

# NEWSLETTER

**SMF** Singapore Maritime Foundation



## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

2018 marks a year with several industry developments under way. Last month, we witnessed the launch of the Sea Transport Industry Transformation Map at the annual SMF New Year Cocktail Reception. Regrettably, due to space constraints associated with the launch event, we were not able to host all our partners for the reception this year but we look forward to the usual enlarged event again next year.

We recently bade farewell to two longstanding board members, Mr Henry C. Mytton-Mills and Mrs Gina Lee-Wan, as well as retiring Executive Director, Mr David Chin. Their years of tireless effort have benefitted the maritime industry greatly and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their contribution to Singapore's position as a maritime centre today. We have welcomed two new members to the Board: Mr Prem Gurbani and Mr Punit Oza, both well-known figures within the maritime community here.

2017 was an eventful year. We celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MaritimeONE and recognised \$8.2 million in scholarships awarded to 312 MaritimeONE scholars since its inception. The Maritime Singapore Connect (MSC) Office also launched a new website, connecting employers and jobseekers through a seamless platform.

In the months ahead, SMF continues to work together with our industry partners locally and abroad. The Posidonia event in Greece will provide a chance to build new networks and showcase Singapore's depth as an international maritime centre, and the LNG Forum, organised by SMF and Seatrade this April, will present insightful discussions on the growth of LNG.

Many thanks to our industry partners for your active participation over the years, we look forward to your continued support of Maritime Singapore in 2018.

With best wishes,  
Andreas Sohlen-Pao  
Chairman, Singapore Maritime Foundation

## THE SMF BOARD

The SMF Board is steered by the Board of Directors, which comprises prominent personalities from the maritime industry. Our Board sets the direction and provides strategic insight for SMF's initiatives and programmes.

### Presenting to you the SMF Board:



**Mr Andreas Sohlen-Pao**  
Chairman,  
BW Group



**Mr Andrew Tan**  
Chief Executive,  
Maritime and Port  
Authority of  
Singapore



**Mr Lee Keng Mun**  
Head of  
Shipping Asia,  
HSH Nordbank AG



**Mr Tan Puay Hin**  
Chief Executive,  
Singapore Logistics  
Association



**Mr Loo Tze Kian**  
Managing Director,  
LCH Lockton  
Pte Ltd



**Mr Ong Poh Kwee**  
Chief Operating  
Officer,  
Sembcorp  
Marine Ltd



**Ms Lisa Teo**  
Executive Director,  
Corporate  
Development  
Pacific International  
Lines (Pte) Ltd



**Mr Abu Bakar**  
Managing Director  
(Gas & Specialised  
Vessels),  
Keppel Offshore  
& Marine Ltd



**Mr Prem K. Gurbani**  
Founding Partner,  
Gurbani & Co LLC



**Mr Punit Oza**  
Vice President,  
Head of  
Supramax Pacific  
Klavness Asia  
Pte Ltd

## STEERING AHEAD WITH SMF INITIATIVES



### 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017: SINGAPORE MARITIME DIALOGUE 2017

The 4<sup>th</sup> Singapore Maritime Dialogue was held at the PSA Auditorium with over 190 tertiary level students and teachers from the ITEs, Polytechnics, Junior Colleges and Universities in attendance. Dr Lam Pin Min, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health & Ministry of Transport, graced the event as the Guest-of-Honour. This year, an Economics Essay Competition was held as a lead-up event to expand the students' engagement and exposure to maritime related topics. Students could pose questions to a panel of industry experts and the winners of the competition were awarded their prizes by Mr Andrew Tan, Chief Executive of Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA). The Essay Competition was held in collaboration with the Economics Society of Singapore (ESS).

### 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017: MSC MARITIME INSIGHTS FORUM

The Maritime Singapore Connect (MSC) Office worked with the Ministry of Education (MOE) for the second run of the MSC Maritime Insights Forum. Last year's event involved over 140 Education and Career Guidance (ECG) counsellors working with students, jobseekers and partners from schools and maritime companies.

The event included a guided tour of Jurong Port, presentations from MPA and the MSC Office on the overview and future of the maritime industry, as well as education and career pathways into Maritime Singapore. Participants also heard from panellists from the Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA), Jurong Port, Eastport Maritime and Pacific International Lines. The event concluded with a networking lunch, where invited partners were present to speak with the ECG counsellors.



### 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017: GIA-SMF MARINE INSURANCE AND MARITIME NETWORKING NIGHT 2017

SMF co-organised the annual Marine Insurance and Maritime Networking Night with the General Insurance Association of Singapore (GIA) at J Bar, M Hotel.

Mr Michael Gourlay, GIA Management Committee Member and Marine Insurance Convenor, and Mr Kenneth Chia, SMF's Executive Director (Designate), welcomed over 50 maritime professionals from various specialisations and marine insurance practitioners to the event. At the networking reception, guests took the chance to mingle with one another, while forging new ties over a hearty selection of canapes and drinks.







