

Bio of Distinguished Prof. Nien-Tsu Alfred HU, Ph.D.



Prof. Hu received his doctorate in the field of marine policy from the University of Delaware in May 1987 with an award winning doctoral dissertation and became the first Chinese or Taiwanese ever receiving a doctorate in such field. Dr. Hu then worked at the East-West Center in Honolulu as a post-doctoral fellow from 1987 to 1988.

In November 1988, Dr. Hu returned to his home country, Taiwan, Republic of China (ROC), from the United States and joined the National Sun Yat-sen University (NSYSU) in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan. From then onward, Dr. Hu has begun to import the academic discipline and concept of “marine policy” into Taiwan’s academic circle and the government. In May 2000, Dr. Hu created The Center for Marine Policy Studies (CMPS, its predecessor was under the name of “Office for Marine Policy Studies” or OMPS) at the NSYSU,¹ the first marine policy think tank of its kind in Taiwan, and has served as the Director of the Center since its establishment. By the end of 2017, a book entitled *The Pioneers of Marine Sciences of Taiwan* published by the National Museum of Marine Science and Technology based in Keelung, Taiwan, names Prof. Hu as one and the youngest of the 14 pioneering marine scholars of Taiwan.

With his expertise in marine policy and the law of the sea, Prof. Hu was once appointed as Member to various Presidential and Cabinet level consultative bodies, among them the Presidential Advisory Council for Science and Technology, the National Council for Sustainable Development of the Executive Yuan (or the Cabinet), and the National Council for the Advancement of Marine Affairs of the Executive Yuan.

¹ On 11 May 2000, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the CMPS and the then Centre for Maritime Policy at the University of Wollongong in Wollongong, NSW, Australia, to facilitate academic relations between the two Institutions. The signing ceremony was done at Taipei and witnessed by Prof. New-Jin Ho, the Dean of Research Affairs of NSYSU. A renewed MoA was signed on 10 September 2007 at Wollongong, NSW, Australia, between the CMPS and the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) after its replacement of the Centre for Maritime Policy and commencing its operation on 1 March 2007. Another renewed MoA was signed at Wollongong on 6 April 2017 between the CMPS and the ANCORS after ANCORS’ leadership was changed from Prof. Martin Tsamenyi to Prof. Stuart Kaye. In their preambular paragraphs, the latter two MoAs have reiterated that “the Parties are the only multi-disciplinary university-based centers in each respective country dedicated to research, education and public awareness on national and international marine policy and law of the sea issues”.

Other than authoring the classic book entitled *Marine Policy: A Theoretical and Practical Study* (in Chinese), Prof. Hu has also published or edited numerous other books, book chapters, academic and professional journal articles, along with more than 1,000 column articles and/or op-eds on major newspapers in Taiwan. He has also led and carried out nearly 140 research projects so far in his academic career of more than 3 decades.

In the past thirty and some years, Prof. Hu has cast his academic and professional influence in almost every aspect of ocean-related regime building in Taiwan.

In the sphere of ocean-related domestic laws and regulations, Prof. Hu participated in the work of the “Working Group on the Development of ROC’s Territorial Sea Basepoints and Baselines as well as the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf Laws” established by the Ministry of the Interior since September 1989, being the original drafter of the ROC Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone Act, participating in the development of the ROC Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf Act, sitting on the drafting committee for the first draft of the Coastal Zone Act in early 1990s, inspiring the Environmental Protection Administration for its actual drafting of the Marine Pollution Control Act, and being the original drafter of the ROC Underwater Cultural Properties Preservation Act (promulgated on 9 December 2015 after 17 years’ persistent efforts by Prof. Hu) along with its 9 sets of Regulations (all publicized before the end of 2016) so as to establish an independent underwater cultural heritage preservation, protection and management legal institution separate from the existing and terrestrial-minded Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, to name a few. Due to his contribution to the national maritime zone laws and related legal institutions, Dr. Hu was honored in 2000 with the “Award for the Contribution to the Land Administration and Policy of the ROC” granted to him in person by the then Lady Minister of the Interior Chang Po-ya (張博雅).|

In terms of initiating national oceans policy, Prof. Hu once organized and held the first ever “Conference on the South China Sea Issues” in 1991 and the first ever “Conference on National Oceans Policy” in 1998 (The International Year of the Ocean designated by the United Nations) in Taiwan, both of them commissioned by the Central Government ministries of Taiwan. The former led to the development of national policies on the South China Sea issues, including the “Policy Guidelines on the South China Sea” and, the latter resulted in the publication of the very first *Ocean White Paper* published by the Central Government in March 2001. While sitting on the National Council for the

Advancement of Marine Affairs (NCAMA) of the Executive Yuan, an inter-ministerial consultative and decision making body at the Cabinet level created under Prof. Hu's personal proposal to the President Chen Shui-bian (陳水扁) in the capacity of Member of the Presidential Advisory Council for Science and Technology, Prof. Hu offered his initiative and leadership for the drafting and adoption of the "National Oceans Policy Guidelines" by the NCAMA and final approval by the Cabinet in 2004. Such Guidelines has become the overarching national policy instrument on ocean policies which is still active in present days. The National Oceans Policy Guidelines was actually developed based on the texts of Chapter 7 "Draft Proposal for National Oceans Policy Guidelines" of Prof. Hu's *Marine Policy* book.

