

## Feasibility Study on IAMU Corridor System in Maritime Management Field

Kinzo INOUE and Momoko MOTOHASHI

Kobe University, Faculty of Maritime Sciences  
5-1-1, Fukae-Minami, Higashinada, Kobe 658-0022 Japan  
Tel: +81-78-431-6251 Fax: +81-78-431-6254  
k-inoue@maritime.kobe-u.ac.jp

### ABSTRACT

IAMU Corridor System is an idea to achieve a tangible result expected for IAMU activities, which is based on an international collaboration activity among IAMU member universities. IAMU Corridor System is a next generation type educational system utilizing IAMU-network of member universities.

The purpose of this idea is to attain the highest quality education in the maritime management field, which enables to foster the leadership as maritime manager in the international maritime society as policy maker and social designer. To cover maritime management education field, a wide-ranging subject is necessary. The range of subjects spreads from scientific and technological management field to sociological management field. However, there is not enough qualified manpower in one institution, and it is difficult to offer all of the subjects at highest level in one institution.

From this point of view, in an idea of IAMU Corridor System by linking member universities to the corridor, several member universities of IAMU offer subjects according to their expertise. Students can obtain extensive knowledge and technologies on maritime management field by participating in prepared subjects of universities sequentially for one month term next by next, as if they were walking along a corridor.

In the present paper, to verify the feasibility of implementing this new type of education system, the ability, the possibility and the keenness of each member university for the participation to IAMU Corridor System are examined by means of questionnaires. And possible schemes of corridor are proposed based on the answers to the questionnaires.

### 1. Introduction

The establishment of a functional network system of maritime universities is a tangible result expected for IAMU activities. The educational system utilizing IAMU-network of member universities will be one of the next generation type MET system. In the present paper, IAMU Corridor System is proposed to realize the idea of implementing the maritime management education through the IAMU-network.

The purpose of this idea is to attain the highest quality education in the maritime management field, which enables to foster the leadership in the international maritime community as policy designer or social designer.

To cover maritime management education field, a wide-ranging subject is necessary. The range of subjects spreads from scientific and technological management field to sociological management field. However, there is not

enough qualified manpower in one institution, and it is difficult to offer all of the subjects at highest level in one institution.

From this point of view, in an idea of IAMU Corridor System by linking member universities to the corridor, several member universities of IAMU offer subjects according to their expertise. Students can obtain extensive knowledge and technologies on maritime management field by participating in prepared subjects of universities sequentially for one month term next by next, as if they were walking along a corridor.

In the present paper, to verify the feasibility of implementing this new type of education system, the ability, the possibility and the keenness of each member university for the participation to IAMU Corridor System were examined by means of questionnaires from the aspects of competent professors recommended, subjects offered and qualified students sent by each member university. The agreement on interchangeable credit units on each member university and the budget aspect are also discussed. And possible schemes of corridor are proposed based on the answers to the questionnaires.

## 2. IAMU Corridor System

As can be seen in Fig. 1, IAMU Corridor System is composed of such units as corridor universities, corridor lecturers, corridor students and corridor coordinators

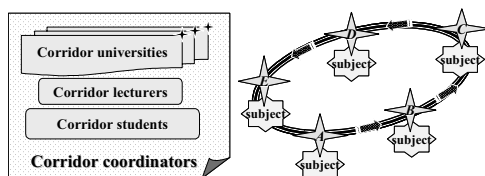


Fig. 1 IAMU Corridor System

### 2.1 Corridor Universities

The feature and the outline of the corridor university can be summarized as follows.

(1) Basically courses are intended for post-

graduate students.

- (2) The language of lectures should be English.
- (3) Students can take two credit units with an intensive course of 2 (hours/day)×15 (days).
- (4) They move to another university for one month term next by next.
- (5) Acquired credits are interchangeable among corridor universities.
- (6) Universities in charge should, besides lectures, provide their own exchange programs, such as; student exchanges, cultural exchanges for understanding different cultures.

Corridor universities offer the subjects according to their expertise to foster the leadership in the international maritime community as policy designer or social designer.

