

Enhancing Knowledge, Innovation and Maritime Students Enterprise: The MAAP Way

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ABSTRACT This paper describes the various knowledge, innovation and student enterprises that MAAP supported for the total development of the students. Specifically, this paper articulates the MAAP student services brought about by various programs with focus on: (1) Student Welfare Programs (2) Student Development Programs (3) Student Community and Research Involvements and (4) Student Value-Added Programs (Club and Organizations initiated, developed, implemented by students themselves). Basically, student services program in the Philippines are usual programs being provided in all higher educational institutions be it local or international. MAAP since its operation in 1999 had innovated various programs and bold initiatives on its student services as part of students' experiential learning in order to develop them into competent seafarers with character, leadership skills and strong devotion to service which the Academy's Quality Maritime Education and Training (QMET) stands for. This paper presents the various programs that were initiated, developed and implemented by either the top management or by the students themselves and draws analysis on its impact to the total development, academic success of students, performance and accomplishments within and outside MAAP both local and international. Emphasis is also placed on the students' performance in the licensure examinations both for deck and engine as well as the recognitions received by MAAP in the form of citations and awards provided by external organizations/bodies through student participation and services. These are positive indicators brought by various MAAP student services programs which are either directly or indirectly beneficial for the students' welfare and holistic development into competent seafarers, a key to maritime safety. On April 27, 2009, the National winner was selected from among the 14 regions in the country (out of 1,785 Colleges and Universities) with MAAP as regional winner (out of 165 Colleges and Universities) receiving the National Plaque of Recognition (Best facilities) with cash prize. Anyone reading this paper would see the uniqueness of MAAP student services programs not experienced or found in other universities and colleges

Keywords: Quality Maritime Education and Training (QMET), Student Programs, Student Services, Maritime Students Enterprise, Knowledge and Innovation

Introduction

The establishment of Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) in January 1999 realizes AMOSUP dream of a world-class academy that promotes academic excellence in the maritime field. MAAP provides various program and services to its midshipmen for them to be responsible, competent, and consummate in their respective profession and be the Philippines' pride. MAAP establishment partially meets the increasing demand of both local and foreign shipping companies for a well disciplined, competent and highly qualified deck and engine officers. The academy ascribes to the standards set by CHED and the STCW' 95 as amended in 2010 popularly known as the Manila Amendments. It is now making a giant leap forward by committing itself to the noble purpose of producing graduates who rank among the world best! MAAP offers full scholarship grants for a Baccalaureate degree in BSMT, BSMarE and BSMTE (Dual Maritime Course, 2006-2012)to qualified applicants selected nationwide through competitive qualifying entrance examinations. Other benefits include free board and lodging, fleet training, discipline and extra-curricular activities that enhances midshipmen's mental, emotional, social and physical development, the use of the state of the art equipment and facilities and modern instructional methods utilized by world-class maritime institutions, insurance and leadership training and exposures. It undertakes the grants with sponsors represented by reputable shipping companies who provide midshipmen with ready-available job opportunities aboard sponsoring company vessels. MAAP journey to excellence is steered by a governing board form the Associated Marine Officers' and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP), the private sector, Danish Shipowners' Association (DSA), Norwegian Shipowners Association (NSA), Japanese Shipowners Association (JSA), All Japan Seamen's Union (JSU), International Transport Workers Federation (ITWF), International Maritime Employees Committee (IMEC) and Filipino Association of Maritime Employment (FAME).

The academy's total MET system molds each midshipman into a whole and achieving person with national and international relevance. This is in line with the MAAP vision—mission to wit: *“MAAP envisions itself as the leading institution of excellence in outcomes-based maritime education and training in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.* MAAP provides quality education and training to midshipmen/trainees in order to develop competent seafarers who shall possess the character, knowledge and skills necessary for the successful pursuit of a progressive maritime career. If Catholics have a Bible and Muslims have Koran, the Academy has its own Bible, which is the Midshipmen Fleet Regulation Manual (MRF). The said Midshipman's Manual, which embodies the Academy's ideals, and mission serves as the student's a guide as it contains the contract that binds the midshipmen to MAAP. The 4th Class students are provided with a pamphlet called 4th Class development system. They are guided by a motto *“Virtus, Fides et Disciplina* and follows a Code of Honor to wit *“We Midshipmen do not lie, cheat, steal nor tolerate among us those who do”*. The manuscripts become the only bible on how to run the lives of the midshipman and let them embrace the regulations without hesitation and with strong faith in the capability of MAAP in molding them to become a person.

MAAP articulates the standards of character and advocates services. These standards or principles are one of the fundamental bases behind the academy's MET programs. It is within the context of these programs with goals and values, that MAAP enables the midshipmen to see for themselves, the possible involvement with the larger community which they can continue doing even after they finish their studies in the academy. The option for community participation and contribution, and the sense of social responsibility are the outcomes of relevant higher education of which MAAP would like to develop in each of the midshipmen. Vadm. Eduardo Ma R. Santos, AFP (Ret), who is an advocate of student services, says:

It is through MAAP participation in these worthwhile programs and activities that the midshipmen are being prepared for wholesome home and family life, for adequate maritime professional formation and for practical expression of Filipino values and humane ideals through services within and outside MAAP.

The philosophy behind the academy's MET academic programs is essentially the same viewpoint behind MAAP student services programs. The midshipman is developed holistically.

In MAAP, student services within or outside the academy is reaching out to a group or groups of people to achieve its goals of carrying out expected tasks or responsibilities with the following opportunities: (1) an opportunity to carry out a duty or duties expected by the academy, other agencies or institutions wherein MAAP has established linkages for services to the community, society or the maritime industry in general; (2) an opening to exercise just conscience for it is a blessing and a grace to be developed as a refined person; and (3) a chance to go beyond self and selfishness. This is a prerequisite for relevant practice of the profession, a mark of higher education. It must be noted that a truly educated and competent seafarer is not measured in the number or kind of degrees or ranks one has acquired or gained, rather a highly educated and competent seafarer is a man for others and is tasked to ensure safety of life at sea.

Methods of data collection includes: observation, interview, internet search and content analysis of the minutes of the meetings, DRES/ERO reports and other unpublished documents.

This paper is organized with focus on the performances brought about by the following: *Student Welfare Programs and Services, the Student Development Programs and Services, the Student Community and Research Involvements and the Student initiated organizations and services within and outside MAAP for the last fifteen years (1999-20014)*, with emphasis on its development impact to students and its international relevance. Emphasis is also placed on the students' performances in the PRC licensure examinations both for deck and engine as well as the recognitions received by MAAP in the form of citations and awards provided by external organizations/bodies through student participation which are positive indicators brought by MAAP student programs and services. In general, the paper presents the development impact of the various programs and services to students, which are reflected on the holistic development of students, performances and accomplishments within and outside MAAP both local and international.

