



# Erasmus+

## 2023 ERASMUS + Teaching and Professional Mobility at Constanta Maritime University (CMU), Romania: A Wonderful Memorable Experience of a Lifetime



(Ref: Invitation letter dated March 3, 2023 by CMU Rector to  
MAAP President for the May 15-June 20, 2023 visit)

**Prof Angelica M. Baylon, PhD**

ERASMUS plus Coordinator for MAAP and MAAP-ERO Director  
Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific Philippines



**Special Acknowledgement:** My heartfelt thanks to Senate President **Dr. Prof. Engr. Cornel Panait**, Rector **Prof. Univ. Dr. Ing Violeta-Vali Ciucur**, Vice Rector for Students Relations , Economic and Social Environment **Dr. Engr Radu Hanzu Pazara** ; Vice Rector for Academic Affairs **Dr Prof. Eliodor Constantinescu**; Vice Rector for Scientific Research and Innovation **Dr.Prof.Engr. Gabriel Raicu**; Vice-Dean **Dr. Nicoleta Acomi AFNI, CMarTech , MIMarEST** ; JMET Editor **Dr. Prof. Mariana Panaitescu**, HORESEC Head, **Dr. Prof. Fanel- Viorel Panaitescu** and most especially to my dearest research partner and good friend **Prof. Dr. Cristina Dragomir**.

**Special thanks:** Dean , Faculty of Navigation and Naval Transport **Prof. Costel Stanca**, Dean , Faculty of Marine Engineering **Dr. Engr. Liviu-Constantin Stan**, Head of Professional Counselling Department **Dr. Luminita Stan** ; Computer aided-Graphics **Dr. Alexandra Raicu** and Mechanical Engineering (VR) Prof Remus Zagan , GMDSS Simulator **Prof Dr Engr Codruta Pricop**; Deck Simulator **Prof Dr Eugen Barsan** and **Dr Engr Nicolaie Grosan**; Engine Room Simulator Lecturer **Catalin Faitar** and **Asst Viorel Grozav** , Senior Lecturer **Dr. Engr Bebe Serbanescu**, Senior Chemistry Lab Lecturer **Dr Irina Stanciu** , High Voltage **Prof Dr Marian Dordescu**, Marine & Technical Judicial Surveyor **Prof. Engr. Dr. Andrei Murineanu**, the International Relations Staff Ms. **Maria Pavalanche** and Institutional ERASMUS Coordinator Ms. **Roxana Iancu**.

In addition to teaching and sharing my knowledge on the subject Maritime Management, Logistics, Transport, Change Management Models, Mental Health Programs, Maritime Security, Green Shipping Technology Trends and my experience and insights in influencing change in the maritime sector, I also learned the CMU best practices and various facilities for effective delivery of Maritime Education and Training. I would like to simply express my heartwarming experience using the Mnemonic **E-R-A-S-M-U-S P-L-U-S** which in my experience and professional encounter stands for:

**E-** Enthralled by the leadership, various experts, facilities, equipment and courses that the Constanta Maritime University offers

**R-** Reinforced further the strong cooperation between my institution- the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific Philippines and our co- AMU partner the Constanta Maritime University, Romania, thru the development of the digital and hybrid lessons, using a virtual component.

**A-** Added new friends and contacts in the process which is good for global research, instruction and partnerships as new friends with varied expertise (local government agencies, educational sectors like universities, academies and training institutions and smart transport sectors and at the same time, added value to the mobility (in the context of the modernization and internationalization strategies) between MAAP and CMU.

**S-**Supplemented my knowledge and skills both personal and professional, to which I am most grateful for the invitation, indeed there are more rooms for continuous improvement.

**M** –Mesmerized on the warm welcome shown by friends despite their busy schedule in both their personal and professional daily activities

**U-**understood and appreciated more, other cultures, the people, the hospitality, the food and most especially the goodwill and friendships

**S-**Supported the planned activities by friends in CMU like the intended activities for women empowerment, research publications, online teaching based on common interest and time.

**P-** Provided much confidence to collaborate and communicate with foreign friends and counterparts thru a direct channel for cooperation between faculties based on varied expertise as basis for collaborations.

