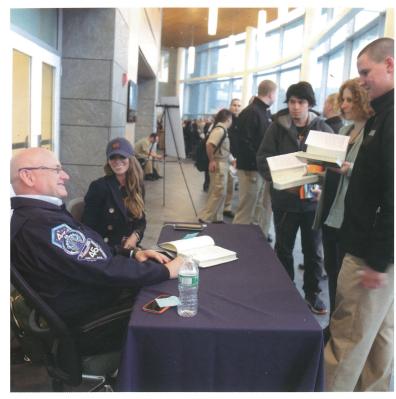
### CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



CAPT Scott Kelly with his wife, Amiko, as he sign books in the Maritime Academic Center.

# **Community Read Program Featured Astronaut** and Maritime Alumnus Scott Kelly '87

"Endurance," by world-famous astronaut and Maritime College graduate Captain Scott Kelly '87, was chosen as the inaugural book in the College's Community Read program. Implemented for freshmen starting in the fall of 2018, the Community Read program is designed to foster and inspire team learning.

Incoming members of the class of 2022 received copies of "Endurance" for Freshman Lead 101 and English 101 courses. During the summer, students posted social-media selfies in a sponsored contest designed to encourage their reading.

At a November 2018 event, contest

SCOTT KELLY

winners and a group of student leaders lunched with CAPT Kelly; after which, he spoke to students, faculty and staff about his path to Maritime College, his interest in space travel and his time at NASA. Kelly then signed books and took selfies with every attendee.

## Women on the Water Conference

Eight SUNY Maritime cadets connected with other women in the maritime community, learned from industry leaders and networked with mariners at all career levels at the annual Women on the Water Conference ("WOW") in November. Rotating among the maritime academies around the country, Maine Maritime Academy played host in partnership with the US Maritime Administration. The conference featured keynote speaker Captain Deborah Dempsey, who captivated more than 100 attendees with her legendary story, beginning as the first woman graduate of a maritime academy through her success as the first woman Columbia River bar pilot.

Vast and varied panel discussions provided platforms for professional development, including "Bringing Your Career Ashore" featuring SUNY Maritime's own Acting Deputy Commandant of Cadets Capt. Catie Hanft '85.

According to SUNY Maritime Cadet Maura Neely, 2/C: "Attending WOW was an empowering experience that allowed me the opportunity to expand my network, meet

cadets from other Maritime academies and learn more about the industry that I'm preparing to enter."



(L-R): Maura Neeley '20, Ashley Hallaian '21, Madison Burbo '20, Caroline Gibbons '20, Captain Deborah Dempsey, Shannon McSweeney '21, Gabriella Franco '20, Catherine Teige '19, and Elizabeth Millicker '20.

### **Partnerships**

Maritime's strong partnerships with industry, government and alumni bring extraordinary knowledge opportunities to campus. This fall, the College hosted three conferences focused on evolving issues for the maritime community.

- "America's Blue Highway" conference featured more than 20 maritime-industry experts from ports, government, shipping and logistics, who discussed ways to move cargo transport from land to water, increasing delivery times of goods while decreasing road congestion and air pollution. More than 300 attendees advanced this short-sea shipping conversation.
- "MARSECON II" focused on vital maritime security issues. The conference informed attendees about security from a time-charter perspective, major developments in maritime cybersecurity, simulators as effective tools in security training, cybersecurity education and training and the impact of blockchain technology on the maritime industry.

• "Career Success Beyond Maritime" provided students with access to high-level, experienced professionals, who offered seasoned career advice in three concurrent industry panels: Shoreside Business, Shoreside Engineering, and Shipping Out (deck and engine). A meet-and-greet reception followed the sessions, allowing students to engage directly with the following industry leaders:

#### **Shoreside Business**

Peter Austen '87. CEO. Marine NA of Willis Towers Watson Chris D. Hughes '92, vice president of Dome Chartering and Trading Joseph P. Starck Jr. '90, president of Great Lakes Towing

#### **Shoreside Engineering**

Dr. Charles R. Cushing, MS '73, president of C.R. Cushing & Company, Inc. Michael R. Haeser II '98, director of district energy system for Columbia University Rich F. Merhige '83, president of Advanced Mechanical Enterprises

#### Shipping-out

Captain John DeCruz '92, president and pilot at the NY/NJ Sandy Hook Pilots' Association Timothy Photopoulos '99, technical superintendent for Ridgebury Tankers Michael Woodrick, chief engineer for Polar Tankers

# **Interactive Opportunities Foster Learning for Maritime Students**

Dynamic educational activities on and off campus encouraged learning by Humanities professor **Dr. Mark Meirowitz**, including:

• Lt. General H.R. McMaster's Skype **Discussion.** In December, students engaged in a lively discussion about American foreign policy and military strategy with Lt. General H.R. McMaster (U.S. Army, Ret.). The former National Security Advisor to the President spoke with students in an address entitled: "Current and Emerging Challenges to National and International Security."



- Supreme Court Visit. In November, the Pre-Law Club traveled to Washington, D.C. for a behind-the-scenes look at the Supreme Court. Sixteen students and two professors listened to oral case arguments before the full bench.
- The Marshal of the Supreme Court briefed the Maritime College contingent about the Court and its activities, after which students toured the Court.
- "The Holocaust: How Could This Have Happened?" Part of the Stephen B. Luce Library Lecture Series, this program drew historical and personal insights into present day concerns to emphasize the need for inclusion, tolerance and respect.
  - The Mess Deck Table Talk Series. Students dined and discussed matters of civic significance, such as the First Amendment and why speech matters. The well-received forums broadened students' understanding of pressing current issues and of each other.



• Constitution Day. On September 17, 2018, the College commemorated Constitution Day by welcoming the sailors and ship historian from the USS Constitution, who discussed the history of "Old Ironsides." Distinguished presenters spoke about the First Amendment, the Founding Fathers and the Supreme Court. Opposing teams of faculty, staff and students competed in a spirited Constitution trivia contest.

