



## Newsletter Highlights

- First editorial message by project leader Napier University **Page 1**
- NMU meets Swedish Shipowners' Association **Page 1**
- The project at a glance: the NMUs aims; written by Prof. Dr. Thomas Pawlik **Page 2**
- NMU Partner Portrait: TRI, Napier University **Page 3**

## Editor says...

Dear Reader,

On behalf of the Northern Maritime University (NMU) consortium, the Transport Research Institute (TRI) of Napier University, Edinburgh, is delighted to introduce this inaugural issue of the NMU Newsletter. The Northern Maritime University (NMU) is a project that has been funded by the European Union under its Interreg IVb initiative. Partners in the NMU Consortium are:

- Transport Research Institute (TRI), Napier University UK – [www.tri-napier.org](http://www.tri-napier.org)
- University of Applied Sciences Kiel, Germany - [www.fh-kiel.de](http://www.fh-kiel.de)
- University of Applied Sciences Lübeck, Germany - [www.fh-luebeck.de](http://www.fh-luebeck.de)
- Molde University College, Norway - [www.himolde.no](http://www.himolde.no)
- University of Gothenburg, Sweden - [www.gu.se](http://www.gu.se)
- Jacobs University Bremen, Germany - [www.jacobs-university.de](http://www.jacobs-university.de)
- University of Southern Denmark, Denmark - [www.sdu.dk](http://www.sdu.dk)
- Swedish Environmental Institute, Sweden - [www.ivl.se](http://www.ivl.se)
- University of Applied Sciences Bremen, Germany - [www.hs-bremen.de](http://www.hs-bremen.de)
- Pantrak Trasportation Ltd, UK - [www.pantrak.com](http://www.pantrak.com)

The NMU Project has a number of significant maritime industry players that are committed stakeholders within the project. The term 'stakeholder' in the context of the NMU Project is a specific dedicated role that brings with it both responsibilities and benefits. New industry stakeholders are welcome to join the project at any time (please contact Gordon Wilmsmeier for an explanation of what is involved). Please refer to the NMU Project website for the current list of stakeholders.

The overriding aim of the project is to establish a sustainable alliance between industry and educational institutions to meet the educational and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) needs of the maritime industry in the North Sea region.

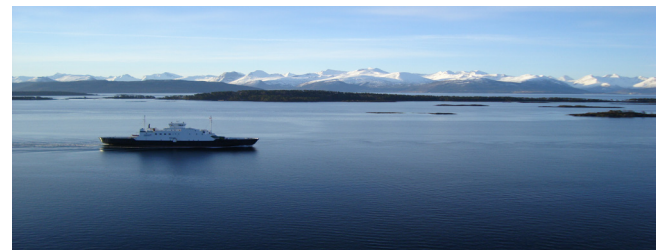
We would like to draw your attention to our online survey on future qualification needs in the maritime industry. You can access our survey at:

[www.survey.nm-uni.eu](http://www.survey.nm-uni.eu)

Participation will allow you to proactively contribute to the development of future education offerings and give you the chance to win one of two free conference passes to IAME 2009.

It is our intention that the NMU Newsletter will become a regular feature of the dissemination activities of the Northern Maritime University network. We hope that you will enjoy reading the contents of the newsletter and that this will spark your interest for learning more about the NMU Project. If so, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*PROF. DR. KEVIN CULLINANE, DIRECTOR OF TRI & PROJECT HEAD  
DIPL. GEOGR. GORDON WILMSMEIER, TRI SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW & PROJECT LEADER*



## NMU meets...

### Swedish Shipowners' Association

*INTERVIEW BY DR. RIKARD BERGQVIST, UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG*

For the first NMU newsletter, it is a great pleasure to present our interview with Mr. Per A Sjöberger (PS), the director and head of shipping policy for the Swedish Shipowners' Association, one of the first NMU stakeholders.

*NMU: What are the greatest challenges for the maritime industry, in your view?*

PS: The shipping industry has a number of major chal-

allenges ahead. Recruitment of personnel is one of the greatest challenges in the future. Attracting people with the right skills and competences is a big challenge. Beside personnel issues, the industry faces other challenges in rising bunker prices and there is a need for more environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions for maritime transport for the next decades. In the near future, access to capital may become also another challenge.

*NMU: What are the significant problems in maritime university education?*

PS: Maritime university education in general is too scattered among different institutions and universities. There are many good elements of maritime education; however, few universities combine these elements into a comprehensive and focused educational programme. Maritime university education is a challenge since the focus is quite narrow and it is a niche market compared to traditional fields of university education.

*NMU: Do you think there are any particular demands from a Scandinavian perspective related to maritime university education?*

PS: The Scandinavian management philosophy was mentioned as an important element of management education in general and shipping in particular.

