

## Congratulations Class of 2009



Graduating Global Studies majors joined with faculty members for a group portrait following Commencement exercises, Saturday, May 2nd at the Cal Maritime campus in Vallejo. See inside for additional coverage of graduation and the start of the 2009 Training Voyage to the West Coast of the Americas.

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***CURRENTS* WILL TAKE A SUMMERTIME HIATUS  
AND WILL RESUME WITH THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE**

## Class of 2009 Celebrates Commencement May 2nd



(L-R) CSU Trustee Henry Mendoza, Adm. Robert Kramek, CSU Trustee Craig Smith and William Eisenhardt, President of the California Maritime Academy. Adm. Kramek was Commencement speaker and was presented with an Honorary Degree for his distinguished career and service to the maritime industry. 157 cadets received degrees at the 2009 graduation held May 2nd in Vallejo, CA

Ignoring gray skies, nearly 1,000 students, faculty, staff, and families and friends of graduates gathered under a large tent on the quadrangle for 2009 Commencement exercises, Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. 157 students received their diplomas, culminating a day filled with honors and recognition for outstanding students and scholars and morning commissioning ceremonies for students headed for service in the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine.

**Admiral Robert E. Kramek** was the Commencement speaker and also received an Honorary Degree from the Academy and the **California State University** for his long and distinguished service to the maritime industry. Adm. Kramek, an honors graduate of the **U.S. Coast Guard Academy**, attended postgraduate schools at the **University of Michigan**, **Johns Hopkins University** and the **University of Alaska**. He holds **Master of Science Degrees in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Engineering Management**. He attended the **U.S. Naval War College** – graduating with Highest Distinction, and completed the prestigious Capstone program at the **National Defense University's Institute of Higher Defense Studies**.

Adm. Kramek most recently served as **President and Chief Operating Officer and Board Member of the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)**, having joined the firm as **President and Chief Operating Officer of the ABS Americas Division**. Since departing ABS, Adm. Kramek has led the **Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers** and helped establish new Society chapters in Canada and Greece. He currently serves as a maritime advisor and consultant and is a member of several corporate and non-profit boards.

Prior to service with ABS, Adm. Kramek was **Commandant of the United States Coast Guard**, retiring from that post as a Four Star Admiral. During his tenure, he guided the service's international efforts to assist other countries in the development of their own sea-based law enforcement agencies.



## Graduation 2009—Continued

In his remarks, Adm. Kramek reminded the audience of the vital importance of maritime trade and transportation to the economy of the U.S. and the world. He also pointed out to the graduates that their skills were critical to sustaining that commerce and to protecting the world's oceans both strategically and environmentally.

**President William b. Eisenhardt** reminded graduates of the life-long need to sustain the highest standards of ethics in all that they do. "You will be challenged and tested," he said. "Look into the mirror each day and remember that ultimately you have to answer to yourself and those around you for your actions."



(Clockwise from Top Right) Graduating cadets Sam Thompson, Ryan Laperle, Eugene Chae, Catherine Parson, Maisa Thayer, Mitch Potter and Bre Ogden gather with family and friends to celebrate this important milestone in their lives.



SOME OF  
OUR  
2009  
GRADUATES



## Training Cruise Gets Off to Fast Start...With Training



Deck crew aboard the Baydelta Maritime tug *Delta Billie* heave a line to waiting cadets aboard the Training Ship *Golden Bear*, as the ship heads toward a berth on the San Francisco waterfront. This year's summer training voyage got off to a fast start with a first day filled with training exercises — everything from maneuvering in harbor approaches and basins to working with tug escorts, anchoring and berthing. TSGB travels to the West Coast of the Americas this summer, with changeover at Los Angeles/Long Beach at the end of June. She returns to campus at the end of August.