**L** –Learned more about other organizations, facilities and equipment, merchant terminologies and working environment of colleagues in a different academic setting. The Training facilities Integrated Complex **Simulators** include: *Navigation and Ship Handling Simulator TRANSNAS Full Mission; Engine Room Simulator Kongsberg ERS Neptune MAN B & W 5L90MC-VLCC; GMDSS Simulator; Simulator for the Handling of Liquid Bulk Cargo; ECDIS Simulator; Dynamic Positioning* with Certificate of Affiliation from the Nautical Institute UK.. What interest me most is the **PIECES II Simulator** for Emergency Situations. Speaking of **Laboratories**, they have: *Electronics Laboratory; Electrotechnics Laboratory; Digital and Analog Electronics Laboratory; Microwave, Antennas and Radio wave Propagation Laboratory; and Multifunctional Laboratory* (workstation for Brake specific fuel consumption BSFC) to evaluate the efficiency of the internal combustion engines (ICE), Workstation for the study of combustion of liquid and gaseous fuels, Workstation for the study of fluid flow sediments , drive panel for the naval power steams, Operating Pumps in series or parallel, Diesel generators in the multifunctional laboratory preparation for the startup and supervision of operation and fluid mechanics laboratory and hydraulic actuators); *Hydrobiology Biodiversity and Ecotoxicology Laboratory* and *the Fire Fighting Container Training Polygon Laboratory*. What interest me most are the four laboratories namely: **HORESEC** (Holistic Impact of Renewable Energy Resources on Environment and Climate) **Laboratory**, the **Chemistry Laboratory**, the **Waste Water Treatment Laboratory** and the **High Voltage Techniques and Electrical Drives Laboratory**. Also remarkable is the **Smart Energy Expo 2023** for the modernization of Constanta Romania Maritime Transport. Learned that as a maritime researcher and educator with varied disciplines, it is possible for me to collaborate with any scholars to create new information and knowledge.

**U-** United or integrated our joint expertise and had agreed to strengthen the partnerships thru the use of technology for joint papers and projects.

**S-** Shared insights and snapshots with people at various places visited (offices, laboratories, campuses, nice places) which documented the wonderful ERASMUS plus experience.

Both **MAAP** and **CMU** are members of the International Association of Maritime Lecturers (**IMLA**) and the International Association of Maritime Universities (**IAMU**) that gathers maritime higher education institutions worldwide and aims to ensure the standardization of the teaching curricula in order to foster mobility and the gaining of the necessary competences for facing the challenges of the global labour market.

The **CMU curriculum** are described on the basis of learning outcomes and are graded using the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). All programs are validated through the CMU's quality assurance process. CMU recognizes the use of ECTS for the purposes of **international mobility**. The activities of the bilateral cooperation initiatives are the result of the **ERASMUS+ Bureau's negotiations with foreign counterparts**.

**MAAP** offers **3 Bachelor's Degree**: *Marine Transportation, Marine Engineering and Marine Engineering and Transportation*). **CMU** on the other hand, offers **6 Bachelor's Degree** (*Marine Engineering and Navigation Field; Navigation and Waterborne Transport; Marine Engineering; Electrical Engineering field; Engineering and management Field; Field of Electronic Engineering and Telecommunications and Field of Environmental Engineering*).

Both **MAAP** and **CMU** are recognized by the **Japan Maritime Center** as a certified institution under the System of Recognition for MET institutions. Both MAAP and CMU graduates may join the Japanese Fleet without undergoing additional tests and acknowledgements.

**CMU** had signed **28 global cooperation agreements** with MET institutions around the world, with **MAAP Philippines** included for 2022-2027.

With the so many fascinating facilities and personalities at CMU, this photo - documentation report is limited to few selected photos that are work and maritime related, with insights and brief descriptions because photos speak a thousand words. **Not included in this report are the so many souvenir photos with friends and their families** that made the ERASMUS plus journey wonderful, memorable and fun. Like in the Philippines, Romanian families have strong family ties, very hospitable and generous, treating me as part of the family even if it was their first time to meet and see me. Truly a heart-warming and beautiful experience that is worth keeping and remembering.

# The ERASMUS PLUS (+) Teaching Mobility Souvenir Photos

(Part of the 2022010R001-KA171-HED-000064434 project initiated by the National Agency for Community Programs in the Field of Education and Vocational Training to promote international cooperation among international institutions around the world)

**MENTAL HEALTH & MARITIME SECURITY**  
SECURITY FOR WOMEN AGAINST ATTACKS IN THE OCEAN

DEALING WITH COMPLEX POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (C/PTSD) CAUSED BY HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ON BOARD, IN THE MARITIME SECTOR AND DURING PIRATICAL ATTACKS AGAINST VESSELS

*"Stay Strong. Stand the Storm.  
Shoulder to Shoulder.  
Side by Side.  
Support and Stand by each other."*

Prof. Angelica M. Baylon  
Director for External Relations  
At Marine Academy of Asia and the Pacific

Celebrating the IMO International Day for Women in Maritime 2023  
18th of May 2023 Mexico 08:30 a 13:00 hrs | STM -

Supporter:

Co-Organization:

Register Link: <https://www.umx.veracruz/fmncn/minis/>

**PRESENTATIONS**  
THANKS TO ALL THE KEY SPEAKERS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT.

UN Women

Maria Noel Vasza

Mental Health & Maritime Security

Sustainability Through Mental Health Programs in Maritime Education & Training

What is Mental Health?