*NMU: How did you hear about the NMU?*

PS: Through the University of Gothenburg

*NMU: Thank you very much for your time.*

## NMU Events Guide

**22 October 2008** - TRI Maritime Forum Series, Edinburgh, United Kingdom - [www.tri-napier.org](http://www.tri-napier.org)

**23 October 2008** - The ICS Shipping Conference, London, United Kingdom - [www.marisec.org/icsconference](http://www.marisec.org/icsconference)

**15 - 16 November 2008** - Shipper Forum 2008, Oslo, Norway - [www.shipperforum.com](http://www.shipperforum.com)

**8 - 10 December 2008** - International Conference on "Container Terminal Business", Hamburg, Germany - [www.iqpc.com/de/containerterminal](http://www.iqpc.com/de/containerterminal)

**24 - 26 June 2009** - International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME) - Copenhagen, Denmark - [www.iame2009.org](http://www.iame2009.org) (Call for Paper open)

For more event lists, please visit [www.nsr.nm-uni.eu/events/future-events](http://www.nsr.nm-uni.eu/events/future-events)



## NMU at a Glance: what we aim to do

BY PROF. DR. THOMAS PAWLIK

Under the umbrella brand of the "Northern Maritime University (NMU)", a number of European universities are preparing to offer their maritime business management-related expertise to the students of the NMU network as well as to the maritime industry. The NMU will offer a broad spectrum of services in the field of education, research and consultation. Maritime business managers need to be better prepared by possessing a multidisciplinary knowledge and skills set to cope with growing maritime traffic, port development, and rising environmental challenges, all within an intermodal environment.



Prof. Dr. Thomas Pawlik

The NMU is working on developing adequate qualification offerings which will reflect the underlying needs of the maritime industries. The NMU multidisciplinary qualification offerings for the maritime transport industry will benefit greatly from exploiting the diversity, complementarity and synergies that exist between maritime expertise and content across the range of NMU partners. The broad range of knowledge and expertise needs is being harnessed, connected and gathered within a common and lasting network of universities which specifically and directly addresses the needs of the maritime industry. Therefore, the new education offer will be developed in cooperation with stakeholders involved in maritime transport.

The NMU is an initiative among universities from different European countries having competences in maritime transport. Currently, building a transnational network in the education and research in this field. To start up with a huge network of universities from the whole of northern Europe is seemingly unmanageable. Therefore, the two-seas strategy has come into play where the same network concept will be applied for different regions, almost running in parallel.

Starting with the North Sea Region (NSR) for the development and the project phase, the NMU of the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) will follow to complete the network of the northern part of Europe. The consortium of the project has been set up with a number of key partners who contribute to both projects.

Some of the partners will only be participating in the NMU-NSR but will also closely collaborate with the NMU-BSR to exploit the synergy effect of using resources, dissemination, course development, etc. to manage both projects efficiently. With this strategy, the NMU network can exploit the synergies of the concept which will be implemented in two different regions, to be finalised and integrated as one network. This strategy can also minimise the risk of complexity which could be the hurdle to course

development due to the differing systems of each country. Both systems of the NMU will be harmonised and brought together to represent one organisation at the end of the project.

## NMU Side Dishes

One of the major goals of the Bologna Process was to improve students' mobility in Europe and to enable students to move from one European university to another and continue their studies without any administrative hurdles. According to a recently published paper of the German Association of University Professors and Lecturers (Deutscher Hochschulverband, in short DHV) which represents more than 23,000 members, the hope to increase students' mobility has not been fulfilled. Due to an intensified specialisation of study programmes and the universities' need to differentiate themselves from their competitors, in some cases mobility is even more difficult than prior to the implementation of the structures of the Bologna Process.

The DHV suggests a "reform of the Bologna Process" which should include special support for university networks enabling students' mobility by means of harmonised or even common curricula [1]. The Northern Maritime University has already charted such a course. The NMU is about joining resources to benefit the maritime community. The aim of the NMU is to develop ideas, to create a joint curriculum, and hence a virtual university delivering courses to undergraduates, postgraduates, and industry.

[1] [www.hochschulverband.de/cms/fileadmin/pdf/pm/pm12-2008-Anlage.pdf](http://www.hochschulverband.de/cms/fileadmin/pdf/pm/pm12-2008-Anlage.pdf)

## NMU Telegram

### 30 September 2008: Interreg IVB North Sea

The Exhibition of Interreg IV B North Sea Projects gave the German NMU partners the occasion of an informative event. This annual meeting was organised by the National Contact Point Germany and took place in Husum. For more information, please refer: [www.interreg-nordsee.de](http://www.interreg-nordsee.de)



### 30 September 2008: NMU - EFFORTS

In Sines, Portugal, Prof. Jens Froese, Jacobs University Bremen, presented the NMU objectives to EFFORTS (Effective Operations in Ports), an EU-funded research project. It was agreed to investigate cooperation opportunities. More information about EFFORTS project, please refer: [www.efforts-project.org](http://www.efforts-project.org)



### 03-04 September 2008: Coastlink Conference

"The Scandinavian Initiative" was held at the Malmsten Hall of University of Gothenburg. This event was led by the Coastlink Network and over 100 participants from 13 countries followed Gavin W. Roser's invitation. Two of the workshops were led by NMU partners. For more information about the workshops and their results, please visit: [www.coastlink.co.uk/Public/gothenburg%20presentations.htm](http://www.coastlink.co.uk/Public/gothenburg%20presentations.htm)

### 28 August 2008: Maritime Container Shipping

NMU Partner Thomas Pawlik published the richly illustrated book "Maritime Container Shipping". He points out how chains of container transport span the globe and explains the structures of container liners. It is second volume of the handbook series and concentrates on management issues in container shipping.