The first of two 2-month training voyages aboard the Training Ship *Golden Bear* got off to a very fast start. Less than 18 hours after the completion of Commencement exercises on campus, the ship pulled away from the pier at 7:45 a.m. and this year inaugurated a new first-day training regimen developed by TSGB Skipper Capt. Harry Bolton and members of the faculty and staff.

In past years, TSGB would set out immediately for the open ocean. This year however, the ship spent a full day on the waters of San Francisco Bay, undergoing a series of exercises designed to give cadets in-depth, hands-on experience in everything from working in close quarters, to coordinating with tugs and support vessels, anchoring, and berthing. Students get experience in all those areas during the training voyage, but never in such a concentrated dose right off the bat. Judging from the feedback, the day was a great learning process.

"We sailed from Vallejo down to the **Port of Richmond** and into the inner harbor area, turned the ship 180 degrees and then sailed back out onto the Bay," Capt. Bolton explained. "We repeated that process at the **Port of Oakland** inner harbor, and again, assisted by tugs, turned the ship completely around in the basin and then in the outer harbor before heading back out to the open Bay. Then we conducted a series of anchorings at various locations before heading to the San Francisco waterfront and berthing the ship along the Embarcadero."

**Capt. Paul Leyda**, a member of the Cal Maritime Marine Transportation department and skipper of TSGB for the first of the summer's two cruises to the West Coast of South America, said students were enthusiastic about the day.



## Training Cruise '09—Continued

“There were opportunities to man the helm, work with **Cal Maritime alum Bill Atthowe ('75)** a retired **San Francisco Bar Pilot** who donated his services for the day, take part in anchor drills and berthing, stand watch in the engine room and respond to a flurry of commands from the bridge during close maneuvers, plot courses and bearings, and to ride along, observe and even man the helm aboard modern tugs whose services were also volunteered for the day by **Crowley, Foss, AmNav, Starlight and Baydelta Maritime**. The ports of Richmond, Oakland and San Francisco also made it happen for us. It was a great learning experience for everyone.”

“I can't say enough about the generosity of the many individuals, companies and organizations who volunteered and donated services to make this day happen,” Bolton added.

“I want to especially thank **Capt. Fred Henning ('95)** of **Baydelta**, **Chris Peterson ('86)** of **Crowley**, **Jennifer Morrison ('99)** with **Foss**, **Dan Morrison** of **Starlight**, **Milt Merritt** of **AmNav** and **John Davey** of the **Port of San Francisco**. We wanted to get our cadets into a cruise frame of mind and have them ‘hit the decks running’ with this first day of intense training, and it was clear they absolutely loved the opportunities. We hope it sets a very positive tone for the training voyage as well.”

TSGB berthed at Pier 27 on the San Francisco waterfront in the late afternoon, and alumni and friends of Cal Maritime came aboard for a shipboard reception. Then Monday morning, May 4th, the ship set sail for her first calls including two days of underway training in the waters around **Catalina Island**, a stop at **Balboa, Panama** and arrival in **Valparaiso, Chile** at the end of May. The full schedule of calls can be found in the calendar on the last page of this CURRENTS and online.

As usual, the Cal Maritime website ([www.csum.edu](http://www.csum.edu)) provides daily reports on the ship's travels and adventures via the *Follow the Voyage 2009 hotlink* on the left side of the home page. Visitors can track the ship's progress, enjoy regular reports with photos on daily activities and even set up RSS feeds providing automatic alerts when new postings have been made at their favorite FTV locations.



(Clockwise from top L) Capt. Paul Leyda and Capt. Harry Bolton on the bridge of Training Ship *Golden Bear*; Capt. Bolton with Cal Maritime business faculty, Chris Clott, Robert Neumann and Harry Portolos on TSGB's wing bridge; Cadets practice anchoring on the waters of San Francisco Bay as part of the first day of training voyage drills and exercises.



Cal Maritime alum **Bill Atthowe ('75)**, a retired **San Francisco Bar Pilot**, donated his services as a pilot for the day and mentored cadets.