Seunghee Choi

Angelic Baylon

Register Link: <https://www.umx.veracruz/fmncn/minis/>

ERASMUS Project  
Erasmus+  
MAAP Philippines and  
Constanta Maritime University

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES  
FOR GREENER SHIPPING**

Hosted by  
Constanta Maritime University, Romania

Dr. Angelica M. Baylon  
External Relations Director  
Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific  
Philippines

ERASMUS+  
Changing Life, Opening Minds

UNIVERSITATEA MARITIMĂ  
CONSTANȚA



# HOW TO INFLUENCE CHANGE IN THE MARITIME SECTOR?

Data: 24.05.2023  
 Ora: 15:00  
 Sala: P018  
 SEDIUL CENTRAL UMC

**Dr. Angelica M Baylon**  
 Maritime Academy of Asia and Pacific

ERASMUS + Teaching Mobility









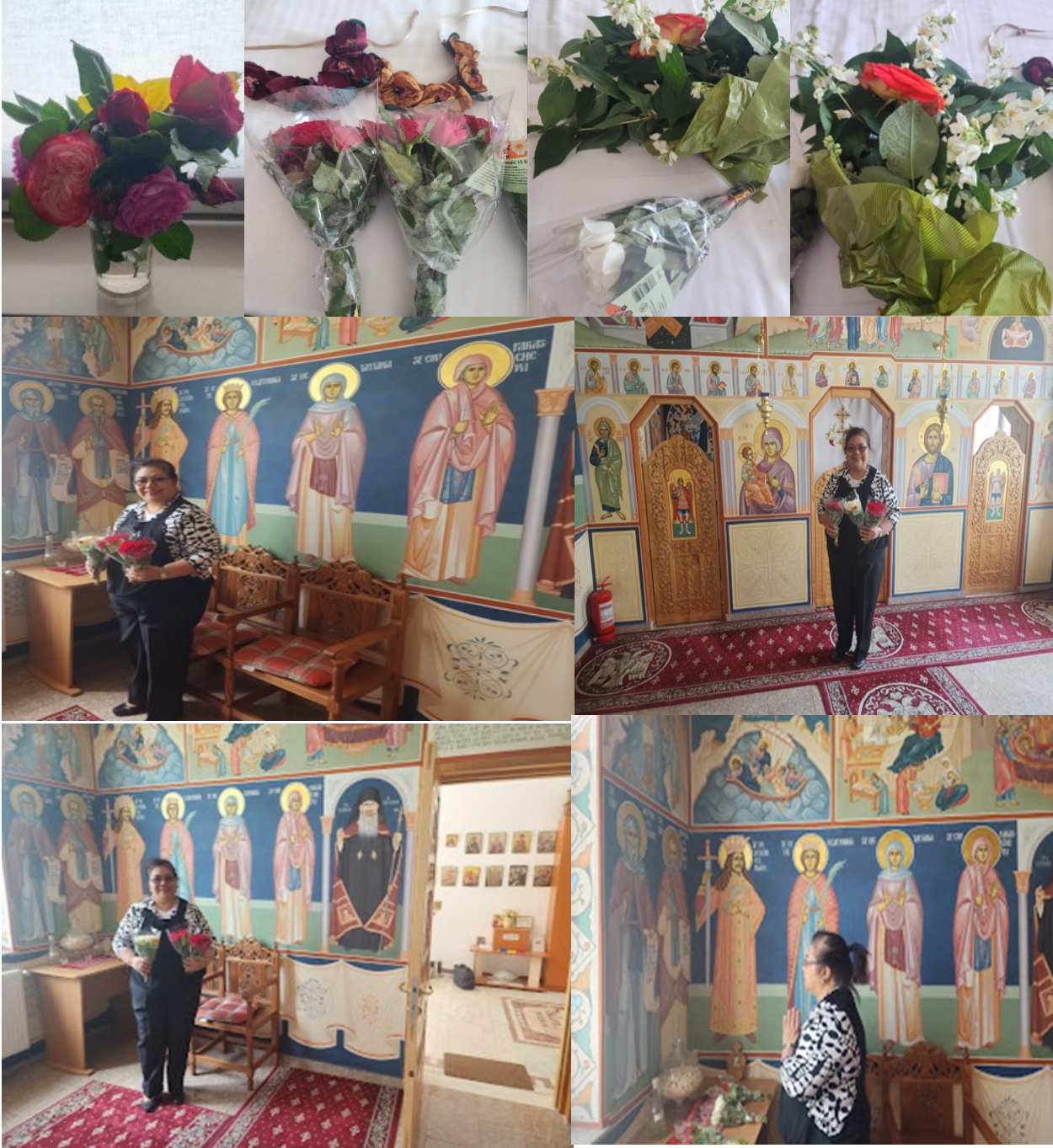

# UNIVERSITATEA MARITIMA





# WELCOME FLOWERS (roses – red, white, yellow, pink, orange and maroon)

Received from friends and their families that brought smiles, cheers and good wishes. The same fresh ROSES were offered to the Blessed Holy Trinity, Mama Mary and holy Angels and Saints with prayers for my good friends and loved ones at the Chapel of the Romanian Naval Academy,