Student welfare programs and services

Student Selection, Admission and Retention Program

MAAP ensures implementation of quality selection and recruitment system both for student applicants. In accordance with the academic standards it has set for itself, MAAP through its Board of Admissions reserves the right to select the students for admission. In general, admitted students are those with qualities of character, intellect and personality appropriate to the BSMT, BSMarE and BSMTE programs that MAAP offers. In order to ensure that only the best are selected to become midshipmen in MAAP, prospective midshipmen have to undergo battery of written tests (IQ, English, Mathematics, Psychological and Aptitude tests), a panel interview, medical and physical examinations and a one-month Indoctrination and Orientation Period (IOP). In 2004 and 2005, 100 of the probationary midshipmen undertook the one-month IOP whereas the other 50 incoming cadets underwent the two-month Academic Ramp Program with the De La Salle University (DLSU). Initially, MAAP is only getting 150 applicants regardless of the total number of applicants/examinees. In 2006, starting with Class 2010, MAAP increased the number of its intakes to 221 to address the requests of shipping companies for more sponsored cadets. From the initial 538 applicants in March 1999 for the search for Class 2003, the number of applicants/examinees increased to 5,700 in AY 2005-2006 for MAAP Class 2009. Still the number of applicants admitted for the IOP is only 150. In 2007, there were 7,014 applicants for the Class of 2011, but only 252 (3%) were admitted for IOP. This program contributes to the welfare of the students as they are assured of a good environment wherein all their schoolmates/ co-scholars whether upperclassmen or subordinates are physically, psychologically, morally and mentally of high level. From 2008 to date, there are more than 10,000 applicants for MAAP scholarships with MAAP only selecting the top 5% or 500 students yearly.

The Academic Ramp Program (ARP)

Academic Ramp Program (ARP) was initiated at MAAP, based on the recommendation of the study conducted by the Warsash Maritime Center to develop an academic ramp in the form of a model course or courses covering basic math, physics and other relevant subjects necessary to undertake maritime training in accordance with STCW standards and for possible adoption by the IMO. The International Maritime Trust Fund (IMTT) considered this recommendation. ARP was granted to the Philippine Maritime Foundation (PMF) and was developed and pilot-tested by the De La Salle University (DLSU) among MAAP incoming students. Academic Ramp program (ARP), a 2-month refresher course, aims to “ramp” the students knowledge in Math, English, and Physics to the level that will equip them in the long run to be qualified as senior officers on board sea vessels. This program was pilot-tested among randomly selected 50 students from the incoming 150 Class 2008 students of MAAP on March 29 to June 2, 2004.

The following year, in 2005, ARP was again implemented among selected 50 students in MAAP along with that of other maritime institutions. Based on the result of the study conducted by MAAP, the ARP is effective. In 2006, Because of the said findings of its effectiveness, MAAP extended its one-month IOP program in Math and English to a two-month ARP with additional course in Physics. Moreover, MAAP shared its ARP curriculum to other maritime schools like PMMA, JBLFMU and UC for them to better prepare their entrants to the challenges of being maritime students. The 2-month ARP is being implemented from 2006 to date before the ARP students are recognized as 4th Class cadets in simple ceremonies.

Foster Parent Program

This was launched on July 19, 2004 for the midshipmen who are from Luzon particularly those coming from the Visayas and Mindanao Island. Sixty-two families from the town of Mariveles participated in the event while 94 students signified and showed their appreciation for the program. The program is a success that while some families annually gets only one midshipman for their respective families; several others took as many as 5 midshipmen that the number of midshipmen did not cope up with the demands. More families from Bataan showed interest on the program that a second program was held last Aug 14, 2004. Thirty-six families attended the program and 57 midshipman accepted their new adopted fathers and mothers. There are still other families who would like to share their homes with the midshipmen but the Academy could only provide a limited number since the 4th classmen are not allowed to go on leave. The main purpose of this program is for the midshipmen and their families who come from far places to have a place to stay during the graduation ceremony and to have someone who will take the place of the biological parents whenever there is an activity inside the Academy in case the biological parents cannot attend. The parents in every briefing of MAAP President are reminded to treat their adopted children as foster sons or daughters and not as guests as the MAAP cadets are trained to serve and not to be served. Every weekend, visitation is allowed to upperclassmen. Hence every Saturday and Sundays from 8 to 5 pm, MAAP is open to all foster parents of upperclassmen to visit and bring food to their foster children at the MAAP campus. From 2004 to date, there are more or less 300 individuals who have volunteered to become foster parents.

Academic /Research/Communications Facilities Improvement Program

Hands-on training must complement the knowledge disseminated in classrooms in order to enhance learning. Towards this end, MAAP has state-of-the-art facilities. It has a simulator center with the most modern Full Mission Bridge Simulator in the country today, a live GMDSS laboratory, a Computer laboratory, 4 LabVolt training systems for refrigeration, fluids, EMS and IPC, Electrotech Lab, a 5,020 DWT dedicated training ship, a firefighting complex, the Pier facility for T/S KFO, the Vessel Training Center consisting of an integrated bridge system, Fire Fighting Center, the gymnasium, a website, a speech laboratory, and other modern facilities. MAAP's Sea Survival Center at the Pier, consists of an enclosed lifeboat on a Free Fall Davit, Fast Rescue Boat

and Conventional lifeboat. Other new facilities are: (1) the Chemical Product Tanker Simulator (CPTS) (2) Seamanship Laboratory, (3) Actual Chemical Tanker Simulator, (4) Full Mission Cargo Handling Simulator (Oil, Chemical/Product, LNG, LPG), (5) Ship's Bow with three (3) Cargo Holds (All deck machineries and Ship's Crane), (6) Computerized Language Center, (6) Acquire Dynamic Positioning Simulator, (7) MAAP Parade Ground, (8) MAAP Dormitory, and the (9) MAAP JSU-IMMAJ campus, which was inaugurated in February 2009. This new campus can accommodate additional 500 sponsored IMMAJ cadets. In year 2004, the Library has 9,009 volumes, an increase of 7 % from 8,385 volumes in 2002. MAAP has 121 volumes of educational videotapes and 90 volumes of educational CD-ROMS. To date , this 2015 , MAAP has over 10,000 volumes of books at the Library. Moreover, the installation of computer and network systems widened access to modern approaches to higher education and linkage with the world. In 2004, MAAP upgraded internet bandwidth from 64kbps to 128kbps. Since December 7, 2007 MAAP has increased its bandwidth to 1mbps. A fire-wall system (Network/Internet security) for the security purposes of MAAP network were also provided. This state of the art technology has been instrumental in many research activities and in making innovations on course developments, teaching methods and other academic purposes. At present, the Academy has 293 computers from 250 computers in 2005, an increase of 17% and all are Internet ready. Since August 6, 2005, MAAP has changed its VSAT microwave link to fiber optic leased line linked to Manila to ensure fast and convenient communication both for the recipient and the receiver of the message. Likewise, a landline both for Bataan and Manila had been installed in addition to a public phone located at the students' dormitory. Mailing services either ordinary mail or via LBC is also made available to the students. Each team of students have been allowed the use of tablets for research in addition to the availability of study room with internet ready computers.

Accommodations, Health/Medical and Nutritional Programs

MAAP recognizes good health as an essential factor to learning. Midshipmen learn better and faster under the most suitable medical and physiological conditions. Hence, MAAP with an Infirmary consists of a regular physician and nurse, extends free medical and other services. MAAP with an accredited AMOSUP Hospital in Manila, Cebu and Iloilo, takes an active role in the promotion, protection and maintenance of good health among the midshipmen. Continuous medical and health services are provided to faculty, staff and midshipmen. To ensure that all MAAP personnel and midshipmen are physically fit, physical examination, laboratory screening and drug testing are conducted annually. Lecture on sexually transmitted diseases (STD) were also accomplished as information drive campaign. Since January 2002 to date, all midshipmen were subjected to 3-doses of hepatitis B vaccination. All sponsors are therefore assured of physically fit midshipmen on board their vessels. Food services and Berthing facilities are provided free to all MAAP students. MAAP midshipmen use Academy—issued beddings and enjoy their meals free of charges An Academic nutritionist looks after the well-being and nutrition of midshipmen through carefully designed meals and balance diet. All MAAP midshipmen stay quartered as required by the fleet system and devote

their time both for academic and the disciplinary systems. During their shipboard apprenticeship training, they either stay onboard their sponsoring vessels or onboard the T/S Kapitan Felix Oca for the whole duration of shipboard instruction and other related activities. A slop- chest is also available wherein the upperclassmen may buy snacks and other personal needs, chargeable to their student accounts every end of the semester.

