



MAAP cadets adjudged Top 10 Maritime Students of the Philippines

The Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) proved once again that its cadets are equipped with its core values: Competence, Loyalty, and Discipline, as three midshipmen were adjudged and proclaimed the nation's best, belonging to the Top 10 Maritime Student of the Philippines 2015, held at The Manila Hotel last September 28, 2015.

OIC-EW Alvin Acuido and OIC-NW Shiela May Rosales, who were first class cadets at the time of the Search, together with Midn. 1CI Archie Artizona, bested other maritime students in 56 maritime institutions in the said search conducted by Western Union.

MARITIME ACADEMY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFICURING EXCELLENCE AT SEA AT ALL TIMES

In line with the search, seven students from other maritime colleges and universities were selected to complete the Top 10. They are Angelo P. Decena and Val

Ralph S. Velasquez, both from Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA); Florencio S. Deypalubos from University of Cebu (UC); Rey Phillip I. Gallos and Bernard M. Surbito from JBLCF-Bacolod; Mark P. Magdato from JBLMU-Arevalo; and Christian J. Santiago from JBLMUMolo.

In connection with the annual search, each maritime institution nominated their finest cadets who formed part of the said pick. Nominated students were evaluated in their expertise in the field of academics, as well as practical applications of Filipino values and the sponsor's Integrity Guide, as well as the Four Pillars of the Maritime Law, the SOLAS'78, MarPol'73/78, STCW'78 and the MLC 2006.

During the process, the names of the school they represent were not revealed to the jury and finally, out of hundreds aspiring maritime students, only 10 were chosen.

"We have always believed in the Filipino Seafarers. It is incredibly inspiring to see these young men and women, both from cities and rural areas, sharing their passion and excellence in this craft," said Patricia Riingen, Senior Vice-President of South East Asia and Oceania Western Union.

Renowned to its finest seafarers, the Philippines continues its legacy in fulfilling the demands of the maritime trade and as a primary source of skilled and competent officers and seafarers.

The Commission of Filipino Overseas estimates a rough 400,000 strong Filipino seafarers engaged in the world-wide transit and crewing, especially in manning almost half of the total ships' volume in the global trade and shipping transport. **(Nathaniel Villena, 2018)**