At the **CMU Nautica Base** Strada Cuarțului 2, Constanța Romania Main and the **CMU Main Campus** Strada Mircea cel Bătrân 104, Constanța Romania 900663, <https://cmu-edu.eu/en/>

Welcome Visit and Meeting with the experts and counterparts



With the amazing CMU Rector **Prof. Univ. Dr. Ing. Violeta-Vali Ciucur**











Met with important personalities, leaders and professors of CMU and had discussed with the **way forward for the international cooperation** between MAAP and CMU as co-IAMU members.

At the **HORESEC** (Holistic Impact of the Renewable Energy Resources on Environment and Climate) Laboratory, at the Nautica Base Constanta Maritime University

With **Dr. Prof. Viorel Panitescu** of the **HORESEC Renewable Energy Laboratory** and **Dr. Mariana Panaitescu** of the **Environmental Engineering Laboratory** of the Department of Engineering Sciences in Mechanics and Environment







The HORESEC Laboratory consists of various equipment that combines wind photovoltaic motor renewable energy systems. The system was entirely designed and built at CMU for the combined testing of on grid and off grid operation efficiency. The **HORESEC project** supports intelligent specialization of energy through the holistic analysis of the impact of energy sources on climate change, achieving the evolution, the progress of knowledge for the **sustainable development** of the University and the Romania in general.



## At the **High Voltage Techniques and Electrical Drives Laboratory**, Nautica Base, CMU

(With High Voltage expert **Prof Dr. Marian Codrescu** and **Electromechanics Faculty Dean Prof Dr Engr. Stan Liviu Constantin**)



The laboratory trains students enrolled in **Electrical Engineering** and **Electromechanics** within the Faculty of Marine Engineering in compliance with the STCW Code with Manila Amendments which become compulsory starting with the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017, **maritime engine** and **electrician officers** must acquire competences in the operation of **High Voltage Systems** which are to be found onboard of the newest modern maritime vessels. The laboratory is also used for the training and certification of maritime seagoing personnel as well as qualified staff on the exploitation of high voltage electric plants. The laboratory comprises **two sections**: one dedicated to **electrical drivers equipment**, having 8 state of the art working stations and one dedicated to the **high voltage electrical plant** which features real equipment that can be found in real power plants.

## At the **Waste Water Treatment Laboratory**, Nautica Base, CMU



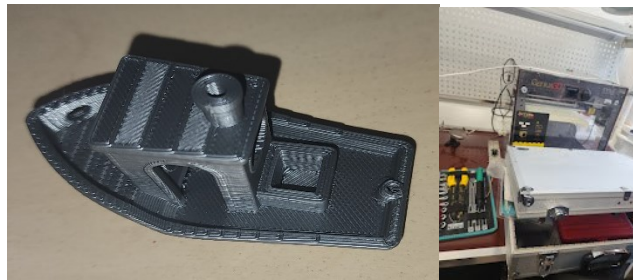
The state of the Art Equipment allows for the **laboratory analysis of wastewater** and the use of experimental techniques for **environmental monitoring**, qualitative analysis as well as **testing and diagnosis of environmental factors**.

## At the **Chemistry Laboratory**, CMU Main Campus



As a chemist, I enjoyed my ERASMUS plus visit in the Maritime Chemistry Laboratory and had fun with **Dr Stanciu Irina**. In maritime, only general chemistry is taught not the advanced chemistry. Mostly basic principle like REDOX (Reduction and Oxidation reaction) to explain the reason behind the rusting of iron or corrosion , the principle of acidity and basicity which can be tested using various indicators like phenolphthalein, PH papers etc. , the various gas laws etc.. Indeed, Chemistry is so much fun! Missed teaching Chemistry, which is my field of expertise (MS and PhD Chemistry). Nevertheless, the knowledge and analytical skills acquired are still being utilized in maritime and able to **explain scientific phenomena** in maritime. Basically, all the seafarers **must know basic chemistry** for them to appreciate and understand science on board and how to present, control, solve and contribute to **greener shipping for a sustainable maritime industry**.