Weight Control Program

This pertains to weight loss and weight gain program for students. The weight reduction program for the overweight midshipmen is one of the concerns of this program. It does not only aim to reduce weight but to properly tone the body into a much more desirable figure. Through regular road runs and calisthenics are required to the whole fleet, extra effort of burning fats is mandatory to all overweight midshipmen to meet the prescribed weight. Fat burning exercises such as walking, swimming, cycling, running and muscle strengthening exercises are some of the fat burning strategy. Meals provided to the students are also measured, less for the fat midshipmen and more for the thin midshipmen. There is a prescribed weight for all seafarers onboard the vessels. Hence, for the student welfare who will be employed by their sponsoring companies, MAAP ensures that its students are aware and trained on how they could properly control their weight.

Fleets Valentines Hop Program

This program conducted very year (February) has propelled the upper-class midshipmen (1st Class and 3rd Class) to be the best Romeos to their girlfriends and new Friends at the MAAP swimming pool area. Traditionally, the hop is conducted for the welfare of the students as it is a venue for them to break the monotony of the routinary activities in the academy, to meet new people, to enhance the way they carry themselves and their manners in a social gathering, to interact with students from other schools and to explore the virtues and norms set by cupids. The midshipmen escorted their sweethearts and some took the excitement of meeting new ladies unfamiliar to them from SOFTNET Balanga, Asia Pacific College Balanga , SOFTNET Mariveles , PUP and BPSU to be their dates in the said occasion. The night turned out to be a rendezvous of many hearts while the sweet music played and serenaded them. The fleet also has a tradition that is passed from class to class. This is the playing of the Maydn's girl song to tell all the ladies how precious they are to the midshipmen fleet and how thankful the midshipmen for their presence. Similarly the Alma Mater Song "*Cradle of Destiny*" is sung to signify midshipmen's loyalty to the academy in all their journeys. Also on the same night, the King and Queen of Hearts among the lovely pairs are selected.

Alumni Relations Program

This program is for MAAP graduates and is aimed to unify, encourage, and gather feedback on the status of alumni graduates (their whereabouts, their status summary by

rank, license, per class, per department and per shipping companies). The program also determines the possible contributions and services of alumni beneficial for the welfare of students at MAAP. The alumni conduct services to 3rd cadets to give practical advise and share their actual experiences on board so that the first timers cadets who will board the international vessel for their Shipboard Training or Apprenticeship are better prepared. Some of the practical advises are as follows: things to bring on board, the culture on board, difference of a mixed crewing from a homogeneous crewing and other expectations. Some alumnus also renders their services free of charges during their vacation or spare time. Website is also designed wherein the alumnus can exchange opinion and experiences for collaboration on alumni related projects and activities as well as possible involvement with MAAP student activities. A statistic web forum is available. The MAAP Alumni Association with MAAP President as adviser is well organized. It has the articles of incorporation and by laws and some policies and procedures. It also initiated an official guide on wedding ceremonies and traditions for the alumnus, file of chart of accounts of financial statements and keeps some photo documentations of activities and events.

Simulator Familiarization Program

In line with MAAP President Instruction that MAAP equipment should not be for display only, rather it should be utilized as much as possible by all upperclassmen students during their spare time for the efficient and cost-effective utilization of the equipment. Hence, there is a programme and schedule for all upperclassmen that are not part of the curriculum but just additional services to students for them to be thoroughly familiarized on the use of simulator. This is one of the unique programs not being exercised in other maritime schools because of the cost of not less than Php 15, 000 (\$350) each for the training using the said equipment. MAAP is an accredited PRC assessment Center for practical examinations. Basically all maritime graduates are required by PRC to undergo 5 –day training course on SSBT for deck and ERS for engine prior to their practical examinations to be conducted by PRC. Hence the simulator familiarization program is an add-on service provided to the midshipmen free of charge that prepare them to the practical exam (30%) required by PRC in addition to the theoretical exam (70%). With this value –added services, all MAAP cadets are provided case scenarios on how to rectify problems mechanically. Hence, all MAAP graduates passed the licensure examinations with flying colors. The feedback received by MAAP from its Alumni is heartwarming. Most of them say that the practical examination (30%) is the easiest part for them. They find solving case scenarios using simulator as enjoyable as it was like a computer games for them.

Student Development Program and Services

Physical and Character Development Program (Semi-regimented Training)

The system observes a chain of command, delegation of work, execution, training and development in their entire stay at MAAP. The midshipmen are organized into a regi-

ment where they follow the chain of command i.e. the leaders are responsible for everything that their unit does or fails to do. The leaders are rotated every semester to give everyone a chance to live and learn leadership. Parades, sports and cadet activities are conducted using the regimental organization. All midshipmen live inside the campus and are allowed only four (4) home leaves during the first year. They follow a strict daily routine starting at 5:00 in the morning up to 10:00 at night. There is a class system where seniority is observed between classes and the most junior midshipmen are the least privileged. However, there is no hazing because physical or verbal contact between the plebes and the upper classes is allowed only during formations and official activities. Rules and regulations on sexual harassment are strictly observed. They adhere to an honor system that does not allow cheating, stealing or lying. All of these are designed to instill discipline, develop character, enhance leadership traits and make each graduate true officers, gentlemen and ladies. A naval ROTC unit has been established in MAAP. At present, there are 18 tactical officers responsible in handling all midshipmen affairs. Upon graduation, midshipmen are commissioned as reservists with a rank of ENSIGN in the Philippine Navy. Starting with the class of 2003, the MAAP graduating class undertook the AFP battery test for Philippine Navy commissioning. A memorandum of agreement (MOA) has been signed to expedite the commissioning of graduating MAAP midshipmen. For three consecutive years, MAAP Batch 2003, 2004 and 2005 topped the over-all academic excellence for the 2-month Summer Shipboard Training (April to May) provided by the Philippine Navy Training Center in Sangley Point, Cavite. MAAP Class 2005 gathered the top 1 to 29 posts beating other students from other maritime schools like PMMA, etc. during their time. Starting 2006 to date, MAAP team considered in the Hall of Fame is no longer ranked with other maritime schools to provide chance to others to excel and win. On February 2, 2013, MAAP also Champions the National Annual General Tactical Inspection (NAGTI) by the Naval Reserve Command (NAVRESCOM) during the inspection in the field of general administration, evaluation of commandant, arrival honors, ceremonial parade, inspection in ranks, close order drill, theoretical and practical in map reading, first aid and weapons, semaphore signaling (sending and receiving), flag identification, knot tying, line throwing, raid/ambush scenario and comprehensive exam in military science 1 and 2, with 946.255 points out of 1000 total grade MAAP won by inch against De la Salle University, scoring 944.065 and followed by the Visayan Maritime Academy Global College *Instructional Materials and Curriculum Development Program*

In line with MAAP's direction of raising academic standards, the academy created this program to initiate and oversee the systematization, standardization and modularization of the BSMT, BSMarE and BSMTE academic programs. The program sees the development of an interactive pedagogy in the tertiary level. All the academic subjects as well as training courses being offered in MAAP were manualized in accordance with IMO standard and QS Policy Manual. These manuals are being periodically evaluated and revised to conform with the current standards in maritime education and training and ensure that the students are provided the knowledge and quality learning for their mental development. Starting 2014 to date, the manuals have been transformed into outcomes-based learning with student centered discussions opportunity inside the classrooms.