### 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017: **MARITIMEONE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY**

Last August, representatives from sponsoring companies presented the MaritimeONE Scholarships and Tripartite Maritime Scholarships (TMSS) to their scholars, in the presence of industry leaders, Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs), and proud parents. The awards ceremony was held at Conrad Centennial Singapore at which 37 MaritimeONE and 12 TMSS scholarships were awarded to outstanding students. The 49 scholarships amounted to a value of over \$1.8 million, and were presented to students pursuing maritime related degree and diploma courses in local or overseas universities, as well as the SMA at Singapore Polytechnic.

### 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017: **MSC MARITIME CAREERS WORKSHOP**

The second run of the MSC Maritime Careers Workshop at Pan Pacific Singapore was attended by university students in their penultimate and final year, and working adults with less than two years of working experience across all disciplines. The event aimed to raise awareness of the different sectors and job opportunities within the maritime industry, and connect maritime employers to this talent pool.

97% of the participants indicated that they were interested in pursuing a career in the maritime industry after attending the event. Partners for this workshop included Jurong Port, Maersk Singapore, Pacific Carriers Limited, PACC Offshore Services Holdings, PSA Corporation, QBE Singapore and Western Bulk.



### 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017: **MOE ECG FAIR**

Last year, SMF partnered with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and industry partners for the Education and Career Guidance Fair which targeted students at the Secondary Two level. Over 3,200 students and 500 parents attended the two-day event, which was held at Republic Polytechnic, and featured activities such as a crane operating simulator from Jurong Port, and a rest area to watch videos of various maritime careers.

Students also attended career talks and hands-on workshop sessions, which were conducted alongside industry partners such as the SMA, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, ITE College Central, Jurong Port, PSA Corporation and the Singapore Maritime Gallery.





## 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017: **CELEBRATION OF MARITIMEONE'S 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY AT SSA'S 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER**

Launched in April 2007, the MaritimeONE programme began as a four-partner initiative between ASMI, MPA, SMF and SSA. It was started with an aim to raise awareness of the maritime industry amongst students, and spark their interest to pursue maritime related courses through various outreach programmes.

To celebrate the MaritimeONE's 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, the partners launched a website (<http://smf.com.sg/maritimeone10/>) at the SSA Gala Dinner on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Since its inception, MaritimeONE has awarded 312 scholarships worth over S\$8.2 million in total to outstanding students pursuing courses in Singapore and overseas.

## 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017: **8<sup>TH</sup> STRATEGIC HR & PR NETWORKING EVENT**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) Strategic HR & PR Networking Session was held at Ange Café, Robinsons The Heeren, and was attended by close HR and PR partners from the maritime industry. Mr David Chin, Executive Director of SMF, gave the opening address to thank partners for their unyielding support. Ms Krystle Huan, Ms Nina Liang, and Ms Regina Lim from SMF provided an update on SMF's initiatives for the year's profiling and manpower development projects, while Ms Aidil Suraya from MPA introduced the Maritime Cluster Fund (MCF) before the networking segment.

Guests were also treated to a live Kueh Pie Tee station where they could customise their small bites with ingredients such as blue cheese and kale.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017: **INDUSTRY WELCOME RECEPTION**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Industry Welcome Reception at M Hotel Singapore was attended by 120 maritime graduates and final year students from various institutes of higher learning.

Themed "The See-saw of Life", the function aimed to address the issues of work life balance in the maritime industry and encouraged graduates entering the workforce to strive further in their careers. SMF Board Member, Mr Lee Keng Mun was the Guest-of-Honour for the reception while Mr Chia Yujin, Commercial Assistant Vice President of Jurong Port Pte Ltd and Mr Kevin Lim, Sales & Operations Manager of Sembcorp Marine Repairs and Upgrade Pte Ltd, provided further insight on working in the maritime industry.

## MSC CONNEXIONS FORUM 3 NOVEMBER 2017



### 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017: MSC CONNEXIONS FORUM

SMF held the second run of the MSC Connexions Forum at Carlton Hotel Singapore to discuss manpower-related issues within the maritime ecosystem.

At the forum, participants were also introduced to the MSC website which enabled maritime companies to publicise job openings, and allowed students or jobseekers to deposit resumes. Besides presentations from MPA and SkillsFuture Singapore, the participants also sat through an insightful panel discussion that was centred round “Developing a Multi-Skilled Maritime Workforce with a Global Mindset”, a key strategy outlined in the IMC 2030 Strategic Review report released earlier in September 2017.

### 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017: YES CLUB YEAR END GATHERING

Last year’s Young Executives and Students (YES) Club Year End Gathering was held at Level Up Clarke Quay, and was well-attended by over 100 guests comprising YES Club members, maritime students and industry representatives. Those who attended the annual year end gathering participated in various Christmas themed games, networked with one other, and were treated to a sumptuous buffet spread. Mrs. Gina Lee-Wan, Partner of Allen & Gledhill LLP, presented prizes to the winning teams.

The YES (Young Executives and Students) Club was formed in February 2009 and aims to serve as a platform for students pursuing maritime related courses to network and forge long-lasting friendships with one another.



