

Dabelstein & Passehl Shipping and Marine Insurance Scholarship 2005

Participating in the Scholarship for 2005 was a real highlight of my career to date.

I had expected the two week programme to be very interesting from a comparative law perspective and to be helpful by offering some actual training in shipping law when such courses are usually unavailable at undergraduate level. I did not realise though the extent of the practical training we would be undertaking. This is a real benefit for lawyers like myself who have to try and understand how containers are loaded, how vessels are constructed and the like, but who do not have enough opportunities to go on vessels or visit ports. There was also a nice balance between the practical aspects of the programme and the lectures of Dabelstein's lawyers. The two weeks were extremely well-planned and the scholars were kept very busy!

My expectations as to the comparative aspect of the programme and its international nature were also completely exceeded. In my view this is probably the strongest asset of the Scholarship. Having only five scholars, each within the same age bracket and from different countries, means that the scholars are really able to engage and discuss the differences between the laws, procedures, and legal cultures of their countries. It also meant that we had close access to Dabelstein's lawyers and the shipowners, underwriters and others we were visiting as part of the programme.

Things I will especially remember are the private tours of the port we were given by the pilot and surveyor Captain Warmbold, Blohm & Voss shipyard, the visit with Judge Bartels to the Hamburg District Court, and the trips to Munich and Bremen. More personal memories of the two weeks: sunny lunches by the water, seeing huge ships pass by Dabelstein's offices and the Zeller Associates conference room, and the impressive celebration of Dabelstein's 75th anniversary.

Thank you to each of the partners and staff of Dabelstein for supporting the Scholarship and being such welcoming hosts during our two weeks in Hamburg.

Halani Lloyd