Linking four member universities to the corridor, it is possible to offer lectures giving 8 credit units in 4 months (a semester). If each university runs a course twice a day, in the morning and in the afternoon, respectively, the corridor university can offer 16 credit units in 4 months (a semester).

Not so many credits are required to complete a master's course in general: about 20 credits in two-year coursework will be considered as a standard. Therefore, it can be said that the IAMU Corridor System is a very reasonable way for students to obtain credits from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 16 state-of-the-art lectures in a semester.

To certify credits, which a student acquires in a foreign corridor university, as those of our own university's, a credit interchange agreement must be made among member corridor universities. The number of credits transferable should not be limited, although some universities actually set the maximum acceptable number of credits to be transferred. We propose this because it is a privilege for students to take the world's high-level lectures in the IAMU Corridor System.

The maritime community is international by its nature. The universities hosting the corridor university should provide students with such opportunities as student interchange and cultural exchange programs so that they can contribute to the international maritime society with a global view in the future. We

emphasize this because the IAMU Corridor System includes an excellent educational benefit offering a great opportunity for nurturing international students. Students, participating in IAMU Corridor System, not only get to know other corridor students from all over the world, but can also interact with the local students of the country hosting the corridor university, and are exposed to its culture.

### 2.2 Corridor Lecturers

A competent professor recommended by each university offers a subject on maritime management field. A professor gives a lecture for two hours a day for three weeks, and certifies a credit from the results of examinations. Basically, IAMU approves and certifies his (her) professorship by examining the syllabus presented.

Although it is necessary to discuss further how to certify corridor lecturers, it would be appropriate for a special screening committee to select lecturers based upon established rules and standards.

The professors of a member university of IAMU offer top-level lectures in principle. However, if possible, or if necessary, lecturers can be invited from neighboring countries or business organizations to use external manpower other than that of IAMU member universities.

### 2.3 Corridor Students

A certain number of students recommended by

member universities of IAMU are qualified as corridor students.

Although it is preferable to select candidates from the corridor universities' students in the initial stage of the IAMU Corridor System, it is necessary to discuss further how to select corridor students in the future. However, It is considered that it appropriate to basically choose corridor students in a special committee to be set up in IAMU based upon rules and standards in the same way as corridor lecturers are chosen.

## 3. Feasibility Study of IAMU Corridor System

### 3.1 Survey by means of questionnaire

The questionnaires were distributed to all the IAMU member universities (36 universities) to verify the feasibility of implementing this new type of education system, from the aspect of the ability, the possibility and the keenness of each member university for the participation to IAMU Corridor System.

We had received responses from 18 out of 36 universities by June 2004. We have to note that all of the responses are based on individual understandings of each respondent in charge and do not reflect the policy of the university.

Figure 2 shows the geographical distribution of the universities that responded to the questionnaire. The distribution is seen to be almost worldwide - Asia, Oceania, Americas, Europe and Eastern Europe.



Fig. 2 Geographical distribution of respondent universities

**3.2 The ability****(1) Current education system****Q.1**

***Does your university have post-graduate courses or programs in maritime management field?***

If yes, please write the name of course or program.

Seventeen (17) of the 18 universities that responded to the questionnaires offer courses or programs in the maritime management field. The courses and programs are classified as follows.

- a) Maritime transport management related to shipping, logistics and port management

This course is offered by 10 universities out of the 17 universities around the world, irrespective of area.

- b) Maritime business administration in the shipping and maritime related field

This course is offered by 5 universities of the 17 universities in Asia, the Americas, and part of the Eastern Europe.

- c) Maritime safety and technology system management

This course is offered by 4 universities of the 17 universities, in Asia, the Americas, and part of the Eastern Europe.

- d) Management science and operation systems engineering

This course, which is a foundation course essentially to understand management philosophy, is offered in 3 of the 17 universities in Asia.

**(2) Teaching staffs****Q.2**

***Does your university have a teacher who majors in education and research of***

***maritime management field?***

If yes, please specify who (if possible), his/her degree, the possibility of giving lectures in English and his/her research field or subjects:

Seventeen (17) of the 18 universities responded affirmatively that they have instructors who majored in education and research of maritime management field. One (1) has not responded.

Seventeen (17) universities listed 66 instructors whose majors are as follows.

