

School of Maritime Science and Engineering

# Gender, Empowerment and Multicultural Crews

## THE CHINA CENTER (MARITIME) 中国(海事)研究中心

# (GEM)

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### INTRODUCTION

This research into seafarer's welfare and on-board experiences will draw on the unique access to data from current and former students SSU's Warsash Maritime academy (WMA) as well as comparable data from China's Shanghai Maritime University and Nigeria's National Maritime Academy. This will help to establish patterns relating to the welfare of seafarers, particularly women, and how they are treated on-board in today's multicultural working environment. The following phase of the project will develop a variety of methods which will disseminate the research findings to those who have the greatest potential to bring about change within the industry;

## women seafarers on board of Ocean Researcher V (Taiwan)



This project will improve welfare and working conditions on-board for all crew by empowering and supporting women who may be experiencing discrimination and harassment. It will identify gaps in current knowledge, raise awareness of the wider issues surrounding multicultural crews, so that women seafarers can be supported in addressing them and play a fuller role on board ships and beyond.

#### GEM team at IMO

AIM



## **KEY OBJECTIVES**

• To examine the views of new (international) female cadets from Warsash Maritime Academy, during their training, before and after their sea time, to understand concerns and potential training and awareness issues.

- Examine historical, comparable data from WMA, UK, Shanghai Maritime University, China and Nigeria's National Maritime Academy from up to 14 years previous, that demonstrates how many female cadets have left their training following their first phase of sea time.
- Evaluate both male and female views from various international backgrounds in the UK, China and Nigeria to understand, investigate and document anything specific regarding their concerns about women seafarers.
- Disseminate the findings of the research to an international audience through the media and various academic channels.

### China's first female captain 'Zhengping



This will include materials and strategies such as: a website and a Wiki-maps, training recommendations for male and female cadets, an awareness raising App and a conference targeted at policy makers, maritime educators, shipping companies and their recruiters and future cadets.

## GEM team with senior official from Chinese embassy



## PROPOSED PROJECT'S ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION:

In summary this project will provide a current representation of the welfare issues and challenges faced by women seafarers and multinational crews which build on previously conducted studies. The impact of this project will potentially be global, affecting seafarers, women and men in the international fleets.

#### **GEM team at SMU**



**GEM Team**: Dr Kate Pike Capt Pengfei Zhang Dr Minghua Zhao Miss Emma Broadhurst

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