Shipboard Training Program

While aboard, midshipmen actually live on the ship, going ashore only during authorized shore leaves. They perform all the duties required of the crew from the ordinary seaman/wiper to 3rd Mate/4th Engineer. All midshipmen accomplish their ISF Training Record Book. In 2003, following the new curriculum scheme (2:1:1), MAAP Class 2006 boarded the ships for a continuous period of one year. MAAP is the only school in the country that guarantees a year's actual shipboard training within the 4-year course. Shipboard training are either conducted in the sponsors' vessel or at AMOSUP Training Ship Kapitan Felix Oca, a 5,020 ton dedicated training ship to ensure that the cadets are properly trained and fully- developed as an apprentice in a full- year. Hence MAAP is the only maritime school in the country that entails the said program a full year, 365 days aboard the ship for all its students. To date, 100% of MAAP midshipmen are sponsored by 40 shipping companies and cannot even supply the demands of the sponsoring companies.

English Computerized Learning and Pronunciation Program

MAAP acquired new software called English Computerized Learning Program. This program started on November 21, 2005 with the purpose of developing the pronunciation capability of MAAP community. MAAP students observe the English Only Policy (EOP) in preparation for their employment on board international vessels with English as the medium of instruction. Pre-test was done to identify the weaknesses of the trainees who will undergo 60-hour sessions in the computer laboratory from 1730H to 2030H for the completion of the sessions with 52 different phonetic sounds to accomplish. Once accomplished, the trainees are required to take the post-test exam for the evaluation to be made by the Manila Times Learning Institute's *Sports Development Program*.

Every year, MAAP celebrates the commencement of MAAP Olympics. This was initiated to gear the midshipman toward the pursuit of excellence through sports development and physical activities where good fellowship, teamwork and athletic skills are developed and enhanced. The opening always starts with a traditional parade by the 4 competing teams of the midshipmen (*Alpha Admirals, Bravo Buccaneers, Charlie Corsairs and Delta Dukes*) that corresponds to the teams of MAAP personnel (Red, Black, Gold, and White team) respectively. As part of the program, the midshipmen and MAAP personnel conduct their ounce of calisthenics, warm-up exercise that is usually done before engaging in any physical demanding activity. The highlights of the opening program include the Oath of Sportsmanship led by the Student Athletic Chairman of the inclusive year, the cheering competition that the four companies of the midshipmen fleet participated in, and the competition of beauty of the four gorgeous and stunning muses representing the four teams. The muses who represent the four companies are asked some questions to determine who will be worthy to be awarded as the best muse who doesn't only have beauty but with wit as well. The following games are competed annually: volleyball, soccer, chess, darts, swimming, rugby, sepak takraw, basketball,

badminton, Table tennis and company run. All teams received a trophy, whereas the over-all champion received cash in addition to trophy. Likewise, after the awarding ceremonies of MAAPlympics and opening ceremonies for the next MAAPlympics, selected students with exchange students will step on the muddy firing range of the DND Arsenal to practice their arming and shooting skills. MAAP President VAdm Santos, 2LT Villa and 2LT Resontoc provided lectures with regards to familiarization and briefing both for M-16 and .45 prior to the live firing .During the D-day, they assisted in showing and coaching the cadets on how to handle and in the firearms correctly

Tri-Academy Athletic Meeting Program

For the past years, MAAP had dual meet exercise with the PMA and PNPA separately but in 2006, MAAP, PMA and PNP conceptualized a tri-meet for them to compete in various sports. This will help minimize the cost and at the same time further develop the camaraderie among participants. This tri-meet program aims to develop friendship, to widen the horizon, to be exposed to culture, values and practices of other Academies. It also promotes leadership since sports is a good venue to exercise leadership and promote character development. It also aims to express sportsmanship and physical development among participating schools. Single round robin is used and the top two players will battle it out for the finals. Amateur ruling is used to most of the sports but professional ruling is applied to some sports like soccer (FIFA rule) and basketball (FIBA rules). Pointing system is the basis in determining the winner. For MAAP, some sports are left as slot but it will not be considered as a source of points. These sports are: Boxing, Wrestling, Karate and Judo. The following sports are also played: Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Badminton, Taekwondo, and Table Tennis, Chess, Wrestling, Judo, Karate and Boxing.

Student Exchange and Cultural Relations Program

As planned in 2002, in the context of nationalism and global education, opportunities for institutional/international partnerships were made available for midshipmen and faculty/staff like a student exchange program. From 2004 to date, selected midshipmen were sent to MTC Japan for the student exchange program. These midshipmen stayed in Japan for six (6) months familiarizing themselves with Japanese maritime technologies and cultural backgrounds. On the other hand, two batches of Japanese studied in MAAP for six (6) months to learn about the midshipmen's training and education as well as the Philippine culture. Moreover, MAAP initiated programs that bolster midshipmen development programs. In 2004, MAAP offered the Computerized English Proficiency Course to its graduating students and Philippine sponsored students from Japan. Likewise, Nihongo was offered to Japanese sponsored MAAP midshipmen. In 2013, 6 MAAP scholars who graduated grade 10 and about to be admitted at MAAP for the BSMT or BSMarE Course have availed the \$50,000 scholarship grant for a grade 11 and 12 studies in Incheon National Maritime High School in South Korea as pilot K to 12 students. The 5 students arrived in MAAP Bataan to pursue the collegiate maritime studies.

Moreover, to enhance work and personal ethics inside and outside the Academy, Exposure to international conferences / trainings and symposia were made available to midshipmen to instill expertise and confidence among them and eventually expose them in hosting international conferences (2004 IMEC, 2005 AMETIAP, 2006 ANSUP, 2007 ICERS, 2009 IMEC, 2011AMFUF, 2012 and 2013 various Conferences, 2014NI Command Seminar, 2015 GlobalMET) in MAAP.

Leadership Development Program

This program offered to all cadets is aimed at developing capabilities of midshipmen in both the followership and leadership dimensions. They get exposed to varied situations and scenarios that develop such abilities as: taking initiative, thinking win-win, appreciating differences, acting pro-actively, setting the right example, seeking responsibility and taking responsibility for their actions, being morally and physically self-disciplined, bringing initiative, communication skill and decisiveness to their leadership tasks, exercising their social radar and developing self awareness. The final products are developed students with a fine mix of three intelligences: IQ (knowledge), EQ (emotional) and FQ (financial) which is the objective of the program. Student Community and Research Involvements.

It is believed that the academic reputation of MAAP depends on the quality of research and community outreach activities conducted not only by its faculty/staff but more so by its students with impact to the lives of the people in the community and the maritime industry in general. MAAP placed special emphasis on student active involvement on research and extension services as part of their total development. MAAP formed MAAP Research and Extension Services Circle (MRESC). This MRESC is composed of volunteer students who belong to the top echelon of the various class levels who are encouraged to conduct at least one research activity or project that would involve interested corps of midshipmen as part of their extracurricular activities. To prepare MRESC members with the challenging and exciting task, the DRES (now ERO) in coordination with Academics Department conducts seminar-workshops and encouraged the members to submit research proposals for presentation in international conferences. The MRESC are encouraged to do research in line with MAAP President call for Maritime Research networking. The members hope to link with other maritime schools for a research output that has a national impact for enhancement of MET. To date [starting 2014], the Department of Research and Extension Services (DRES) tasks has been transferred to the Academics Department being handled by a research coordinator and an extension services coordinator who are faculty members. DRES becomes External Relations Office or ERO.