## Cal Maritime Marks 80th Anniversary in June

1108

STATUTES OF CALIFORNIA

[Ch. 661

## CHAPTER 661.

*An act providing for a state nautical school in the port of San Francisco, creating a board to govern and manage the same, determining the power, duty and authority of the board, and its officers, providing for the appointment of the members of the board and its officers and employees, creating a fund for the support of the board and the school and equipment for the use thereof, and authorizing the governor to secure a suitable vessel from the federal government for the use of the school, and making an appropriation therefor.*

[Approved by the Governor June 3, 1929. In effect August 14, 1929.]

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

Nautical school to be maintained at San Francisco.

SECTION 1. A state nautical school to be known as the California Nautical School shall be maintained at the port of San Francisco, aboard a proper vessel to be stationed there, for the purpose of giving instruction in the science and practice of navigation, seamanship, steam, diesel and electrical engineering to male pupils from the several counties of the state, who shall have the qualifications of good moral character, education and physical fitness, which may be required by the board of governors of said school. The board shall appoint and may remove a superintendent of the school and all necessary instructors and other employees; determine their powers, duties and compensation; fix the terms upon which students shall be received and instructed therein and suspended, discharged or graduated therefrom; make all regulations necessary for its management and control and provide from time to time for cruises in and from San Francisco harbor. The board may appoint as superintendent of said school and as instructors therein such officer or officers as may be designated for that purpose by the secretary of the navy.

June 3rd, 2009, Cal Maritime officially marks its 80th year of service. The history of the school actually goes back further to 1874, when Congress authorized the Navy to give naval vessels to states to establish nautical schools. At that time only three states—**Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania** — took them up on the offer.

A portion of the legislative act authorizing establishment of The California Nautical School in 1929.

Passage of the bill and signing by the Governor launched the first maritime school in the Western U.S. and the start of today's California Maritime Academy. From an initial class of 56 cadets, the school today trains over 800 students each year in maritime transportation and engineering, mechanical and facilities engineering, global studies and international business and logistics.

Then, on June 2, 1929, California Governor C.C. Young signed **State Assembly Bill 253** into law, authorizing the establishment of **The California Nautical School**, *to give practical and theoretical instruction in navigation, seamanship, steam engines, gas engines and electricity in order to prepare young men for service as officers in the American merchant marine.*

A year later, the **SS Henry County** was assigned by the Navy to the new school — a 261-foot World War I-era freighter reactivated from the mothball fleet, re-commissioned and sailed from the east coast to San Francisco for renovation and renaming as the **USS California State**.

Meanwhile a Board of Governors was established and leased the old **Navy Fuel Depot**—a coaling station at California City (now Tiburon) for the ship. Initial entrance exams were offered at the start of 1931 and a first class of 56 cadets reported for instruction (44 of them graduating in August of 1933.)

Due to delays in funding, renovations of the ship were delayed and a 126-foot private yacht, **Valero II** was loaned as a training ship. *Training Ship California State* was readied at the end of 1931 and made its first training voyage to South America and Washington D.C. (where cadets met **President Herbert Hoover**) in 1932.

In ensuing years, the school had to constantly overcome shortages of funds and repeated threats of closure. However, with the outbreak of World War II, the demand for skilled mariners gave new life and purpose to the institution which re-located to its present site on **Morrow Cove at Vallejo, CA** in 1943. Today Cal Maritime is one of seven U.S. maritime academies and the only one on the West Coast. Its graduates are highly sought after for their combination of maturity, experience, commitment, focus and global awareness. Happy 80th Cal Maritime!!!



## Tuning In for Terns

The Cal Maritime Pier is sprouting a new appendage these days – a radio antenna used to gather data for a long-term research project on the eating habits and migration patterns of **Caspian Terns**. Graduate researcher **Lindsay Adrean**, a Masters Degree candidate from the **Oregon State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife**, worked with **Cal Maritime Marine Vocational Instructor and Waterfront Coordinator Richard Muller** to install the antenna at the far end of the pier and aim it at waters surrounding the mouth of the nearby **Napa River**.



