



CALL FOR PAPERS

MARITIME CONFERENCE BAHAMAS 2021

Thursday, June 24th & Friday, June 25th, 2021

“Ride the Wave: Strategizing the Way Forward”

LJM Maritime Academy is proud to announce its third Maritime Conference Bahamas, MCB 2021. Despite the current global health and economic concerns, the Academy wanted to plan this Conference with hopes that it would bring maritime professionals and interested parties together to discuss what is happening in the industry, share experiences and to strategize on ways to propel the industry forward.

The conference will be hosted virtually on June 24th and June 25th 2021 in observance of ‘Day of the Seafarer’. Ideally, we would have liked to host an in-person conference to allow for interpersonal interactions and networking. However, given the health concerns and risks at this time, we are holding the conference virtually knowing that it will provide many of the benefits as an in-person conference, while at the same time, reaching participants who may not have been able to attend in person.

Objectives

MCB 2021 aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers, practitioners, educators, research scholars and students to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of the Maritime Industry, local and international. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for presentations and discussions about the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns, as well as challenges encountered and solutions adopted.

Overview

The theme of this year’s conference is ‘Ride the Wave: Strategizing the Way Forward’. To tackle this broad theme, the Two-day Conference will be divided into ‘Now’ and the ‘Future’.

Day One’s theme ‘Adapting and Recognizing the Opportunities’ was selected to highlight and spark discussion about what’s happening currently. Despite the challenges brought about by Covid-19, there are still opportunities and ventures on which persons can capitalize. Presenters



will be expected to highlight topics such as maritime labour issues, economic impact on GDP and environmental sustainability.

On Day Two 'Captain Your Future' we will look at the way forward: trends, innovations and what the industry can expect for the next 10, 20, 50 years.

The Conference Committee has short listed a range of topics around which presenters can develop their thoughts and ideas for interesting and informative discussions. These and other related maritime topics will be discussed at the conference.

Interested presenters are invited to submit electronically, an abstract of no more than 250 words, accompanied by a cover page which must include:

- i. Title of the Paper
- ii. Author's name, with any titles noted
- iii. Author's contact information
- iv. Bio-data of no more than 50 words

If abstract is accepted, a high-resolution professional photograph of the author will be required for the website and promo material.

Submission Deadlines

Submission must be in Microsoft Word, Times Roman, 12-point font, with a one-inch margin around.

Abstracts to be submitted by: Monday April 23rd, 2021 – Participants will be informed of acceptance by May 7th, 2021.

Full paper to be submitted by: Monday May 31st, 2021

Submissions to be sent to: Planning Committee Chair and Co/ Chair

Emails: ecarscha.smith@ljmma.edu.bs; wmj@ljmma.edu.bs

For further information, please contact: Ecarscha Smith (ecarscha.smith@ljmma.edu.bs)



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“Ride the Wave: Strategizing the Way Forward”

Topics

1. Maritime Labour Issues: Impact and Responses

Within the last year almost every business has restructured, organizations in the maritime industry no different/exception. This theme looks at all matters related to Human capital from education to employment.

- What future skills, professional development, educational programmes or vocational training should educators consider or focus on to ensure current and future seafarers and shore workers are current and aligned with future needs?
- With the difficulty of crew signing off and employees traveling, how have companies incorporated mental health awareness into their operations?
- Can seafarers expect amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) that will ensure increased comforts are given to them?
- How are students at Maritime training institutions adapting to virtual/ hybrid learning and social distancing in a technical field?

2. The Bahamas' Response

Based on Lloyd's Top 10 flag states of 2020, the Bahamas is no. 7 on the list, a position maintained from the previous year despite a slight decrease. While this is reasonable, there have been reports of vast numbers of ship owners changing flag states and restructuring to essentially cut costs and remain viable.

- What implications does this have on the Bahamian registry's contribution to the GDP?
- Are there any new services being implemented to encourage or promote the registry?
- What is the national, regional and international responses to the 'Emissions Reduction Call to Action'?

3. Sustaining our environment



With the movement of cruise passengers to a halt and the movement of goods decreased, the number of vessels in port, drifting or at anchor has increased. As a result, some areas have been inundated with sitting ships. Nonetheless, as business worldwide picks up, it is anticipated that global trade will begin to rebound by the 3rd quarter of 2021.

- What is the national, regional and international responses to the 'Emissions Reduction Call to Action'?
- What is / has been the impact of anchors on sea beds during this long 'stay put' phase?
- What is the Ministry of Marine, Agriculture & Fisheries response and update?
- Are ports investing in alternative energy sources?

4. Opportunities in the Blue Economy

Maritime Transport is just one of the many industries within the Blue Economy which encourages better management of our ocean and blue resources.

- What do governments, and others, really mean when they refer to it?
- Is the blue economy at risk from "greenwashing"?
- What are the challenges of "blueing" the Ocean Economy?
- What are the investment opportunities and financial implications?
- What opportunities are there for existing industries facing the transition to more environmentally sustainable practices?

5. Trends and issues

The maritime industry has never been a technologically savvy industry, though in recent times greater focus has been given to technology developments in shipbuilding and operations. Before Covid-19, there were installations of automated bridge and engine functions and talks of automated vessels for example.

- Has Covid-19 accelerated the trajectory towards removing the human element?
- What are the latest technology innovations in the Maritime Industry and/or Blue Ocean Economy?
- What is the future of cruising/yachting locally or internationally?
- What is the response from marinas, cruise ship companies and charterers?
- What does the new normal in shipping (bulk, tanker, etc.) look like?



6. Navigating Compliance

According to IHS Markit's Maritime Compliance Guide, fewer scrubbers and ballast water management systems (BWMS) were installed in 2020 due to COVID-19. The installation of scrubbers and ballast water management systems, for example, have been delayed because shipyards contracted to make these installations were closed at the beginning of 2020 due to the pandemic.

- How has COVID – 19 impacted the way maritime regulations are being enforced and new ones are implemented?