On Research Involvement

Students have presented and/or published papers in national and international forums with commendations and appreciation from the international delegates. MAAP Midshipmen/women 1Cl Javellana and 1Cl Tolentino (Class 2005) were highly com-

mended during their paper presentation in the 16th International Conference on Maritime English Conference (IMEC16) in 2004. MAAP Midshipmen 1Cl Inong and 1Cl Odal (Class 2006) were awarded as the Best Paper Presenters during the Association of Maritime Education and Training in the Asia and the Pacific (AMETIAP) Conference 2005. On the other hand, 1Cl Anthony Legaspi and 1Cl Philip Albert Francis Inong were named as regional finalist from a long list of 22 nominations from the 12 Higher Educational Institutional participants in Region III. First Class Inong along with other 4 winners from different institutions advanced to the National Search of the 2006 Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TOSP). The awarding was held on July 14, 2006 in Malacanang with President Gloria Arroyo as GOH. Recently, in 2007, 1Cl Eslita and 1Cl Copiaco were appreciated for a very well presented paper during the 8th International Conference on Engine Room Simulators (ICERS8) in November 2007. Since 2008 to date, MAAP students are always represented at TOSP and other search for outstanding students and always made it on the top ten students of the Philippines. On Sept 23-25, 2011 during the National Seafarers Day held at PhilamLife Building in Manila, 1/Cl Michael Cullen Esplago is included in the 10 Outstanding Students of the Philippines, selected among the hundreds of participants nationwide. Others like 4/Cl Milton Klark bagged the silver medal in the Filipino Oratorical Competition against 24 competing schools with theme “Marinong Filipino: Lakas ng Pagkakaisa”; 3/Cl Mark Daniel Sampilo as 5th place in the Art Competition and 1/cl Rene Anjhilo Jose who competed in the English Oratorical Contest.

On Community Involvement

The various extension services programs (*Health and Sanitation, Environmental Care and Protection, Career Guidance Program, Computer Literacy Program, Education and training, Book Donation Program* etc) are participated in by MRESC, MAAP student organizations/clubs and the entire Fleet of Midshipmen either voluntarily or as per request of external agencies.

On Health Program

Health program includes first aid training, feeding program, medical/dental mission and bloodletting. MAAP students assisted in feeding activities in the community, provides lecture on first aid. They also assist in medical/ dental missions and gift giving to indigent residents in Mariveles Bataan. Every year, MAAP in collaboration with its partners—TOTAL and LIQUIGAZ provides Christmas cheers to the less fortunate children of Sitio Marina and other selected areas in Bataan. Aside from the Jollibee meals and school supplies provided by the oil companies, MAAP provides the tents, chairs and sound system as well as other manpower. The students facilitated the games and activities in the party for the 200- 300 children. The students gathered used clothing, bags; shoes etc from the midshipmen, faculty and staff. They also solicited funds for the prizes and gifts for the children. Every 6 months, MAAP midshipmen and personnel donate blood to the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) and Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) thereby, helping save lives of people in need. VMMC started their

project in 1989 and reached MAAP in August 2003. Every year, the PNRC provides some lecture on the dos and don'ts of donating blood to the MAAP community. From 2003 to date, a total of 150-233 bags of blood are contributed by MAAP every month. With this program, MAAP received a plaque of appreciation, Sandugo Tandang Sora Award and Gawad Papuri from various agencies namely PNRC, Philippine Department of Health and Veterans Memorial Medical Center.

On Environmental Care and Protection Program

Part of the training is developing in every cadet the love for the marine environment and this is done regularly. The MAAP cadets jogged down the road to the training ground in Marina Beach early 0600H in the morning to clean the surrounding shore. Previous years, residents around the Sitio Marina had produced so much garbage as they are thrown to the sea. Now, it has been observed that MARINA is considered as one of the well-maintained coastal area in Bataan as well as in the entire region as it is maintained by the Academy. The acts of the students in cleaning the coastal areas made the resident nearby realized how shameful and wrongful they treat the sea. They are now contributing their part in preserving the Sitio Marina Bay as the beach become garbage-free. MAAP with all its student cadets annually supports the International Coastal Clean-up Day Celebration every September by joining various coastal clean-up drives in the locality. Midshipmen also engaged in tree planting activities. Likewise every year, MAAP cadets joined the NROTC units in the coastal-clean-up drives in various locations. MAAP cadets also take part in the Annual Brigada Escuela in the neighboring public schools (Marina and Alas-asin Elementary School), a few kilometers from the MAAP campus and helped in the cleaning of the schools. The said activity conducted by MAAP cadets served as a sample and eye opener to the children that they must also do the same especially that it is their own school that they have to take care and maintain cleanliness of the environment.

On Career Guidance Program

Students also contribute to the welfare of the youth through the Career Guidance Program. Volunteer midshipmen motivate high school students to pursue college degree for their own future as well as encourage them to apply for the MAAP entrance examination for them to avail of the scholarship program that MAAP offers to its students. They also cited their experiences at MAAP as well as the programs and services received as MAAP scholars.

On Computer Literacy program

The Computer Gaming Club composed of students called computer wizards conducts -day training at the MAAP computer laboratory every year. The beneficiaries are at least 25 participants coming from the communities who are trained and provided basic knowledge about Computer systems and basic computer operations and are familiarized with MS word, powerpoint and Excel. The beneficiaries are mostly from N G O s ,

and different barangays in Mariveles Bataan. Because of the active participation and voluntary services of students during their free time, MAAP is making waves through its research, extension services and best practices on Maritime Education and Training (MET). This is reflected on the numerous recognitions received as follows:

- On July 23, 2015, MAAP is recognized with World Education Leadership for its education, leadership and teaching at Taj Lands End Mumbai India
- In May 2014, MAAP as an Honorary member of NRCP, Manila Hotel during the NRCP Convention and General Membership Meeting
- In March 2014, MAAP recognized by MARINA for its exemplary MET contributions
- On April 15, 2014, MAAP for the 2nd time was provided an NRCP grant for its research project with policy implications on the Manning Industry Productivity Gain Cycle and Emergent Industry
- In March 2012, MAAP as first maritime school (out of 93 maritime schools) provided NRCP grant for its research project Challenges and Problems in MET from Maritime Stakeholders Viewpoints
- On August 17, 2011, MAAP recognized as an Outstanding ASIAN Research Leader during the Asian Conference on Academic Journals and Higher Education Research at the Grand Ballroom of the Pryce Hotel, co-hosted by Liceo De Cagayan University and CHED , Cagayan De Oro City Philippines
- In 2010 , MAAP as First International Roberto Padua Research Impact Award hosted by University of Northern Philippines , Vigan City
- On August 7, 2009 , MAAP received special citation for producing exemplary student and youth leaders during the 10th International Youth Day Celebration with theme” *Sustainability for MDGs* “at the University of Makati in cooperation with UNESCO, UNAP and UNYAP
- On April 17, 2009, MAAP was best in Student Services Program (Physical facilities) by the Commission on Higher education during the National Awarding Ceremonies, University of the Philippines. MAAP was regional winner (out of 165 HEIs) on Jan 6, 2009 for best in development and welfare program and Best in community and research development program
- In April 2009 , MAAP for best research management by Philippine Association of Research managers (PhilARM) , Aklan State University
- On Dec 8 2008, MAAP as third place national winner on best Human Rights Education best practices by the Commission on Human Rights (out of 27 Center for Human Rights Education (CHREs) in the country) at Colegio De San Juan De Letran in Manila during the First NFCHRE General Assembly cum Launching of Letran as Center for Human Rights Education in celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with Hon Eduardo Ermita , PHRC Chair and Hon Leila De Lima . CHR Chair as Keynote speakers and guest of honors
- On December 9, 2008, MAAP as first place national winner on Best Maritime Education and Training (MET) Research Practice during the 34th PAMI Convention and General Assembly , University of Cebu, Philippines

