



Linking maritime education with the changing job market for a new generation of Baltic Sea experts

## Looking back on the Rostock Weekend Course Module

### **The fourth Generation BALT module**

The fourth module of the Generation BALT supplementary training programme for the maritime sector – “Coastal zone under pressure” – took place at the University of Szczecin from 30.05. to 02.06.2013. 31 international students from the South Baltic Region were chosen among numerous applicants from Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden, and were invited to Szczecin.

### **Scope**

During the four days in Szczecin the participants were informed about aspects of the environmental law important for the maritime sector development and about the significance of the coastal processes for the management of seas. Scientific lectures were given by invited speakers from the Faculty of Geosciences, University of Szczecin and University of Szczecin Marine Field Station, as well as by specialists working in the field of human resources.

The participants achieved knowledge on theoretical and practical aspects of environmental impact assessment, maritime environmental law regarding the dredging works, dredged material management and sediment pollution. During the field trip they observed the processes of coastal dynamics and the on-going investment of the LNG terminal in Świnoujście – a facility of key importance for the maritime sector in Poland. The local context of the maritime economy was underlined and emphasised in order to raise awareness of the importance of local conditions in decision making.

The students acquired new soft skills towards self-awareness and self-management as well as were informed about some practical tips for getting the job or boost the career.

### **Day 1 (30.05.2013) – Ice breaker**

The ice breaker party took place on the first evening of the course (30<sup>th</sup> of May 2013) at the Szczecin Brewery “Stara Komenda” (Czarneckiego 2, Szczecin). Apart from getting to know each other, students also could learn about the process of beer brewing.



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The ice breaker party at Stara Komeda, Szczecin, 30.05.2013

### Day 2 (31.06.2013) – Lectures

The day began with the inspiring lecture given by Paweł Montwiłł who is a specialist on human resources and works as a personal coach in a private HR company Inspeo. He talked about some ways to extend horizons and take advantages on the multiple possibilities available nowadays to improve the career through raising self-awareness and self-management. It was a good opportunity for students to learn how to find possibilities and chances everywhere.



The next topic was dedicated to the Environmental Impact Assessment. The introductory lecture was given by Teresa Radziejewska, PhD, Faculty of Geosciences, who conducts her scientific research in the area of the LNG Terminal in Świnoujście. After lunch the next topics: Maritime environmental law and Dredged material management – combined in one lecture – were discussed by Kamila Mianowicz, PhD, and Artur Skowronek, PhD, both from Faculty of Geosciences. Students were taken to the laboratories of the Geology and Palaeogeography Unit of the Faculty of Geosciences in order to get a closer look to the analytical procedures in sediments examinations.



Field trip locations: 1. Szczecin, 2. US Coastal Field Station, 3. Szczecin Lagoon, 4. LNG Terminal in Świnoujście, 5. Pomeranian Bay

### Day 3 (01.06.2013) – Field trip

The field trip “Across and around the Szczecin Lagoon” (Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2013) gave the students the opportunity to take a closer look to the Szczecin Lagoon – a water body that was the local axis of the course – and LNG terminal in Świnoujście (Fig. 6).

The trip started in the Szczecin port at 9:00 am with the hydrofoil cruise to Świnoujście. The cruise along the port of Szczecin, facilities of the Szczecin shipyards and then across the Szczecin Lagoon and Piastowski waterway was a good opportunity to discuss the maritime economy issues and describe the unique environment of the mouth system of the Odra river.

After the cruise the students were divided into 3 groups: 2 groups of 10 and 1 group of 11. Then, in groups, they:

1. visited the lighthouse in Świnoujście in order to get a look at the LNG terminal facilities and port of Świnoujście (guided by Kamila Mianowicz)
2. took a cruise in the waterway of Świnoujście in order to take samples of sediments and visit the breakwaters of LNG port (guided by Artur Skowronek and Michał Tomczak)
3. went to the Świnoujście beach in order to observe the coastal processes (guided by Tomasz A. Łabuz)

The next part of the field trip took place in Międzyzdroje. Students learnt about the main activities of the US Marine Station, took some measurements of weather components on the beach and went for a walk along the seashore in order to observe the coastal processes. Several topics were discussed: geology and sedimentology of the cliff, aeolian processes, measures of the shore protection, mollusc fauna of the Baltic Sea and the invasive species.



#### **Day 4 (02.06.2013) – Lectures**

The morning lecture of the fourth day was focused on the ways to improve the (not only) scientific career. Jakub Witkowski, PhD, from the Faculty of Geosciences, a young successful researcher, gave the inspiring talk based on multiple examples from different fields of studies. It was in a way the continuation of the very first lecture by Paweł Montwiłł.

Then the students got the information about the practical aspects of the Environmental Impact Assessment based on the investigations from the Szczecin Lagoon and the LNG Terminal in Świnoujście. The lecture was given by Teresa Radziejewska, PhD, from the Faculty of Geosciences.

Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, Jakobus Hofstede who was about to talk about the aspects of Integrated Coastal Zone Management, could not come to Szczecin. However the main scope of his lecture and some the most important issues of the topic are available for the students in the script.

The whole course finished around 1 pm with the farewell lunch.



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