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| a) Maritime economics, marketing, business   | 14 |
| b) Logistics and transport                   | 11 |
| c) Maritime safety and security              | 13 |
| d) Maritime policy, strategy, quality system | 9  |
| e) Nautical techniques                       | 6  |
| f) Management science                        | 5  |
| g) Port operation and management             | 4  |
| h) Maritime law and convention               | 3  |
| i) Maritime environmental management         | 1  |

Almost all of the 66 instructors hold doctor degree and can give lecture in English.

**Q.3**

***Even for undergraduate students, is your university able to offer those maritime management related lectures?***

If yes, please specify who (if possible), his/her degree, the possibility of giving lectures in English and his/her research field or subjects:

The universities that offer maritime management courses in post-graduate school also offer them in the undergraduate school.

The subjects and the instructors in the undergraduate school are almost the same as in the post-graduate school.

**Q4**

***If necessary, your university can arrange a lecturer from other universities, companies or industries etc?***

Education and research on maritime management range widely from technical to social science areas, and from theoretical to practical approaches. Therefore, we may consider inviting external lecturers from universities other than IAMU ones or business organizations if we can identify them.

According to the results of the questionnaire, 14 universities can arrange external instructors from universities other than IAMU ones or business firms, while 2 universities cannot. One (1) has not responded.

The 14 affirmative universities do not provide details, but they seem to have some possible instructors outside the university.

**3.3 The possibility****(1) Credits interchange****Q.5**

***Some universities have the agreement that allows their students who have obtained credits at other university or institution to have those credits authorized as their university credits. Do you have this kind of agreement with other university or institution?***

If you do, that agreement is: [Between two universities / Among group member universities (more than 3 universities) / Both two and group member universities]

In the IAMU Corridor System, it is crucial to make a credits interchange agreement among the corridor universities. The agreement should not be signed bilaterally between any two corridor universities, but multilaterally among all. Because several independent universities give credits and independent students of several universities earn them.

The multilateral credits interchange agreement will be signed by the member corridor universities only when each member university

is convinced that the credits obtained in the IAMU Corridor System are acceptable for its post-graduate school in terms of quality and level, and also when each university approves the educational method proposed by IAMU Corridor System.

However, it is not necessary to worry about these aspects as the IAMU Corridor System tries to use the best-qualified educational potential.

In the questionnaire, we asked about the record of previous credits interchange systems in each university. According to the results, 14 universities already have a credits interchange agreement; three (3) universities do not have; and, one (1) has not answered.

All 14 universities have bilateral agreements, and 5 of 14 universities have a multilateral group agreement among more than three universities.

As a multilateral group agreement among more than three universities is nothing new and we see a proven record, it can be presumed that there is not a big problem with the multilateral credits interchange agreement among the Corridor universities.

**(2) Cost and budget****Q.6**

***Suppose you are one of the Corridor universities, how much money do you expect to be cost for one international student to stay for one month in your university? And which expense may be able to be funded or aided by your university? (Tuition fee, Accommodation, Food)***

Another problem in realizing the IAMU Corridor System is how to cover operating costs. In the questionnaire we asked how much it costs per person for a one-month stay in a Corridor university, and how much each university can bear of a student's costs.

Sixteen (16) of 18 universities responded to this questionnaire. Seven (7) of 16 universities think it is unnecessary to get paid tuition. For the purpose of reducing operating costs as much as possible, it is desirable to include a consensus on tuition that the Corridor universities do not collect tuition, in the multilateral credit interchange agreement

Lodging and food costs per month vary from country to country. Roughly, in the cheapest country they cost USD 100 while in the most expensive country they cost USD 1,000. On average, lodging and food costs are USD 600 – 650 per month.

Four (4) universities responded that they would be able to bear part of the lodging and food costs while many universities would not be. There was a comment that we should ask for grants.

In addition to lodging and food costs, there will be other costs such as airfares for corridor students to travel from their country to a corridor university and from the corridor university to the next one, and other operating costs for running the IAMU Corridor System. Other operating costs include those for coordinating students interchange and cultural exchange programs at each university.