- On Sept 23, 2008, PAMI Luzon recognized MAAP with a trophy being the first place winner for the Best MET Research practice among maritime schools in Luzon at the Asian Institute of Maritime Studies (AIMS) in Manila
- In 2007, MAAP as regional nominee for the Best Research Program and Best Extension Services Program as recognized by CHEDRO3
- In January 2007, CHED recognized the MAAP Research Program along with other 47 HEIS in the Country at the PICC, Manila. MAAP takes pride to be included in the list of 48 HEIS considering that there are 1,785 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the country.

These national recognitions received by MAAP were made possible because of students' involvements on research and extension services which form part of the photo documentations and accomplishment report submitted by MAAP separately as its entry to various award giving bodies namely: World Education Congress, MARINA, CHR, PAIR, PAMI, PAEPI, NFCHRE, PhilARM CHED, PACUCOA and other call for entries be it local or international.

Student Value added Extra-curricular and Non-Curricular Development Programs

It has been said that a body without a skeleton can never accomplish its functions, same as an Academy that can never improve without organizations (within or outside MAAP) that promote the institution. There are a total of 23 organizations or clubs initiated, organized and established by the students themselves with their chosen faculty/staff as adviser with full support by MAAP leadership. The clubs aim to satisfy the social, emotional, spiritual and mental needs of the students. Further, it aims to enhance and showcase the talents, skills and abilities of the students through the different functions and programs of the club. The students are given the chance to express and pour out their souls, thus balancing their social life and academic life as well as their semi-regimental training. MAAP Midshipmen are encouraged by the faculty in-charge as adviser, based on their performance in interest groups, clubs, organizations and student publications. Co-curricular program enhances and reinforces academic skills of midshipmen, develops in them consciousness and sensitivity to civic and social responsibilities towards others and develops sportsmanship, leadership and organizational skills. At present, there are 9 academic organizations and 14 non-academic organizations with programs and services. The establishment of these students' organizations at MAAP is a clear manifestation of the support of MAAP management to various learning initiatives and opportunities that could broaden the knowledge and skills of its students.

Extra-curricular or academic organizations

Kamaya Point Board Club—A pen and a paper is the best weapon of this club. This club handles the official publications of the midshipmen fleet. It is composed of midshipmen /women who have God-given talents and passion in the field of journalism. These midshipmen have been selected through a rigid screening process. This club aspires to instill leadership potentials and proficiencies in English grammar through jour-

nalism writing. They assist the Academy in the production of souvenir programs like the graduation program and convention program. On October 28-30, 2006 during the ATSPAR III Regional Press Congress held at Wesleyan University-Nueva Ecija, MAAP students won 3rd place in editorial writing, 2nd place in photojournalism, 4th place in comic strip drawing and 3rd place in column writing. On November 13-15, 2007 at ATSPAR Region III Press Congress Competition, MAAP student won 1st place (gold medal) in copyreading and headline writing (in English - Midn 1cl Lex Esлита and in Tagalog- Midn3/cl Bacasdoon); 2nd place (silver medal) in feature writing (Filipino-Midn 4/Cl Gust'l Magbanua) and poetry writing (Tagalog- Midn 3/cl John Jay Liquigan); 3rd place in column/opinion writing (bronze medal) (English- Midn 1cl Lex Esлита), and; 4th place in photojournalism (Midn 1/cl Hardy Jimenez) and editorial cartooning (Midn 3cl Nicolas Dispo). For the over-all competition, Midn 1/Cl Lex Esлита ranked 5th on the individual highest pointer and MAAP was 4th place on the group highest pointer. On Jan 9-13, 2013, during the 12th Regional Higher Education Press Conference with theme "*Responsible campus journalism in the new media technology*", MAAP cadets earned awards through their hard works and knacks. In Filipino category, 1/Cl Dyesebel Diaz won the 1st place in photojournalism while 3/Cl Neil Gayatin marked the 8th and 9th place in copy reading/headline writing and feature writing respectively, 1/Cl Carla Camponanes covered the 3rd and 4th place in Feature writing and opinion/column writing while 1/cl John Mark Eumenda took the 7th place in graphic illustration in English Category. On Feb 12-14, 2013, 1/Cl Dyesebel Diaz hailed as 9th best in photojournalism while the Kamaya point publication as 3rd best magazine, 6th spot as the best news page and 7th spot as the best feature and literature page in the 12th Luzon-wide Higher Education Press Conference. As shown, from 2006 to date, MAAP is a consistent awardee in various writing categories.

English and speakers Board Club—This club is known to be the language of the sea as it promotes English proficiency and imposes midshipmen to use this language as per regulation of the Academy. It enhances the skills of a midshipman to improve their competency and proficiency in the English language and to maintain the Filipino English advantage over other countries with regard to the seafaring industry. This club is for midshipmen who want to learn how to debate and speak in front of the crowd. It contributes to English proficiency and critical thinking of a midshipman. This club is conducting a cross-training assistance with other debating societies outside MAAP that may further enhance the speaking skills of the midshipmen

Math and Sciences Club—This is a group of individuals dedicated to the enhancement of the thinking capabilities of midshipman. They conduct extra-instructions to those deficient in Academics and they organize Annual Mind Strugglers activity, a sort of a quiz to know who is the best when it comes to knowledge and facts. MAAP students got 2nd Place – Instrumentation Quiz 2005 and 2006 at the Philippine Trading Center (PITC). During the Maritime Week in Sept 2008, MAAP students won 3rd place in Maritime Quiz bee held at AIMS, Manila. On April 3-6, 2013, MAAP cadets bag championship title in the 26th National Physics Olympics sponsored by Philippine Physics Society 9PPS) at the Ateneo de Davao. The said Olympics was held in parallel with the 35th

Annual National Physics Seminar-Workshop Convention and the 21st National Physics fair with the theme Physics and caring for the earth in the Specter of Climate Change. The Physics Olympics involved the application of physics principles and use of creativity in activities and contests .MAAP was proclaimed champion after winning in different categories. 1/Cl Mario Adrian Oca amd 1/Cl Dyesebel Diaz won 1st place in the super magnet category, 2nd place in the large barge and 2nd place in the paper tower while 4/Cl Javier bagged the 2nd place in the egg transport category and 4th Cl Bartolaba won the 3rd place in the paper airplane event From 2005 to date, MAAP students rank are improving from 3rd place to 1st place.

Camera Club—This is an organized group of midshipmen working to provide the Academy with enough pictorial requirements for all events and important purposes for all the different departments in the Academy. Their purposes are to capture and gather all-important events within and outside the Academy’s premises, as well as teach and instruct interested midshipmen on the usage of available equipment of the club. The club also conduct digital photography seminar. They are also preparing the first MAAP post card that will soon be available in National Bookstore outlets nationwide.