### 02 June 2008: All at Sea

Holyrood Magazine publishes article on NMU. The article from Richard Johnstone presents interviews with Gordon Wilmsmeier and Gavin Roser about the NMU project, its aims and potential impact in Scotland. To read the whole article, please refer: [nsr.nm-uni.eu/news/70-article-holyrood-magazine-june-2-2008](http://nsr.nm-uni.eu/news/70-article-holyrood-magazine-june-2-2008)

### 30 May 2008: NMU-IMEC Conference for European Maritime Education and Training

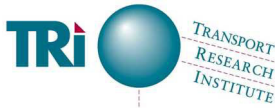
The European Maritime Education & Training conference was held in the historic port city of Kirkwall, capital of the Orkney Isles, on Friday 30 May, 2008. NMU was one of the two main organisers. The event attracted delegates from 13 countries, bringing together experts from industry, academia and government bodies.

### 18 April 2008: 1st NMU Seminar on Port Development, Liner Shipping Strategy and European Short Sea Shipping Initiatives

As one of the very first activities within the Northern Maritime University (NMU) framework, a one-day seminar on various aspects of liner shipping and port development was recently held at Molde University College, Norway.

## NMU Partner Portrait

### TRI - NAPIER UNIVERSITY



Napier University is a dynamic, innovative and forward-looking institution located in the heart of the magnificent world heritage city of Edinburgh, Scotland. Napier University is a leading modern university in the United Kingdom and has a growing international reputation as a provider of high quality education, research and knowledge transfer. It is one of the largest higher education institutions in Scotland.

The Transport Research Institute (TRI) was established in 1996 and is now one of the UK's leading centres for transport research and consultancy and is the largest and most diverse in Scotland. TRI is a distributed organisation which was originally formed to promote multidisciplinary research in all aspects of transport. Its membership now also encompasses transport research groups and individual transport researchers at the Universities of Aberdeen, Abertay, Glasgow, Glasgow Caledonian, Heriot-Watt, Robert Gordon, St. Andrews, Strathclyde and Queen's University Belfast. In recognition of its diverse but collegiate membership, TRI's mission is:

***To develop in Scotland a Research Institute renowned throughout Europe and the World for the Quality and Diversity of its work in transport***



View of Edinburgh

When required, TRI is able to draw upon the multidisciplinary background of its members to address transport research questions and projects from this complementary perspective. Research and consultancy activities in TRI cover Transport Safety, Transport & Society, Transport Psychology, Pedestrian & Mobility Planning, Travel Behaviour, Transport Policy & Economics, Passenger Transport, Maritime Economics and Business, Rail Systems, Taxi Studies, Freight & Logistics, Transport Planning & Engineering, Freight Modelling, Infrastructure, Transport Sensing and Energy & Environment.

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Prof. Dr. Alf Baird

Research and Consultancy in maritime transport forms an increasingly important part of TRI's overall activity. Revolving mainly around the work of Prof. Dr. Alf Baird, over the past 10 years TRI has led or participated in more than 60 externally funded research projects in the area of maritime transport.



Prof. Dr. Kevin Cullinane

In 2007, maritime and logistics activities expanded significantly with the recruitment of one of the world's leading maritime economists, Prof. Dr. Kevin Cullinane, as Director of TRI, and Dipl. Geogr. Gordon Wilmsmeier, who previously worked as an independent consultant for the United Nations and other international organisations. Covering a wide range of knowledge and experience of the maritime industries in Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the critical mass which now exists has led to an increasing emphasis on developing TRI and Edinburgh as a significant centre for maritime research and education.



Dipl. Geogr.  
Gordon Wilmsmeier

This strategy is manifest in the development of a joint Master of Science Programme in Maritime Transport and Logistics in partnership with Edinburgh based Heriot-Watt University, as well as in TRI's role as coordinator of the Northern Maritime University (NMU) and as partner in the STRATMOS Project, both financed by the Interreg IVb North Sea Region Programme.

Across all modes and disciplines, TRI has a proven track record in delivering challenging and prestigious projects to meet the needs of national and international clients, including the Scottish Government and its departments, UK Government departments, overseas governments, the EU, the World Bank and the UN. More comprehensive information on TRI's activities, outputs, list of the maritime projects and publications, as well as the details of member profiles, can be found on their website: [www.tri-napier.org](http://www.tri-napier.org).



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**Please visit us at: [www.nsr.nm-uni.eu](http://www.nsr.nm-uni.eu)**

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)  
“Investing in the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive future.”

The Interreg IVB  
North Sea Region  
Programme



## Imprint

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