

# Hydrography at the HafenCity University in Hamburg

Markéta Pokorná and Annette Hadler (Germany)

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## SUMMARY

We are living on a blue planet, 70% of our planet is covered with water and about 50% of the sea areas have not yet been surveyed. The new socio-political structures of the ocean might play the key role in the next century. More than half of the world's population live within a 60 km wide coastal strip, and this percentage will rise. Half of all coastal countries do not have any hydrographic services. The developing countries especially will be challenged in the coming years. They will need ships, instruments and the necessary know-how for the hydrographic works. The City of Hamburg is called „The Gate to the World“. Hydrography started in Hamburg in 1985 as a full-time course of study at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences. It became the only academic institution in Germany offering a program accredited according to the “Standard of Competence of Hydrographic Surveyors”. Since 2009, hydrography continues as a specialisation within the area of Geomatics at the Newly Founded HafenCity University (HCU), and attracts students from all over the world as this specialisation is offered exclusively in English. Geomatics, with its specialisations, overlaps with other branches within the HCU. The FIG/IHO/ICA certified this course at the highest level, Category A. We work in small groups up to a maximum of 20 students and our studies are very practise oriented. We offer excursions on ships, participation in regular International Summer Camps and we offer practices in cooperation with the industry. Planning and Building within the Metropolis is the main focus of the HCU. And all metropolises lay close to water. In March 2014, HCU moved to a new building in the city centre. Hydrography feels more than comfortable to be close to water in the harbour. Hundreds of hydrographers are needed worldwide. To meet this demand our priority is to maintain the highest level of hydrographic education in the highly attractive, international surrounding of the HCU. To enforce synergies within the industry for our students and our future. To keep and intensify the existing relationships with national, international institutes and universities while establishing new cooperations. Our main aim is to have happy and motivated students. Related to the millenium aims of the United Nations we welcome students from the developing countries for the constructive exchange and transfer of know-how.