(L-R) Oregon State University Field Technician Nick Broman, Researcher Lindsay Adrean and Cal Maritime Waterfront Coordinator Richard Muller check out the pier-mounted antenna (right of the winch) and data collection system used to track the feeding habits of Caspian Terns around the mouth of the nearby Napa River. The studies are providing data vital to ongoing management of bird nesting sites on the West Coast. Tiny transmitters (inset) identify tagged birds as they fly in the vicinity of the antenna.

“Our study, underwritten by the **Army Corps of Engineers**, has been underway for several years now,” Adrean explains. “Caspian terns are distinctive. They sport a black cap and bright red bill and are about the size of a seagull. They dive straight into the water to capture their prey in fresh and salt water. They nest in groups on small islands along the Pacific Coast, usually laying two or three eggs each season, but generally raising one chick to term. They migrate to southern California and Mexico each fall.”

Adrean said initial research focused on a large colony of the terns on islands near the mouth of the **Columbia River** – representing about 40 percent of the known West Coast population. The studies found that the heavy concentration of the birds was a potential threat to stocks of fledgling salmon on the river and along the nearby coast.

## Tern Tracking—Continued

Another colony, about 10% of the total, nests on **Brooks Island** near the **Port of Richmond** on San Francisco Bay. Adrean and OSU colleagues, including **field technician Nick Broman**, are trying to learn more about the local birds' eating habits and flight patterns. "If it becomes necessary to discourage heavy concentrations of nesting birds on the Columbia and encourage them to move elsewhere, we need to know what impact that would have on fish stocks in these alternate areas."



Caspian terns, one holding the kind of small fish that constitutes the bulk of their diet. The birds have major nesting sites around the mouth of the Columbia River and on islands in San Francisco Bay. Studies are providing better understanding of their impact on area fisheries.

Adrean and her team captured about 50 terns from Brooks Island, banded them, and fitted them with tiny radio transmitters, each identifying the specific bird to which it is attached. The transmitters, attached to the tail feathers, don't interfere with flight or other activities and fall off when the birds molt near the end of the summer season.

"We're studying what the Bay Area terns are eating and how far afield they are traveling for food," says Adrean. "One potential source is hatchery-raised salmon, released by the state of California from net pens placed near the mouth of the Napa River. With the antenna on the Cal Maritime pier, we can now record the presence of our tagged birds. Captured data is fed from the transmitter to a nearby recorder and retrieved periodically. "Back on Brooks Island, we conduct observation surveys of nesting terns to record their comings and goings and what kinds of fish they are feeding to their young. By matching that information with our tracking of birds up in this area and the known dates of hatchery salmon releases, we can measure their impact on both natural and raised populations of small salmon. That will help us determine whether this area can safely handle larger colonies without adversely impacting area fish populations."



## Legislative Offices Get Tour and Briefing on Piracy Education



President William B. Eisenhardt and Cal Maritime staff and faculty hosted a visiting delegation of representatives from the offices of State legislators Patricia Wiggins and Noreen Evans and U.S. Congressman George Miller on May 7th. The panel was interested in learning more about the issue of maritime piracy and of the training and education resources available at Cal Maritime. Taking part in the discussion were (from right) Capt. Harry Bolton, skipper of the Training Ship *Golden Bear*, Dr. Donna Nincic of Maritime Policy and Management, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Herman Lujan, Kim McNutt, Dean of Sponsored Projects and Extended Learning, Presidential counselor Dr. Lee Kerschner and Academic Dean Steven Kreta. The visit included a stop at the new campus Simulation Center for a water-level simulation of a modern container ship on the waters of San Francisco Bay—giving the aides a unique perspective on the techniques used by pirates to try and get aboard sea going vessels.

Capt. James Buckley “takes the helm” giving visiting legislative aides a simulated ride on the waters of San Francisco Bay. The group visited the campus to learn more about the issue of maritime piracy and to see the new Simulation Center.