**At the 3-D Printing Laboratory, CMU Main Campus**  
(With Computer-aided graphics expert **Dr Alexandra Raicu**)



There are a number of **benefits to adopting 3D print techniques** for companies in the maritime industry. One is being able to repair a vessel while she is at sea as this will, at least temporarily, stem any safety or efficiency issues until a port or dry dock can be reached. In the marine industry, 3D printing is already being used to manufacture several items like propeller parts, appendages, etc. In the future, the industry is looking forward to more applications in the construction of ships and submarines. Thank you to the souvenir sample made from the **CMU 3D printer** as shown on photo. On the other hand, the Navy uses 3D printing (additive manufacturing), to produce everything from tiny plastic clips to large scale proof of concepts of submarine hulls. Sailors' print spare parts aboard ships, use 3D printing to test prototypes, and even manufacture custom drones. Photo taken at Romanian Naval Academy is a sample of a small 3D printer which all Romanian Navy and Maritime students are required to know and learn how to operate and use.



## At the **Maritime Cyber security Center of Excellence**, Constanta Maritime University (CMU) Main Campus

In addition to having participated in the Virtual Seminar on MAAP cyber security policy and guidelines on May 24, 2023, got interested to visit the CMU Cybersecurity Center of Excellence. **Dr Cristina Dragomir**, introduced me to the head and staff of the center (**Research Vice Rector Dr. Gabriel Raicu**, Computer aided-Graphics **Dr. Alexandra Raicu** and Mechanical Engineering (VR) Prof **Remus Zagan**) regarding **CMU Cybersecurity initiatives**. CMU provided brochures and also made me try the virtual reality gadgets at the center.



Trusted when it comes to safeguarding systems, the center works with National Cybersecurity Directorate, Rumanian government agencies and private companies to identify and close skill gaps. The center offers basic, advanced and mandated training solutions that are customized to needs and is handled by the best instructors. The center is providing **training to IT security professionals** who serve on frontline of cybersecurity defense teams, maritime and harbor companies and various organizations in the labor market. Students learn the latest in **offensive and defensive tactics** and how to apply them to real world scenarios .Their courses are meant to push boundaries that prepare students with actionable insights and proven strategies.

# At the **PIECES II SIMULATOR** for **EMERGENCY SITUATIONS**, Constanta Maritime University (CMU) Main Campus

(With **Prof Dr. Fanel Viorel Panaitescu** showing & brilliantly explaining Scenarios)



The Potential Incident Simulator Control and Evaluation System (**PIECES**) is organized in such a way that the trainer can launch pollution scenarios towards the student work stations and they can virtually use various resources chosen from a library in order to limit the pollution and to retrieve and annihilate the polluting substance.

The pollution accidents that may be simulated are the discharge of hydrocarbon into the sea and the discharge of toxic and radioactive gas into the air. The **PIECES II Simulator** is also provided with the Module “*Management of Critical Situations*” which can be used in case of forest fires, pollution of water with Hydrocarbon , accidents with hazardous cargo, searching and saving operations following naval and aircraft accidents and terrorist attacks.





**At the Sky Bar By Impera** Constanta, Downtown Building Strada Stefan cel Mare nr2 Romania <https://adl.anmb.ro/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=10359&parent=13373>

Sponsored by Maersk line in cooperation with Constanta Maritime University, a Life at Sea Sharing Session for Women, May 26, 2023) with **Dr. Cristina Dragomir** and **Dr. Luminita Stan** of Constanta Maritime University (UMC) and with the Vice Dean for Scientific Research and International Relations Marine Engineering Faculty of Mircea cel Batran Naval Academy **Dr. Edith Hilde Kaiter**. Thanks to Maersk Marine People Advisor **Ms. Rebecca Acujboae** & all lovely Romanian women in maritime.





At the outset, it can be surmised that the 2018-2019 IAMU funded **GECAMET Project** led by **CMU Prof Dr. Cristina Dragomir** is still actively involved in varied women empowerment activities with Maersk Line as partner. Similarly, this 2023 - 2024, another IAMU Funded **VILSMAR project** is led by **CMU Prof. Dr. Cristina Dragomir**. I am glad that MAAP as a co-IAMU member, is a gratified partner of both projects. Very timely to have networked with co-empowered women as part of this ERASMUS plus mobility project while in Constanta Romania.



At the **Mamaia Exhibition Center**, Bulevardul Mamaia 331A, Constanța

For the **SMART ENERGY EXPO – Smart Transportation Technology**

(May 23 - May 28, 2023) [www.ccina.ro](http://www.ccina.ro) and [m.youtube.com](https://m.youtube.com) for more details

(with **Dr. Prof Cristina Dragomir**)





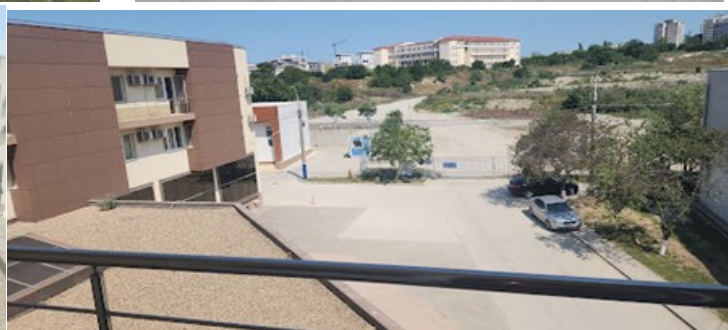


At the **Ovidius University of Constanta** (popular Medical School) in Aleea Universității nr. 1, Campus-corp A, etaj 1, 900470 Constanta Romania <https://admission.univ-ovidius.ro/v2/> , walking distance to the CMU Nautica Base

The University has study programs in medical and natural sciences, humanities and engineering, social and economic sciences, law and administrative sciences, theology and arts.