Computer and Gaming Club (Computer Wizards)—Members are known as the core of technological expertise that contributes to the fulfillment of the mission and vision of the Academy. It molds the skills of its members to become computer literate, highly competent and intelligent individuals in creating world-class seafarers

Dialectic Club—Lights, Camera Action! This is the club behind the scene of every play presented in MAAP. It develops the skills of a midshipman in the filed of acting, singing, dancing and any means that is used in stage performances. This club aims to develop self-confidence and skill of a midshipman in stage performances. Its main project is the Annual Frolics Night for the 4th classmen and the 200th Night show as a tribute to the graduating class. This club conducts workshops for the enrichment of abilities of its members thus improving the beauty of each performance. The activity is open to guests, who are impressed and surprised with the cadets’ performance considering that the cadets have no experience on theatrical performances

MAAP ARTS and Crafts Club—Production of art designs and props of different activities is the main objective of the club. Working to provide MAAP with artistically renovated designs required for all events and important purposes for all the different departments of the Academy. It enhances the talents and skills of midshipmen when it comes to artistic expressions.

MAAP Technical Group—Club in charge for the PA system, sound system and Lightings during parades and other special activities.

Women Cadets Club—This club conducts annual seminars and forum attended by all MAAP women cadets as well as available women alumni. They discussed issues on women working environment, kind of abuses and its prevention and true stories on

board. Open forum provides them a chance to ask questions. Speakers of the seminar are the midshipwomen alumni of MAAP. The club aims to widen the knowledge of the midshipwomen on their job on-board. Thus it served as an eye-opener, it gave a bird's eye view and it added to the preparation for the life of a women cadet/seafarer. The establishment of this club was inspired by the EU-ASEAN Project on women seafarers wherein a research-led seminar workshop about women seafarers was led by the Seafarers International Research Center of Cardiff University Director Dr Helen Sampson and Research Associate Dr Jaime Veiga. Held at MAAP on June 2-4, 2004, and participated in by MAAP faculty and staff along with their foreign and local counterparts from other maritime institutions, the MAAP personnel conducted the same activity and shared the knowledge gained among women cadets in the Academy. Hence a Women Cadets Club (WCC) is formed at MAAP. On October 14, 2004, the WCC organized a seminar-workshop and invited co-women cadets from other MET schools namely AIMS, PMMA and Dr. Yangas College. Aside from discussing issues, they also established the Women Cadets League among the participants and continue to communicate, meet and provide support to date.

Extra- Non-Curricular Programs

Athletic Club Council—This is one of the busiest organizations in MAAP. It is considered as an assembly which governs all fleet squads or in other words, varsity teams and controls various sports activities held here in MAAP. It develops and officiates all athletic programs in the Academy and builds up sportsmanship and discipline among the fleet. Those chosen as members of the Fleet squads will have the chance to represent the Academy in different sports activities outside the academy. This club facilitates the opening Ceremonies of the MAAPlympics games and cheering competition. The council is also in-charge in providing student sports officials for the different sports. They are involved in a series of games within and outside MAAP namely: PMMA, NETC, Cabcaban National High School and a lot more. The Athletic Council consists of 11 Sports.

Other Clubs—namely Badminton Club, Sepak Takraw Club, Chess Club, Soccer Club, Volleyball Club, Table Tennis Club, Dart Club, Swimming Club, MAAP Rugby Union Football Club (MAAP RUFC), Marathon Club and Basketball Club. The MAAP-RUFC, with its members known as MAAP warriors, it is the first all-Filipino rugby team in the Philippines which was founded in August 2002 and sponsored by RJH Consultancy, HMR Group, Nomads Sports Club and W G & A Philippines. Mr. Rick Hartley and Mr. Murray Domb organized it after the former recognized the potential of some midshipmen as Rugby players. Mr Hartley is a consultant of RJH Consultancy, while Mr. Domb is the General Manager of the Nomads Sports Club, which promotes 2003 Rugby in the country. Both coach the MAAP-RUFC. MAAP garnered 15 awards in various sports competitions nationwide such as in Rugby, Marathon Club and Basketball. MAAP team competed with Brent International (BRENT) in a friendly match in October 2002 at the Nomads Sports Club. MAAP won for the two games played with scores 2-1 and 5-3 respectively. In, at the International Alabang Tens, MAAP Rugby

Team won first place against NOMADS, and Alabang Eagles. MAAP Warriors became the 2005 PRFU (Philippine Rugby Football Union) Sevens Division League Champions. Tournament came as a preparation for the 2005 SEA Games (SEAG) and games held in Alabang Country Club and Clark Airbase in Pampanga. The next trophy was the 2005 Brent International Ten's JV Championship. MAAP also won the 2005 SEA Games Seven's Bowl Championship where the MAAP Cagers was undefeated in all the games in winning the title. Midshipmen 1Cl Bryner Ang of Class 2006 was the First – International Rugby player for under 19 against the Arabian Gulf and Singapore under 19's. He was one of the Philippine players for Rugby during the Sea Games 2005 and won first place in Club Category and he also won 3rd place in Alabang Tens in February 2006. On January 19, 2007, 1Cl Ching won 3rd place during Sinulog Tens with a score against the Cebu Dragons and he also won 3rd place during the Alabang Tens Tournament in February 2007. Midshipmen 1Cl Marold of Class 2008 won the 2nd place during the International Fatboys Tens Tournament held in Clark Pampanga in 2008. Further in November 2008, MIC 1cl Genesis Mana won the Subic Sevens Rugby Tournament and garnered two trophies namely. Bowl Trophy and the Shield Plate Trophy. Although MAAP Cagers are competing against expatriates twice bigger than them, Rugby is still one of the popular sports at MAAP as the current number of full contact Rugby players is 50 and has a women's team for touch Rugby. (please check website : prfu.com., rugbyinasia.com/Philippines, wikipedia.org). All the awards garnered by MAAP rugby Club can be are found in rugbyinasia.com. A lady cadet of Class 2012 (Charmaine Joy Ranada) from MAAP was selected to form part of the PRFU Women's Volcano to represent the Philippines in the Asian Women's Rugby held in Laos. On September 7, 2008, MAAP Marathon Club members competed at the Subic Marathon Club, Out of thousands who competed, MAAP cadets made it to the top 100 posts in the finish line. Likewise, during the Seafarers Week Celebration with hundreds of participants, MAAP cadets joined the Takbo Marino at the 3Km category for male division with the top ten places all awarded to the MAAP male participants. Female cadet 4th Cl Elad won first place at 3Km [female] category. On August 23, 2002, the Basketball Club with members known as MAAP Cagers, notched its first exhibition game victory after Beating the Bataan Polytechnic State College with a score of 57-56 at the BPSC Gymnasium. The game was a close fight with MAAP declared the victor after the time run-out.

On January 25, 2013, MAAP stole the first runner up in the Universities and Colleges Athletic Association of Bataan Sports Competition. 1/Cl Jerlad Apalisok and 3/Cl Jeric Raymundo excelled in table Tennis Doubles (Men) got the third place. The strengths of 1/Cl Mark Gerlad Miranda and 3/Cl Luis Miguel Liwanagan brought them to 2nd place in Badminton Doubles (Men) 1/Cl Phoebe Mariko Arizo and 3/Cl Lian Lyle Arce secured the at utmost as they won in Billiards Doubles . The brilliant minds of 3/Cl Carlo Geloso and 1/Cl Neil Torres drove them to 2nd place in Chess while 4th Cl Jonathan Eliseo bagged the topmost spot. In group sports war, MAAP took the 2nd place in basketball to include the two in the seasons mythical five, 1/cl Rebbs Anuncio and 3/Cl Sam Plameras.

