

▶ MARITIME TRANSPORT POLICY CENTRE

What we do

The Maritime Transport Policy Centre (MTPC) researches critical industry-led questions and, from its research outcomes, provides advice to government and others on policy formation. It draws on the wide range of expertise across the AMC, the broader University, and the maritime community in general.



New director

You may be aware we have been searching for a permanent director for the centre. The College welcomes John Francis who is newly appointed as director of the MTPC. He brings a wealth of experience to the role including nearly ten years with Thompson Clarke Shipping and is a former member of the

Victorian Bar. Indeed it is in part a 'welcome home' to John, who graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Tasmania. The College is delighted to have him on board and thanks Barrie Lewarn who has been filling the role of project director on an interim basis. Barrie will continue to assist in the development of the centre for the remainder of the year.

Skills shortage workshop

The workshop was held in July in Melbourne and was considered by participants to be a successful day involving active sharing of views. A synopsis of the day's conclusions has been sent to the House of Representatives standing committee inquiry into coastal shipping which is due to report in October. It includes presentations made by Teresa Hatch, ASA and Peter Malpas, Braemar Seascope. The Synopsis can be downloaded from www.amc.edu.au/mtpc

Revision of the seafarer training system

A key finding of the July forum was that the seafarer training system should be thoroughly reviewed. To that end, MTPC has constructed a survey covering some of the more contentious issues, such as sea time, recognition of

skills and prior learning, and competency assessment. The survey is being trialled with AMC staff, and it will be sent to external stakeholders in September.

The aim is to feed the survey results into a small workshop highly focussed on reviewing seafarer training within the context of STCW, which the MTPC will host later in the year.

DEEWR survey

Forum participants also identified an urgent need for a more accurate prediction of skills demand in the maritime industry. To that end, MTPC has been assisting DEEWR in a labour demand survey which is expected to be circulated any day now.

PDU news

THE MTPC's strategic Port Development Unit has been busy assisting the Port of Townsville with an assessment of tenders relating to its port expansion. It has also completed a post-channel deepening review of towage services for the Port of Melbourne. For a PDU capability statement, contact Melanie Roome (Executive Officer) on m.roome@amc.edu.au or Martin Renilson, Director, on m.renilson@amc.edu.au phone 6335 4667, or download it from www.amc.edu.au/mtpc



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