

Notice

Call for Research Papers

For Information Needed to Reduce Ferry Fatalities

A project of the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association

< www.ferrysafety.org >

Background. Ferry transport is a vital component of mobility for many developing nations, yet in parts of the world it is an unsafe mode of transport causing numerous fatalities. To address this issue the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association and its partners have engaged in demonstration projects and sponsored a design competition for safe affordable ferries, now in its second year.

To obtain information needed in order to enhance our effectiveness, the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association is commissioning student research papers. Papers will be professionally reviewed and posted on our website, and student authors will be awarded **\$500**.

Subjects for research. Topics, with the *types of students* in parentheses:

- (1) Update and analyze accident statistics worldwide (*Maritime or General*). (Some statistics and analysis since 2000 provided)
- (2) Describe and analyze specific ferry systems & their accidents in nations/regions not well reported on (*Maritime or General*). Regions of particular current interest are African nations, China, and the Pacific Island nations.
- (3) Survey and analyze research papers about how AIS data mining is being used to assist management and planning for ferry systems. (*Maritime*)
- (4) Describe and address unintended consequences of regulations:
 - a. The impact of government fixed fares and overcrowding; impact of mitigation options. (*Economics or Maritime*) Or,
 - b. The relationship of Gross/Net tonnage requirements & ferry accidents; mitigation options. (*Maritime*)
- (5) Describe how technology could be used to improve training of ferry crewmembers in developing nations. (*Information technology and Maritime*)
- (6) Describe and analyze the role of specific New Technology for safe affordable ferries: Examples are 3D printing; snap together structures; aluminum welding advances (*Design and Maritime*).
- (7) Student initiated proposals relevant to the topic of ferry safety will be considered. (NEW)

Process: If interested in any or all the topics, kindly contact ferrysafety@gmail.com for specific description of what is needed, deadlines, and some informational background resources. As part of the application process, applicants will then be asked for their contact information, academic institution and year, and name and contact information of faculty advisor, and how they would go about doing the research. Those student proposals that are accepted would have to meet a deadline and be willing to make revisions, if still needed, to achieve the terms of the accepted proposal. In addition to the monetary award, there will be professionals reviewing

each paper in a process similar to that used by Transportation Research Board. All papers that are accepted will be published with students' name and contact information on the WFSA website (www.ferrysafety.org).