilitates 90 per cent of world trade – provided that sense of purpose I was looking for. The scholarship gave me a head start by connecting me with maritime professionals and industry opportunities." He also gained an insight into Singapore's importance as an

International Maritime Centre: "Besides being the largest transshipment and bunkering hub, Singapore offers top-notch ancillary maritime services that support the industry." He was able to meet maritime executives during his Denmark exchange trip who shared their personal experiences and professional advice.

In Eric Tan's case, he wanted a unique career, and since majoring in naval architecture, saw many opportunities in the industry. He also realised how close-knit the industry is despite the many sectors. His exchange trip to Newcastle opened his eyes to the balance of good and bad in people and situations, as well as there being two sides to every story: "I have learned to be careful but also to hear the full story before making a judgement."

Cheng Yew's advice to those applying for the MaritimeONE Scholarship: "Be clear about why maritime is where you want to be and be committed to make full use of the opportunities that come your way".

For more information,  
visit [www.smf.com.sg/scholarship.html](http://www.smf.com.sg/scholarship.html)





# THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AND ITS MANY OPPORTUNITIES



## About the Singapore Maritime Foundation

The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) was established in 2004 as a private sector-led organisation that aims to develop Singapore as an International Maritime Centre. SMF spearheads initiatives to promote the diverse clusters of the maritime industry and attract talent to join the sector. SMF is also the secretariat of the Maritime Outreach Network (MaritimeONE) and recently created the Maritime Singapore Connect (MSC) Office to address maritime manpower and talent needs.

For more information, please visit [www.smf.com.sg](http://www.smf.com.sg) or email [corpcomms@sgmf.com.sg](mailto:corpcomms@sgmf.com.sg).

**SMF** Singapore  
Maritime  
Foundation