### 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018: LAUNCH OF THE SEA TRANSPORT INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION MAP AND SMF NEW YEAR COCKTAIL RECEPTION 2018

Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Health, Dr Lam Pin Min, graced the annual SMF New Year Cocktail Reception as the Guest-of-Honour and launched the Industry Transformation Map for the Sea Transport sector. Dr Lam also witnessed the signing of five Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) amidst an audience of maritime professionals and close industry partners.

Held at the PSA Pasir Panjang Terminal Building 3 this year, Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao gave the opening address, and was re-appointed as Chairman of SMF. Mr. Henry Mytton-Mills and Mrs Gina Lee-Wan completed three full terms at the SMF Board, while Mr Punit Oza and Mr Prem Gurbani were newly appointed to the SMF Board during the reception. Seven other SMF Board members also renewed their terms of service this year.



# YOUTH MATTERS

## MICHELLE ANNE LIM

**Pacific International  
Lines – MaritimeONE  
Scholar**



It was back when I was fresh out of polytechnic and contemplating what I should do next in life. That was when I decided to take a gap year before pursuing a degree. I went for an interview at Pacific International Lines Pte Ltd (PIL) even though I had never heard about liner shipping before. The interviewer explained that liner shipping is like the MRT, it stops at all its designated stops regardless of whether there are cargoes to load or discharge and the reliability of the service can be affected by congestion at the port and bad weather. Intrigued by the dynamism and challenging nature of the industry, I began my maritime journey.

A year on, I enrolled in a course at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) on Maritime Studies and chanced upon the MaritimeONE Scholarship. Having joined the maritime industry for a while and experiencing the adventure that comes with it, I was convinced to join the scholarship programme. The MaritimeONE scholarship programme has been a key platform connecting scholars with the various industry stakeholders and peers. From maritime dialogues and networking sessions to company visits, SMF has also given me opportunities to emcee

and moderate a panel at industry events. These opportunities have enriched me as an individual and have better equipped me for my career.

Currently, I am a Management Trainee at PIL and am on my first rotation at Corporate Office. As the job involves managing a portfolio of joint venture companies and wholly owned subsidiaries, it is a stark contrast to the maritime specific courses I've studied. Nevertheless, being out of my comfort zone, I got the chance to improve my skillset on the job. I recall being tasked to value a company and since I had no prior experience, tapping on the expertise of my helpful colleagues benefitted me a lot, and encouraged me to take charge of my own learning by reading up on company valuation methods.

I have come to realise that my maritime journey has been about venturing into uncharted waters, and I urge those with an adventurous spirit and a passion for the maritime industry to join the MaritimeONE scholarship programme. The scholarship is not just a financial aid but a pathway to numerous opportunities and exposure to the industry.

## FRANKLY SPEAKING



### MR PUNIT OZA

"... Also remember that learning is a never-ending process and when you realise that, you will remain humble and grounded in your career."

**Mr Punit Oza, Vice President, Head of Supramax Pacific at Klaveness Asia, was recently appointed to the SMF Board at the Launch of the Sea Transport Industry Transformation Map and SMF New Year Cocktail Reception 2018. In this exclusive interview, Mr Oza shares a side of himself which is little known to others.**

#### **When I was young, I wanted to be...**

An Economist. I have always had a fascination for the subject and still enjoy reading a lot of books related to economics in my spare time.

#### **Please share one little known aspect of your career or your personal life**

I pursued my law degree at the University of London's local campus while working in my current job during the recession period of 2009 to 2011, and started teaching at the same campus on a part-time basis thereafter. Teaching keeps your knowledge and interest levels current and fresh.

#### **If I wasn't in the maritime industry, I would be...**

A Bollywood (Indian Films) Writer and Film-Critic. I am a huge fan of Bollywood (Indian) movies and music. I have a huge collection of movies and music and even maintain a blog called Wizard's Diary with personal as well as Bollywood related posts.

#### **If you can change one thing in your life, or one trait of yours, what would that be?**

I would have taken a year off after my university to travel the world. I am always inspired by the youth of today who really have global exposure by travelling and contributing their efforts all over the world.

#### **When I retire...**

I want to dedicate myself fully to my family foundation to further the cause of Maritime Education.

#### **What would you say to young people who are thinking of pursuing their careers in the maritime industry?**

The key values of integrity and curiosity are extremely important. The first will build up your positive reputation, which is vital in a close-knit industry and the second will build up your knowledge and skills, which is vital in an ever-changing industry. Also remember that learning is a never-ending process and when you realise that, you will remain humble and grounded in your career.

## WHAT'S NEW!

Driven by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, Singapore Maritime Week gathers the international maritime community for a week of flagship conferences, dialogues, exhibitions and social events in celebration of all things maritime. The range of activities and events organised by MPA, industry stakeholders and research and educational institutions, as well as the cosmopolitan profile of participants, reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Singapore as a global hub port and leading international maritime centre. For more information, [visit www.smw.sg](http://www.smw.sg).





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