In order to realize the IAMU Corridor System, the above-mentioned expenses have to be covered, and the maximum enrollment depends on budget scale. It is preferable to prepare a grants system for this activity to raise money to cover operating costs.

### **3.4 The keenness**

#### **(1) Recognition of the IAMU Corridor System**

##### **Q.7**

***Do you know the idea and concept of IAMU "Corridor System" which has been proposed at IAMU?***

Realization of the IAMU Corridor System depends absolutely on the commitment

of each of the IAMU member universities. Therefore, we asked a question about the recognition of the IAMU Corridor System. Sixteen (16) of 18 universities which answered the question with "Yes," while the remaining 2 universities said "No" and "Not fully familiar."

#### **(2) Commitment to the IAMU Corridor System**

##### **Q.8**

***Do you wish to send your students to IAMU Corridor System?***

We asked if member universities wish to send their students to the IAMU Corridor System. The eleven (11) of the 18 universities that answered the question said "Yes." Five (5) universities said "Do not yet know" and one (1) university said "No."

##### **Q.9**

***Do you wish to accept international students as a Corridor university and provide high-level lectures and international cultural exchange opportunities at your university?***

Next, we asked about the willingness to become a corridor university. Fourteen (14) of 18 universities that answered the question said "Yes." Two (2) said "Do not yet know," and one (1) said "No."

The majority of the respondents support the IAMU Corridor System. The universities that have instructors who can provide the top-level lectures necessary to carry out a new educational system in maritime management field show a high level of interest in participating in IAMU Corridor System: the fact is very significant to realize the next-generation education system using the IAMU network.

#### **4. Proposal of Pilot Scheme (In lieu of Concluding Remarks)**

After summarizing the results of the questionnaires we can propose a Corridor

pilot scheme linking Oceania, Asia, Americas, and East/West Europe.

For example, we assume the following pilot scheme. Maritime Business Administration course is given in Oceania; Maritime Safety System and Management Science courses are given in Asia; Port Operation and Management is given in the Americas; and Maritime Logistics and Transport Management is given in East/West Europe.

The result of the questionnaires indicated the high potential of lectures and instructors with which and whom we can comprehensively cover the maritime management field. In the future, discussing more combinations of areas and lectures than what we have assumed in the above and new combinations of lectures from the broader maritime management fields, we expect to build a creative education system in the IAMU Corridor System.

## BIOGRAPHY

### **Kobe University, Faculty of Maritime Sciences**

#### **Kinzo INOUE**

Dr. Kinzo Inoue is Professor of Kobe University, Faculty of Maritime Sciences, and is currently the Head, Division of Maritime Sciences, Graduate School of Science and Technology of Kobe University.

Dr. Kinzo Inoue holds a Bachelor of Nautical studies and a Master of Maritime Sciences from Kobe University of Mercantile Marine, and holds a Doctor degree in Engineering from University of Kyoto. He has worked at NYK Shipping Company as a deck officer from 1968, and came back to Kobe University of Mercantile Marine in 1973 to serve maritime education and training at his alma mater.

He was the Vice President of Kobe University of Mercantile Marine from 2000 to 2002. And he was the President of Japan Institute of Navigation from 2002 to 2004. He is currently honorary member of Japan Institute of navigation, and is also an Associate Fellow of Royal Institute of Navigation in UK.

His research interests are Ship-handling theory, Marine traffic engineering, Port and waterway design and around International maritime safety management. Regarding the establishment of IAMU, he contributed by proposing the philosophy and the design-concept of IAMU-activities.

#### **Momoko MOTOHASHI**

Momoko Motohashi is an undergraduate of the Nautical Science Course of Kobe University, Faculty of Maritime Sciences (KUMS). She used to work at the trading company and have lots of international experiences, such as the Japanese national leader of Ship for World Youth program 2000, the ambassador of World Youth for United Nations etc.

Since started her maritime education in Kobe, she has been playing a leading role of international activities both in KUMS and IAMUS. Her first thesis, "International cooperation against the pirates and armed robbery in Southeast Asia" won a prize in the 5th International Cooperation-related Thesis Contest for University Students, sponsored by JICA in 2002. She intends to extend her maritime research activity in Europe as a young Asian mariner after graduation.