Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar was jointly established by the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development and Cornell University.

Photography: Martin Marion, WCMC-Q, Weill Cornell Art and Photo, Qatar Foundation, Dr. Mohamud Verjee, Richard Lobell, Maher Altar (Office of H.H. Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned), Kodak Photographic Services, Fouad Otaki '09, MSEC-Q
It was ambitious. It was unprecedented. For everyone who started on this momentous journey in 2001, the idea of creating a medical school in Qatar was an opportunity that was inspiring beyond anything we had ever before attempted.

And now we’ve done it.

Thanks to a cast list that included our leadership in Qatar and in the United States... to the faculty, staff, students and their families... this pioneering project reached a major milestone in its evolution. On May 8, 2008, 15 young men and women of the inaugural class of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar were welcomed into the medical community as the first ever doctors trained in the country.

We owe a great debt to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of Qatar, and to Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, for their leadership, vision and commitment to the historic establishment of a world-class medical college in Qatar. We are extraordinarily grateful to the Qatar Foundation and to the Hamad Medical Corporation for their contributions, and for the unique partnerships that have been pivotal to the world-class medical education we have been able to provide.

The graduates of our inaugural class are of the highest caliber. In fact, one third of them scored in the 99th percentile on their exams, and all are headed out into the next phase of their professional life, having secured residencies and research positions in the United States and in Qatar. They are truly leaders for all those who now follow. Through them, we have reached a milestone in the achievement of our original goal: to educate students to the highest standards and launch them into careers that will benefit the country and the region.

Since that very first class enrolled in the fall of 2002, enrollment has grown rapidly from 25 first year pre-medical students to over 200 students across the college from more than 30 countries as we entered our sixth year of operation in September 2007. Pre-medical enrollment reached full capacity for the first time. During the year we also implemented our first full-year Foundation Program, an innovative course of study designed to be a bridge for students coming from different educational backgrounds, to prepare them for a world-class American Ivy League curriculum.

Highlights of the year were numerous. In the
clinical arena, WCMC-Q’s connection to the community in Qatar continues to expand. Fifteen Medical faculty members are now licensed and credentialed to practice and see patients as part of their teaching assignments in Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) facilities.

Ground was broken in early 2008 for Qatar Foundation’s world-class institution, Sidra Medical and Research Center. WCMC and WCMC-Q are deeply involved in the process of helping Sidra ultimately set a new standard of modern patient care when it opens in 2011. Consultation with the project team expanded throughout the year, and Sidra will continue to benefit from the exchange of expertise with Weill Cornell faculty-physicians from New York and Qatar during this critical planning phase.

Delivery of Qatar’s first bio-medical research program took a major leap forward with the advance on research funding received from Qatar Foundation. This major initiative is a critical step in the joint effort of Qatar Foundation and WCMC-Q to establish a world-class research hub, first of its kind in the Middle East. Meanwhile, our students continue to take part in research both here and in the United States. For the fifth year running, The Summer Research Program sent students to the United States to work under the mentorship of leading investigators at Cornell and Weill Cornell. At the same time, opportunities are growing in Qatar, thanks to funding by the Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) of Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF).

I am also pleased to report that campus and community life at WCMC-Q is thriving. Our students, staff and faculty are an active group, and I believe Qatar is the better for it. From volunteering to treat laborers at a free medical camp to conduct—
ing science fairs at local schools to traveling far and wide to tell the world about the remarkable story of Qatar and WCMC-Q, we are making our mark in the most positive way.

Now that we have completed our first full cycle—brought our first class all the way through the journey—the road ahead of us continues to brim with possibility. Clinical education in partnership with HMC is well established. The pace of research is accelerating, and WCMC-Q is recruiting renowned researchers to help lead the charge. In 2011, Sidra will open its doors, and WCMC-Q will be an integral part of that landmark institution.

Looking ahead, as proud as I am of the accomplishments of this year—and they were historic—I envisage much more. The graduation of the WCMC-Q inaugural class signifies a complete cycle of the first leg of our mission—education. As we strive over the next few years to deliver the second and third legs of our mission—research and patient care—our impact will grow even further.

This will be my last commentary in this Annual Review before my retirement and appointment as Dean Emeritus of WCMC-Q. It has been an exciting voyage and I have been honored and privileged to lead it. I would also like to pay tribute to all of those involved in our journey both here in Qatar and in the United States. Next year my successor will steer the course for WCMC-Q with all our partners as it enters the next stage of its evolution. It has been a great voyage to be part of.

