

Scholarship 2003

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First thing to say – it was a great opportunity for me to see the business of the leading German maritime law firm from inside. I have spent three exciting weeks in Hamburg, met new friends and made new professional contacts for life.

The scholarship program itself was a mixture of theoretical and practical courses. DaPa attorneys kindly gave us lectures regarding the milestones of German law and International Maritime law. These lectures were extremely interesting. DaPa's attorneys have expertise and experience in different spheres of the maritime law. The most interesting lectures were given by Dr. Thomas Bruggemann and Dr. Dieter Schwampe. We also had a chance to work on specific assignments from DaPa's partners (Esther Mallach and Dr. Stefan Schrandt). At these moments I felt myself as a part of DaPa's team. I would like to mention Sascha Krahe who managed not only official part of our program but also guided us through Hamburg at his free time.

I believe that this part of the program could be developed and improved. Future scholars should be given more opportunities to work on real cases. Probably a moot case could be examined by the scholars: analyzing the claim's grounds, drafting a claim or moot negotiations between the groups of lawyers presenting parties at the negotiations. On one hand this would allow scholars to be more than just visitors and on the other challenging task would help DaPa and scholars themselves to know each other better.

The practical part of the DaPa's scholarship program was very impressive. Our team of scholars met with people from different sectors of the maritime business: underwriters, adjusters, surveyors, lawyers, re-insurers and even pilots. It was very exciting to meet with members of Dr. Zeller's team. The foremost interesting was that we had a two-ways communication with these remarkable specialists discussing and comparing problems of maritime practice in our native countries.

The visit to the Munich Re was very interesting. Until that time I did not have a clear picture of re-insurance business. Therefore the meetings with Mr. Kratz and his colleagues from Munich Re were very informative and fascinating to me.

I believe all of us were impressed with meeting Mr. H.S. Enge from Lampe & Schwartze. It was moreover interesting that meeting with Mr. Enge took place in Bremen – the old German city – so we had a chance to glimpse at the sightseeing.

Within our program we had so many interesting meetings that I just can not list all of them without missing some. Therefore I would just generalize that I believe these meetings allowed me to get a new insight of the maritime practice.

I would like to point out that the scholarship program was very well organized. Already in Russia I had full picture of my steps in Hamburg so there were almost no surprises waiting for me on my way. I really enjoyed a very comfortable accommodation close to the center of Hamburg.

Moreover, I can not help but to witness my deepest appreciation to DaPa for this opportunity to see the city of Hamburg. This is certainly one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The Elba River and Hamburg's haven in the morning for will be always on my mind.

DaPa scholarship was also a great chance to make good friends with other scholars. I was lucky to have three beautiful and charming ladies in our team. We became good friends and we still maintain contacts and help each other on occasions. Thanks to DaPa I have now very good friends in Germany, Italy, England and Egypt. I am looking forward to meet all my DaPa friends at the anniversary 2005 in Hamburg.