## Clearing Away the Underbrush



Campus groundskeeping staff worked together with crews from the California Conservation Corps on a major and important undertaking — clearing away potentially flammable undergrowth in the stands of eucalyptus trees on the hills surrounding the campus administration area parking lots. Accumulated leaves and branches, along with young growth brush were trimmed out and fed into a large chipper. Left untended, the ground cover and small trees can create “fire ladders” allowing a small blaze to climb into the upper foliage of trees and then spread rapidly. The clearance, reduces that risk — an important factor in the dry summer and fall months. The California Conservation Corps, created in 1976, is modeled after the national Civilian Conservation Corps of the Roosevelt New Deal era, and provides employment opportunities for over three thousand young men and women each year throughout the state. The Corps operates from 27 centers, assisting in natural resource work and emergency response. Corps members can complete high school diplomas and earn scholarships for additional education.

## Security Conference Attendees

Maritime Policy and Management interns (L-R) Stevie Swanson, Olivia Ortega, Jordan Fachko, Amanda Denny, and Kristen Swader attended the Maritime Security Conference in Ft Lauderdale, FL, May 11-13. The maritime security and intelligence fields are attracting growing numbers of Cal Maritime graduates.



## New Faces—New Hires





## Summer Navigation Course



Maritime Transportation Navigation Instructor Mark Hensley is teaching a summer semester course in Navigation here on campus. The course, offered through Cal Maritime's Sponsored Projects and Extended Learning serves two needs: For students, primarily freshmen, who want to "get ahead" of the curve and take the course in the summer, it enables them to whittle their already heavy four-year courseload down a bit and get one of their required courses completed early. Other cadets may be taking the course as a make-up to try and improve upon a poor initial grade. Cadets who are planning on a summer commercial cruise internship must have a minimum passing grade in navigation in order to sail. Hensley said the smaller class sizes for the summer course enable him to spend more time working with students who are new to the subject or need additional help.

## Maritime History Conference Showcases Cal Maritime

Assistant Professor Tim Lynch is glad it is all over — it being the joint conference of the **National Maritime Historical Society**, the **North American Society for Oceanic History** and the **Steamship Historical Society**, held on the Cal Maritime campus May 14-17. Over 120 scholars and researchers attended lectures, participated in panel discussions and networked with colleagues. Lynch, who played a major role in helping organize this year's event, expressed personal thanks to the Cal Maritime family for their hospitality in welcoming the large audience of visitors.

Also on the agenda for the program was a one-man show featuring **Ian Ruskin** in a portrayal of the life of waterfront labor leader **Harry Bridges** and his struggles to win recognition for West Coast dock workers during the 30's and 40's. **Director Maria Brooks** screened her documentary *The Men Who Sailed the Liberty Ships*. Attendees also had a chance to visit area sites including **Mare Island**, **Angel Island** and the **San Francisco waterfront**.



(L-R) Actor **Ian Ruskin**, whose one-man show on the life of San Francisco waterfront labor leader **Harry Bridges** was a highlight of the conference, **Asst. Professor Tim Lynch** of Cal Maritime, one of the key organizers of the conference, **Vic Mastone—Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeology**, and **Paul Fontenoy** of the **North Carolina Maritime Museum**. Over 120 historians and scholars took part in the four-day event.

## Faculty/Staff Milestones



Lui Hebron, Maritime Policy and Management Professor, attended the *Teaching Professor Conference* in Washington, D.C., 5-7 June 2009. His participation was made possible through the financial support of the Cal Maritime Center for Engagement, Teaching and Learning.

Assistant Maritime Policy and Management Professor Timothy Lynch's article, *Black Ahab of the Bay: William T. Shorey and the San Francisco Whale Fishery* has been included as a chapter in the collection, *Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Power in Maritime America*, published by *Mystic Seaport Press*.