Out of curiosity, I entered the building and on the ground floor, I saw in each room some hospital beds having human specimens covered with white bed sheets. I asked the Professors, if the specimens are real human cadavers and they confirmed, so I immediately get out of the building with no photo souvenirs taken within the university. Ovidius University is the largest university in **South-East Romania** and it is also the largest university of the **European Union at the Black Sea**.

My room at CMU Nautica Base is overlooking the **Ovidius University** as shown on room terrace.





**At the Mircea Cel Batran Naval Academy, 1<sup>st</sup> Furlgerului Street,  
Constanta 900218 Romania [www.anmb.ro](http://www.anmb.ro) (First Filipino to visit)**

The Vice- Dean for Scientific Research and International Relations Marine Engineering Faculty **Dr. Edith–Hilde Kaiter** arranged my visit at the Naval Academy. As commissioned navy officer of the Philippine Navy, (LCDR rank), I had the honor to enter and tour the Naval Academy in Romania for the first time. Thank you to Dr. Kaiter’s former students (10 years ago) namely LCDR **Serjun Serban** and also to the Director of Department Tactica Si Armament Naval **LCDR Dr. Engr. Christea Ovidius** who toured and explained the various educational and training facilities. Director Ovidius also shared online unclassified educational resources found on the website which the Philippines may use as references like the “*Allied Maritime Tactical Signal and Maneuvering Book*” by NATO to cite a few.

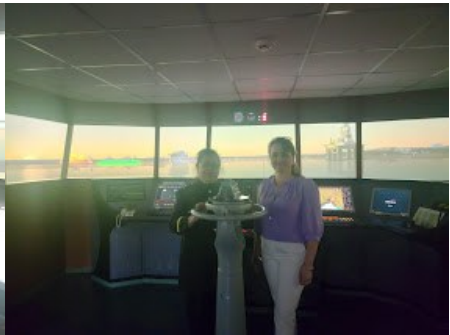
Learned to be the **first Filipino** to visit their campus and allowed to enter, tour and take photo of their educational and training facilities at the Faculty of Navigation and Naval Management, Faculty of Marine Engineering and Faculty of Navigation and Integrated Simulator. The Philippines has National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) and Naval Education Training Center (NETC) but no Naval Academy. Exceptional Filipinos were accepted to study at the US Naval Academy located in Annapolis Maryland. My very first tour of a Naval Academy visit was in Constanta Romania. Amazed and impressed with the naval, engine and deck training facilities most especially the high level simulation activities provided to the naval students like robotics, communication systems, torpedos etc., hence Romanians of the Navy are certainly alert and ready for any unfortunate situations.

One again, thanks to **Dr. Kaiter**, who also handed me souvenirs and the 241-page book authored by her entitled “*Vocabulary and Reading Tests for Electro Mechanics*” Yes, in my lifetime, I have been in **Romanian Naval Academy** in Constanta Romania in my smart Major General (Interpol) Uniform, to be reported to MAAP President **VAdm. Eduardo Ma R. Santos, AFP (Ret)** (former Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy) and to **Director General Galma Arcilla** of the TAOIC-INTERPOL upon return to the Philippines!

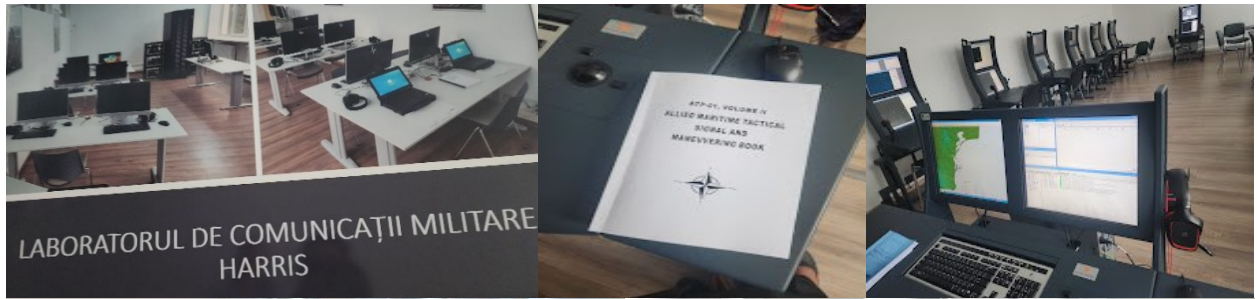
Once again, I passed by the Navy Chapel to once again glorify and thanked the Lord!