Daniel R. Alonso, M.D.
Dean
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar
Dino Terzic, class of 2008, matched into a neurosurgery residency at the University of Minnesota Medical School–MN.
Joint Advisory Board, 2007 – 2008

The Joint Advisory Board of WCMC-Q comprises four members appointed by Cornell University, four members appointed by Qatar Foundation and three additional, external members jointly appointed by Cornell and Qatar Foundation. Mr. Sanford I. Weill, Chairman of the Board of Overseers of Weill Cornell Medical College, the Dean and Vice Dean of WCMC-Q, and Dr. Abdulla A. Al-Thani are non-voting *ex officio* members.

**Qatar Foundation Representatives:**

- H.E. Ghalia Bint Mohammed Al-Thani, M.D.  
  Co-Chair  
  Minister of Health  
  State of Qatar  

- Jassim Al Suwaidi, M.B. Ch.B. B.A.O., L.R.C.P. & S.I. (Honors)  
  Consultant Cardiologist  
  Hamad Medical Corporation  

- Sheikha Al-Misnad, Ph.D.  
  President, Qatar University  
  Board Member, Qatar Foundation for Education, Science & Community Development  

- Mohammad Fathy Saoud, Ph.D.  
  Board Member and Higher Education Advisor  
  Qatar Foundation for Education, Science & Community Development  

**Cornell University Representatives:**

- Antonio M. Goto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil.  
  Co-Chair  
  Provost for Medical Affairs and Dean  
  Weill Cornell Medical College  

- Mrs. Barbara B. Friedman  
  Vice Chair, Board of Overseers  
  Weill Cornell Medical College  

- James J. Mingle, Esq.  
  University Counsel and Secretary of the Corporation  
  Cornell University  

- Ambassador Hushang Ansary  
  Vice-Chair, Board of Overseers  
  Weill Cornell Medical College  

**Independent Representatives:**

- John A. Cairns, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.  
  Professor of Cardiology, Faculty of Medicine  
  University of British Columbia  

- Jordan J. Cohen, M.D.  
  President Emeritus  
  Association of American Medical Colleges  

- Sir Christopher Paine, D.M., F.R.C.P.  
  Former President  
  British Medical Association  

**Ex Officio Members:**

- Daniel R. Alonso, M.D.  
  Dean  
  Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar  

- Abdulla A. Al-Thani, Ph.D.  
  Vice President – Education  
  Qatar Foundation for Education, Science & Community Development  

**Absent from the picture:** Ambassador Hushang Ansary, Dr. Jordan Cohen, and Mr. Sanford I. Weill.
14 members of the 2008 graduating class traveled to New York to take the Hippocratic Oath together with the men and women graduating from Weill Cornell's Manhattan campus.
**Education**

An educational journey that began with the establishment of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar in 2001 reached its most important milestone to date with the graduation of the first medical class. Applications have reached a new high, and enrollment across all programs continues to grow.

**Class of 2008 makes history with inaugural graduation**

The historic graduation of the inaugural class of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar represents a triumph for Cornell, for medical education, and for the state of Qatar. The Class of 2008 is the first ever to receive the M.D. degree from an American medical school outside of the United States. The members of this class also have the distinction of being the first to graduate from a medical school in the state of Qatar, providing this rapidly progressing nation its very first home-educated doctors.

The fifteen students—nine women and six men—span seven nationalities, with Qatar having the largest representation. A series of events in May commemorated the historic event, the graduation of the first doctors trained in Qatar.

The graduating class joined students from the other five University campuses as guests of the Emir, HH Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani and HH Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation at a star-studded ceremonial event on May 6 to celebrate the graduating students this academic year emerging from Education City. World leaders gathered with university leadership, staff and faculty across Education City to celebrate their achievements with a light and music show backed by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

The very next day, the inaugural Senior Honors Convocation of WCMC-Q at the Diplomatic Club was an occasion to celebrate outstanding achievements by members of the graduating class. Awards were presented for excellence in scholarship, clinical education and research, as well as for distinguished contributions in service. Leadership of the Medical College in Qatar and New York, as well as WCMC-Q faculty and physicians of Hamad Medical Corporation, were also recognized for their contribution to the medical education of the graduating class.

On May 8, the Class took the Hippocratic Oath...
and emerged as the first physicians to graduate from this pioneering Medical College, in an extraordinary commencement ceremony held in Qatar and attended by leaders and luminaries from around the world. Guest of honor, Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, was joined on the dais by leaders of Cornell University and Weill Cornell Medical College in New York and Qatar, as well as by leaders of Qatar Foundation, the National Health Authority and Hamad Medical Corporation. The student address was delivered by Qatari Jehan Al-Rayahi, who was selected by her classmates to represent them.

