

**SPEECH BY MR DAVID CHIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SINGAPORE MARITIME  
FOUNDATION FOR SMA APPRECIATION RECEPTION HELD AT 7<sup>TH</sup> STOREY  
RESTAURANT, MARINA BARRAGE ON  
WEDNESDAY, 5 MAY 2010, 4PM**

Mr Roland Tan

Director of Singapore Maritime Academy,

Ladies and gentlemen

1. The Singapore Maritime Academy has been one of the key sponsors of the MaritimeONE scholarship initiative since 2008. To date, SMA has given out 12 scholarships under the MaritimeONE scholarship initiative and committed another 27 scholarships to be given out by 2012. These scholarships totals to \$965,000.
2. SMA has also been a strong supporter of SMF's student outreach initiatives and marketing efforts. We are grateful to have a maritime partner who shares our conviction to nurture talents and make the maritime industry more appealing. We thank you for acceding to our numerous requests for interviews, for filming and for working alongside with us to bring our initiatives to fruition and spearhead ones.
3. We have some SMA scholars amongst us today. Some of them may not fully understand where the money for their scholarships originates. The funding for the SMF-MaritimeONE scholarships does not come from SMF. The SMA lecturers and academic staff have come together to pledge part of their commercial earnings from the consultancy work they do for maritime companies towards a pool of funds. This pool of funds is used to sponsor young talents like you to pursue specialised maritime courses in various universities both in Singapore and overseas.
4. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight this to the students so that they get a better understanding and appreciate their scholarships and lecturers more. It is one thing to be an educator, to teach and impart your maritime knowledge and expertise to the students. But it is another thing to feel passionate about the

cause that you are serving and be willing to sacrifice the monetary gains that you could otherwise keep for your personal use.

5. The SMA students are indeed a fortunate bunch of students. Not only do they have lecturers in school who are experts in the maritime field, the lecturers are a fun bunch of people who can break into break-dance and sing karaoke with them after office hours. The SMA lecturers and the academic are genuinely concerned about their students even upon graduation from the polytechnic.
6. I would like to applaud the lecturers and academic staff for your nobleness. Without your generosity, these scholarships would not have been possible. Please join me to give all those who have contributed so selflessly a round of applause.
7. The MaritimeONE scholarships pledged by SMA have and will continue to provide the opportunity for the SMA maritime graduates to advance their maritime pursuits and obtain degree qualifications. In time to come, we hope you would in one way or other, contribute back to the maritime sector like the way your SMA lecturers and academic staff did so that we can continue this meaningful legacy started by your lecturers.
8. Once again, to all the lecturers and academic staff of SMA, thank you.
9. Your pledge of funds towards the SMF-MaritimeONE scholarships has and will continue to make a difference in the maritime sector.

-end-