Taekwondo Club—The members are known as MAAP Jinns. Established in June 2011, the club aims to develop an individual not just physically but spiritually and emotionally as well as it is guided by its 5 tenets SMIPE (self-confidence, modesty, indomitable, perseverance and etiquette). **On Sept 18, 2011**, MAAP Taekwondo Fleet Squad or MAAP Jinns bagged 18 medals (5 gold, 7 silver and 6 Bronze medals from the different weight divisions) from 2011 Regional Taekwondo Championships at People's Center in Balanga Bataan. 1/Cl Gary Conoso led the glorious victory of the team against the different participants in region 3

Body Building Club—The members are known as MAAP Hunks. The objective of this club is to instruct, train and develop the midshipmen physically so that each graduate shall possess the strength and endurance needed to be physically fit the Academy and shall be prepared for rigorous and strenuous work aboard the ship. A monthly monitoring activity is done to ensure a certain degree of physical improvement is manifested to each member. The club gives seminars regarding physical fitness so that each student shall be aware of their health and physical capabilities.

Mountaineering Club—This club is filled with adventures and fun that contributes to the enhancement of midshipman's knowledge about mountains and to encourage them to understand the problems encountered when it comes to mountain conservations. Among the activities conducted are tree planting and river rehabilitations projects

Dance Troupe Club—Composed of selected students who loves to dance and performs during intermissions in various MAAP activities. On Aug 29, 2011, MAAP Dynamics won the 5th place in the Maximum Groovity 7 dance competition against 19 university dance troupe participanta held at Ynares Sports Arena Pasig City .Regardless of the pressure s and nerves, the 12 midshipmen led by Ens Cyrus Taclob , outshined universities and astounded the approximately 3,000 audience . Once again, on October 1, 2011, 16 midshipmen grabbed the 5th place in the Step Up Philippines 2011 against the 21 professional dance troupes around the country. The competition was held at the Filoil FlyingV Arena, San Juan City Manila. Despite the hectic schedule of activities inside the academy, the MAAP troupe had surpassed all the pressures and stresses to achieve the success, beating 17 professional dance troupes that made the huge crowd go crazy.

Kamaya Choir—Composed of musically inclined midshipmen/women who are dedicated to share their talents and to serve God during Eucharistic celebrations and other functions which involve music. This club upholds the Annual Songfest and the Fleet Battle of the Bands, which is a competition of music and talent among the Fleet's four (4) companies.

MAAP Band—This group is composed of the best musicians. They provide good music to various social activities. This club aims to provide its members the chance to hone their talents and skills in playing musical instruments while having a great deal of fun.

On December 17, 2005, MAAP Band was the over-all champion in the Battle of the Bands at the EPZA Mariveles.

MAAP Christian Fellowship Club—a group of born again Christians and religions united to have one mission and vision that is to preach the gospel as a great commission of the Lord Jesus Christ. This club conducts spiritual gatherings like the mid-week service, Saturday Fellowship and cell group ministries that somehow develop ones spiritual life for them to know their purpose on the world as helping ones problems through prayers and counseling. This club conducts seminars good for the spirit to develop friendships and brotherhood among the midshipmen fleet.

Liturgical Club—For the Roman Catholic, in charge of very week mass and special masses like Baccalaureate Mass, and other special occasions like President and Chairman's Birthday, Christmas, and other occasions.

MAAP Baptist Club (MBMI)—established on October 27, 2004, with a sole purpose – to preach the gospel and make Christ known within the fleet.

Youth for Christ—for youth religious social gatherings within and outside MAAP

Etiquette and Protocol Committee—In charge of informing students of proper decorum during formal meetings and other activities

Peer Counseling Club- This club conducts annual seminar on peer counseling and emotional crisis management. Students are taught different strategies on how to deal with emotional problems, give proper counseling and deal with emotional crisis among their batch mates. Members are selected based on their aptitude and IQ test results from the entrance examination

The Uniform Board Committee—The club is established to give students the opportunity to deliberate on the standards in the selection of materials, design and tailoring of standard uniforms. Among the tasks is to determine the required uniform of every student and recommends on the possible changes and /or additional uniforms and accessories.

Student Performance in the PRC Licensure Examination

MAAP is continuously monitoring the student performance every semester until the time that they graduate and take the licensure examinations. From 2003 to 20011, the general result of percentage passing for the licensure examinations is 100% for BSMARE and 94% for the BSMT as shown on Table 1 (in the appendix). The national passing rate at PRC is 49%. This is a positive indicator that the various programs offered by MAAP had supported the academic success and development of its graduates. MAAP ranked number 1 in terms of PRC ranking based on PRC for the examinations of MAAP for the past 6 years (2009-2014)¹.

Philippines has a total of 2,080 higher education institutions, according to 2010 statistics released by CHED. According to the *Webometrics Ranking of World Universities*, the

rankings are based on the performance of universities from all over the world based on their web presence and impact. Vis-a-vis other Universities, MAAP ranked 28 in the 2014 Top 100 Colleges and Universities in the Philippines in terms of: Presence, Impact, Openness and Excellence² .

Conclusions

As shown, MAAP admirable led by its President through its various departments and divisions, initiates and supports innovative programs, projects and activities to strengthen student services with development impact to its students and graduates. Various programs have been developed and implemented through proper coordination, cooperation and collaboration by all concerned departments and divisions in mutual respect, trust and common objectives and concerns for the students' welfare, academic success and total development. Likewise, MAAP students have been regularly exposed to greater responsibilities and various scenarios, in order to mold them in becoming competent officers of the maritime world.

It can be surmised that the solid foundation of MAAP graduates draws from a fine mix of technical knowledge and skills and the internationalization of emotional competence in various disciplines. Such character building activities are a function of the various programs and student services that focuses on the midshipmen's physical, intellectual, mental and moral development.

Hence, for the past 16 years, MAAP has established a notable degree of respect and appreciation from the international maritime community. They are aware of the programs being developed and implemented at MAAP and the kind of deck officers and engineers that MAAP has been producing from its students. Towards this end, more and more shipping companies have expressed their intention to sponsor more MAAP cadets hence providing opportunities to deserving Filipino students for a rewarding seafaring career on board the global fleet. MAAP continuous to pioneer in Maritime Education and Training towards a New Wave of Excellence for the total development of officers for the global maritime fleet.

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APPENDIX 1

Batch	Department	No. of Graduates	No. of P R C Takers	No. of PRC Passers	Cumulative Percent of Passers
2003	Deck	68	68	57	83.82
	Engine	59	59	59	100.00
2004	Deck	64	64	61	95.31
	Engine	68	68	68	100.00
2005	Deck	70	70	66	94.29
	Engine	71	71	71	100.00
2006	Deck	67	63	61	96.83
	Engine	68	65	65	100.00
2007	Deck	55	47	46	97.87
	Engine	56	52	52	100.00
2008	Deck	47	47	46	98%
	Engine	52	52	52	100%
2009	Deck	54	54	47	96.3%
	Engine	48	48	81	97.91%
2010	Deck	54	54	81	94.44%
	Engine	83	83	80	96.38%
2011	Deck	64	64	60	92.79%
	Engine	85	85	91	95.79%
T O - T A L	Deck	376	359	342	96,26%
	Engine	374	367	367	100.00
	OVERALL	750	726	709	97.66%

Table 1: PRC Licensure Examination Results of MAAP Graduates 2003-2011