Dr. Vivienne McClendon and Greg Crum, Information Technology, will be attending the MoodleMoot SF and Sloan-C Symposium on Emerging Technology Applications in San Francisco, CA, June 17-19th, 2009. Their attendance supports Cal Maritime's decision to move to the Moodle virtual learning environment (VLE) beginning July 1, 2009. (See the May, 2009 issue of *CURRENTS*—Page 10) Initial Faculty development workshops introducing Moodle took place at the Center for Engagement, Teaching and Learning on May 5th and 6th. Additional sessions will occur during a workshop for faculty-at-large on August 30th, and the new faculty orientation on September 1st. More information on the open source Moodle system is available at <http://moodle.org>.



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President William B. Eisenhardt chats with faculty members as they gather for initial instruction in use of the new Moodle system on May 5th. Moodle replaces WebCT as a mechanism to "extend the classroom" by using the Web to link students, professors and a wide range of information.



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*CURRENTS* is published by Cal Maritime's Office of Public Relations. Please direct questions, suggestions or items for the next issue to Doug Webster, Director of Public Relations, X1720 or [dwebster@csum.edu](mailto:dwebster@csum.edu). Deadline for material is generally the last weekday of the month preceding the issue date.

Whenever we can, we're happy to photograph events for inclusion in *CURRENTS*. Please give us as much advance notice as you can, including information about the event, date and location.

The latest issues of *CURRENTS* and *Cal Maritime* magazine are hot-linked from the home page of the Cal Maritime website ([www.Csum.edu](http://www.Csum.edu)). Back issues can be found by clicking on the NEWS hotlink on the left side of the home page and following links to *CURRENTS* and *Cal Maritime* archives.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.CSUM.EDU



The California State University

## Cal Maritime Calendar of Events

May 31-June 3	<i>TSGB Calls Valparaiso, Chile</i>
June 10-13	<i>TSGB Calls Guayaquil, Ecuador</i>
June 21-24	<i>TSGB Calls Puerto Vallarta, Mexico</i>
June 25	<i>Fourth Thursdays for CMA Alumni (visit <a href="http://www.csum.edu/alumni">www.csum.edu/alumni</a> for locations) 5:30 p.m.</i>
June 30—July 5	<i>TSGB Calls Long Beach—Cruise Changeover</i>
July 1	<i>Long Beach Alumni/Friends Reception Aboard TSGB—5-7 p.m.</i> <i>\$25.00 per person includes wine and hors d'oeuvres. Buy tickets online at <a href="http://alumni.csum.edu">http://alumni.csum.edu</a></i>
July 5	<i>TSGB Starts Second Cruise</i>
July 18-21	<i>TSGB Balboa, Panama</i>
July 23	<i>Fourth Thursdays for CMA Alumni (visit <a href="http://www.csum.edu/alumni">www.csum.edu/alumni</a> for locations) 5:30 p.m.</i>
July 31—August 3	<i>TSGB Valparaiso, Chile</i>
Aug 10—13	<i>TSGB Guayaquil, Ecuador</i>
Aug 22-25	<i>TSGB Puerto Vallarta, Mexico</i>
Aug. 27	<i>Fourth Thursdays for CMA Alumni (visit <a href="http://www.csum.edu/alumni">www.csum.edu/alumni</a> for locations) 5:30 p.m.</i>
Aug. 30	<i>TSGB Vallejo—End of Second Cruise</i>
Sept. 8	<i>Instruction Begins Fall Semester 09-10</i>
Sept. 14	<i>CMA Scholarship Golf Classic—Green Valley Country Club</i>
Sept. 24	<i>Fourth Thursdays for CMA Alumni (visit <a href="http://www.csum.edu/alumni">www.csum.edu/alumni</a> for locations) 5:30 p.m.</i>
Oct. 9-11	<i>Homecoming and Day on the Bay (11th)</i>
Nov. 14	<i>Preview Day for Prospective High School Students</i>

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