## At the **Main Campus of Constanta Maritime University**

Strada Mircea cel Bătrân 104, Constanța 900663

<https://cmu-edu.eu/en/>

Met with the Hon. President Senate **Dr. Prof .Engr. Cornel Panait** and **Dr. Nicoleta Acomi** for the Way Forward between MAAP Philippines and CMU Romania.

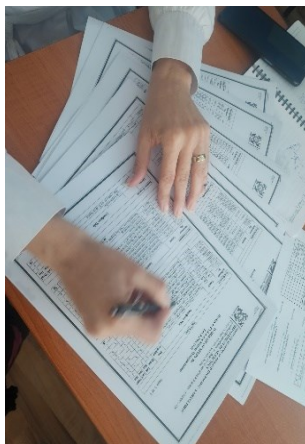
This ERASMUS + report will not be complete without a visit and meeting with our dear **Dr. Prof. Engr. Cornel Panait**, former CMU Rector and now CMU President Senate, one of the respected and valued member of the International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU) and the prime mover of the Constanta Maritime University. In the presence of Vice Dean Dr. **Nicoleta Acomi**, he said and I quote – **“You are the First Filipino Faculty of Constanta Maritime University “**.

Indeed, with the signed MOU between MAAP and CMU, the strong partnership thru **ERASMUS + Teaching mobility** made it possible for me to visit CMU and be the first Filipino to teach at CMU, with nice accommodations accorded to Professors at the CMU nautical base. On behalf of MAAP President and IMO Good will Ambassador, **Vadm. Eduardo Ma R Santos, AFP (Ret)**, I had the honor to have photo with **CMU Hon. President Senate Dr. Prof Engr Cornel Panait** with the signed partnership between CMU and MAAP. He sends his high regards to Admiral Santos and looks forward to his visit in CMU Romania any time.



We also talked about the way forward for both MAAP and CMU, and to continue the good partnerships using the technology with online teaching as an example.

As shown on photo, **Dr. Nicoleta Acomi** reviewed MAAP curriculum of both undergraduate and graduate programs vis-à-vis CMU curriculum. We had thoroughly discussed common courses offered and we will arrange online teaching every semester. A certificate can also be awarded to our respective faculty who had rendered their expertise via online. **Ms Roxana Iancu**, the ERASMUS coordinator manifested her appreciation for MAAP fast action in signing the bilateral agreement and also the fast approval to their invitation to send me to Constanta Maritime University for the teaching and staff mobility project for a start as ERASMUS coordinator for MAAP. She said that dealing with MAAP is very smooth and fast hence coordination is timely even in short notice.





On photo is ERASMUS coordinator **Ms. Roxana Iancu**, **Dr Nicoleta Acomi** ,  
**me** and **Prof. Engr. Dr. Andrei Murineanu**



My co- **AFNI** and co- **MIMarEST** dear **Dr. Nicoleta Acomi AFNI, CMarTech, MIMarEST** with **Ms Roxana Iancu** awarded me the Teaching certificate signed by the **CMU Rector Prof. Univ. Dr. Ing Violeta-Vali Ciucur** , a proof that indeed, I have completed the tasks and the first Filipino Faculty to teach in Constanta Maritime University thru the ERASMUS plus mobility program.

Also for the fourth time in Constanta, I saw deck cadet **Angelica Gonciar** who is taking her second degree at CMU and this time in maritime

Indeed CMU is successful in attracting women to pursue a rewarding career in the maritime profession as future officers.



**At the Padre Pio Basilica Catholic Church,** Bulevardul Alexandru  
Lăpuşneanu 161, Constanța 900001 Constanta Romania



**Biserica Catolică "Sf. Pius din Pietrelcina" - Padre Pio - Constanța**



Always thanking the Good Lord and offered thanksgiving Mass and prayers wherever I am and importantly during Sunday masses.

<https://arcb.ro/website/arhidieceza/parohii-si-cler/parohii-diecezane/parohia-sfantul-pius-din-pietrelcina/>



## At the **St Anthony De Padua Basilica Catholic Church**,

Strada Nicolae Titulescu, Constanța Romania 900735

[https://www.litoralulromanesc.ro/en/biserica\\_sfanton.htm](https://www.litoralulromanesc.ro/en/biserica_sfanton.htm)



Sunday Mass at St Anthony De Padua Catholic Church in Constanta Romania. St. Anthony De Padua is the patron saint of my mother **Antonina Grace Maximo - Gutierrez**. Dedicated the mass to my mother, and thanking St. Anthony De Padua for his prayers and intercession. May my prayers be granted by the good Lord.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS



The ERASMUS+ mobility provided good opportunity for both my **personal and professional growth** beneficial for **my institution MAAP** and **all organizations that I am affiliated**. Having met various faculties and also my counterparts in the field of Chemistry, Physics, Math, Engineering, Environmental Education, Business Administration, Maritime Education and Training and Internationalization, I have noted some of their best practices.