For the establishment of ocean-related administrative agencies and educational institutions, Prof. Hu has also made a great contribution. His long-standing and tireless advocacy for establishing a specialized ocean agency in the Central Government since 1988 upon his returning to Taiwan has affected the policy agenda of each and every presidential candidates, and the ROC Government eventually and recently established a ministerial-level Ocean Affairs Council on 28 April 2018 in Kaohsiung City as the specialized ocean affairs agency in the Central Government. As early as 2004, the Kaohsiung City Government established the very first Marine Bureau at the local government level due to a policy recommendation made by Prof. Hu to the newly-elected City Mayor Frank Hsieh (謝長廷). As a result of Prof. Hu's criticism for many years on the ground of unconstitutionality, the Maritime and Port Bureau was finally established under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications so as to meet the Constitutional requirement with which "navigation" shall belong to the power of legislation and administration of the Central Government. The approval for the establishment of the Graduate School of Maritime Police of the Central Police University during the reviewing process undertaken by the then Research, Development and Evaluation Commission (RDEC) of the Executive Yuan could be attributed to the last push by Prof. Hu while he attended the final reviewing meeting at the RDEC. The five existing marine affairs related graduate programs in five national universities established more or less around the same period under a comprehensive policy consideration by the Ministry of Education was mainly due to Prof. Hu's advocacy.

In the sphere of ocean diplomacy, Prof. Hu has represented Taiwan in the past twenty and some years as the lead and chief negotiator in various multilateral treaty-making or treaty amendment negotiations which has led to Taiwan's formal accession to at least four inter-governmental regional fisheries

organizations. One out of six intergovernmental organizations that Taiwan holds formal membership could see Prof. Hu's involvement of and contribution to Taiwan's diplomatic efforts.

Prof. Hu also involves himself with the work of seafarers' welfare domestically and internationally in recent years. He once served as the Vice-Chairperson of the International Committee on Seafarers' Welfare (ICSW) South East Asia Welfare Committee during June 2008 to April 2009. Dr. Hu assisted ICSW in organizing the 2nd ICSW SEA Welfare Committee meeting held in Taiwan in 2009. In November 2012, Prof. Hu was officially invited by the Holy See through diplomatic channel to attend the 23rd World Congress of the Apostleship of the Sea held by the Holy See in Vatican and received 2012 Silver Medallion No. 668, Year IV of the Pontificate of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI after delivering a speech entitled "A Glass Wall: the Development of Seafarer's Welfare in Southeast Asia" to the forum with nearly 500 attendees. In February 2017, Prof. Hu received an appointment letter from the Cardinal Peter Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development of the Holy See to appoint him as the "liaison officer and local representative" of the Dicastery for the preparatory and organizational work of the XXIV World Congress of the Apostleship of the Sea to be held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan from 2 to 6 October 2017. The successful accomplishment of such a global event is conducive to the diplomatic relationship between Taiwan and the Holy See and beneficial to the promotion of the work of global seafarers' welfare.

A winner of the 1993 Canadian Studies Award granted by the Canadian Federal Government, and with a Distinguished Professorship granted to him by the National Sun Yat-sen University in March 2019, Dr. Hu has published eight books, seven book chapters, more than 100 Chinese or English refereed academic journal articles, conference papers, and various other papers, and led or carried out 139 research projects in his academic career so far. Prof. Hu served as an Editorial Board Member of the *Ocean and Coastal Management* for a number of years, and was invited by the *Ocean Development & International Law* as a Guest Editor to two Special Issues, one on the topic of "The Concept of Fishing Entities in International Law: A Decade of Practice" in 2006 and the other on "Issues of the South China Sea" in 2010.

In addition, Dr. Hu is a political commentator writing op-eds, commentaries or column articles on specific marine affairs and general socio-political issues on Taiwan's major newspapers over 1,000 pieces in the past thirty and some years.

In order to promote public awareness on national marine affairs and to offer advices to the Government on national oceans policy, Prof. Hu initiated a nation-wide, non-profit civil organization, the Institute of Marine Affairs and Policy (IMAP) of the Republic of China in July 1997, and served as the inaugural Secretary-General until November 2008, and was elected as the President of the IMAP for two terms of six years, and is now the President Emeritus of IMAP. In 2011, while serving the IMPA as President, Prof. Hu launched an academic journal *Marine Affairs and Policy Review* published in Chinese by the IMPA. This publication is the only academic Chinese journal in Taiwan fully devoted to the studies of marine affairs and policy with its content indexed by the Airiti Incorporation, a Chinese e-content provider of Chinese academic e-journals, headquartered in Taipei, Taiwan, through a contract signed between the *Review* and Airiti.

Currently, Prof. Hu is Distinguished Professor, Director of the CMPS, Professor and Director of the Graduate Institute of Marine Affairs, and Joint Appointment Professor of the Graduate Institute of Political Sciences at the National Sun Yat-sen University as well as President Emeritus of IMAP. Prof. Hu once served as the inaugural director of the Center for Water Resources Studies of the NSYSU, and appointed as member of the Presidential Advisory Council for Science and Technology by the ROC President, as well as member of the National Council for Sustainable Development, the National Council for the Advancement of Marine Affairs and the Council for the Advancement of Tourism Development of the Executive Yuan (or the Cabinet) by the Premier. In 2017, Prof. Hu was appointed by the Education Minister as a member of the Task Group for the Advancement of Marine Education of the Ministry of Education, and participated in the compilation and review of the latest edition of the “White Paper on Marine Education Policy” issued by the Ministry of Education in October 2017.