CMU has an **Institutional Gender Equality Plan or (GEP)**. We discussed about GEP change aspects and about GEP action plan being implemented by CMU. I noted the various initiatives and actions done by CMU to empower more women for STEM (Science, Technology, Math) education in maritime. I had discussed with maritime Romanian ladies about international experiences as women in maritime and some of the gender issues. Also discussed about the possible role and opportunity for MAAP to join the **EUMENT-ENT** as an institutional member of the European Network for Mentoring Programmes for the Advancement of Equal Opportunities and Cultural and Institutional Change in Academia and Research. Understanding what are the benefits of MAAP in becoming part of the network and the network's expectation from MAAP. EUMENT-ENT has **Mentoring Programmes** for the Advancement of opportunities and cultural and institutional change in Academia and Research. CMU **Dr Prof Cristina Dragomir** is very active on these



initiatives which we in MAAP will support as co-partner of **IAMU funded GECAMET** and **VILSMAR projects**.

CMU also has a **Mentoring Program** that we in MAAP are also doing for our students who are lagging behind or need further reinforcement to ensure they will pass , be better and be promoted to the next level. This mobility is an opportunity to compare work methods as it provided a very good first-hand experience from foreign academic counterparts in learning how to build a successful track for potential leaders among our research students. Vice-Rector for student relations, economic and social environment **Dr. Engr. Radu Hanzu-Pazara** is very active in **Mentoring Programs** which we in MAAP supports. He along with other CMU and MAAP professors were involved on online teaching for MAAP and CMU students , that were very much appreciated by students especially during the pandemic and we intend to continue it , as an output of this ERASMUS + project.

Impressed with **Cyber security initiatives**, I am also very much amazed with the HORESEC or the **Holistic Impact of Renewable Energy Sources on Environments and Climate** Laboratory and the **Wastewater Treatment Laboratory** for the university's sustainability which is also very visible from the expertise of the respective managers (**Dr. Prof Fanel Viorel Panaitescu** and **Dr. Prof Mariana Panaitescu**) and faculty , and also from the undergraduate and graduate environmental course offerings coupled by the huge amount of grants received for the projects.

CMU has a Journal of Marine Technology and Environment (JMTE) [www.jmtu.eu](http://www.jmtu.eu) , with **Chief Editor Dr Mariana Panaitescu**. JMTE is an indexed crossref with DOI for articles with MAAP (Vadm Santos and myself as members of editorial board since 2017). Both MAAP and CMU agreed to continue supporting each other thru review of papers, submission of articles for publications and possible joint papers.

CMU Romania and MAAP Philippines also agreed to continue the **On-line Lecturing Program** of MAAP faculty to CMU students and CMU faculty to MAAP students based on common subjects being thought in the BSMT and BSMarE curriculum and also graduate courses at CAMS –MAAP. We will arrange based on common convenient time and schedule. **Prof Engr. Dr. Nicoleta Acomi AFNI, CMarTech, MIMarEST** discussed the CMU initiatives in having the CMU **Dynamic**

**Positioning (DP) Laboratory** affiliated and accredited by the Nautical Institute UK, which we in MAAP is inspired to also do the same, considering the MAAP was recently recognized this 2023 as an **NI-IMarEST Center of MET Excellence**.

For every great opportunity, there is a corresponding responsibility that goes with it. Being grateful and motivated with privileges and opportunities granted me had inspired me to do the best of my capabilities and thru God's help and overflowing grace. Indeed, this wonderful professional experience made me represent my institution MAAP as a **global Filipino citizen** being able to represent values of women inclusivity and diversity in Higher Education Institutions in line with **SDG 4, SDG5** and **SDG 17**.

This ERASMUS Plus experience shall serve as an inspiration to be a productive and nurturing human being as God's instrument for His greater honor and glory. I saw and felt God's power and love in this ERASMUS plus journey. The experience also added another first in the history of my career as the **FIRST FILIPINO** and also the pioneer MAAP Director and **first ERASMUS coordinator** for MAAP, ever invited in Romania by **Constanta Maritime University** and also by the **Mircea cel Batran Naval Academy** this **2023**, in their campus which I shall forever cherish as long as I live!

Thank you **CMU**. Thank you **ERASMUS +** and to all those **important people and friends** who made this professional journey possible for me in my lifetime.

To God be the Glory and Honor!