The month-long celebration culminated in New York City on May 29. WCMC-Q’s graduates joined their counterparts for the Commencement for the Class of 2008 of Weill Cornell Medical College, in recognition of their place as graduates of the Medical College.

First ever match day

Match Day is a rite of passage for medical fourth years, soon to become graduates aiming for residencies. On March 20, 2008, members of the inaugural class completed this competitive process with great success. Fourteen of the 15-member Class of 2008 were successfully matched to residencies in their chosen specialties. The remaining student chose instead to pursue research for one year before seeking to enter a residency program.

Four students were matched to residencies at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, while three will remain in Qatar to begin residencies at Hamad Medical Corporation. The rest were matched to residencies at other hospitals and universities across the United States. Chosen specialties include family medicine, internal medicine, surgery, radiology, obstetrics and gynecology, emergency medicine, neurosurgery and anesthesiology.

Completion of the first year of the Foundation Program

The year marked the first time WCMC-Q taught its own Foundation Program to promising students interested in a career in medicine. Under the direc-
The curriculum combines a strong foundation in the medical sciences with extensive clinical training in patient care. Above, Pre-medical students conduct laboratory work that prepares them for the clinical training to follow, such as the students below performing their clinical clerkships at HMC.
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar worked hard to perfect their study, test-taking and interviewing skills. They were encouraged to move away from memorizing information and to build their critical thinking abilities. Students benefited throughout the year from small classes, participation in WCMC-Q’s unique community of scholars, access to modern laboratories, Distributed eLibrary, and support resources.

Of the 18 who completed the Foundation Program, 16 were accepted for the Pre-medical Program for fall 2008. Eleven of the 16 are Qatari, proving the Foundation Program is fulfilling one of its main missions: to increase the number of successful Qatari students at WCMC-Q.

Pre-medical enrollment reaches capacity

The number of students entering the Pre-medical Program at WCMC-Q reached a 6-year high. While 61 students directly entered the Pre-medical Class of 2013, 18 students joined the new, year-long Foundation Program.

The class of 2013 was not only the largest, but also contained the youngest ever to enroll at WCMC-Q: 14-year old Iqbal El Assaad, a Lebanese student who is sponsored by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned.
A proposal to expand Pre-med from two years to three

A task force began working on a draft proposal to expand the current two-year Pre-medical curriculum to three years. The goal is to offer students more electives in the humanities to produce well “rounded” doctors. The team finished its work in February 2008 and subsequent meetings of faculty indicated widespread support for the move.

The concept is now under review. Several students have been placed on a special three-year Pre-medical track as a pilot. The future success of these students could offer an indication of how a three-year program would work. It is anticipated that a formalized three-year track could be implemented by 2009.

Distributed eLibrary focuses on making reading a habit

The Distributed eLibrary continued developing its services throughout the year. It created a Reading Corner for Foundation Program students to make sure they have access to books that are at the right level and to encourage them to read regularly. The Reading Corner features a collection of some 60 graded publications specifically designed for English as a Second Language students, with the aim of contributing to reading fluency and vocabulary development.

Linguistic diversity was another undertaking. Access to the Rosetta Stone® Language-Learning System was implemented which enabled students to tap into a wide variety of language teaching programs, including Arabic, English, Spanish or Italian, to mention a few. Rosetta Stone covers topics from the weather to shopping and makes an excellent companion to a language course.

During the year, a new resource was implemented to make it easier for students and faculty to stay abreast of journal articles. eStacks+, a journal management system, offers searching capabilities in journals and articles and provides quick access to full-texts. In addition to convenient search features, eStacks+ offers quick links to subject guides, interlibrary loans, course reserves and support.
Clinician educators play an integral role in delivering the Medical curriculum, providing practical training and demonstrating the importance of communication skills and professionalism in the practice of medicine.
Patient Care

The patient care leg of the WCMC-Q triple mission was further developed in the year as the total number of WCMC-Q physicians licensed and credentialed at HMC reached fifteen. Recruitment efforts also expanded, with a new initiative to acquire clinical educator faculty members showing good results. Ground was broken and construction commenced on Sidra Medical and Research Center.

WCMC-Q physicians active in delivering clinical care at Hamad Medical Corporation

By the summer of 2008, 15 WCMC-Q physicians were licensed and credentialed at Hamad Medical Corporation’s (HMC) hospitals and clinics. The process began the previous year when the Faculty Affairs and Clinical Affairs departments collaborated to achieve Qatar licensure.

With new appointments made throughout the year, a total of 15 WCMC-Q faculty members have been granted privileges at HMC hospitals, enabling faculty members to treat patients as well as extend the education of their students from the classroom to the hospital setting. The faculty members are making an important contribution to healthcare in Qatar, offering specialties including surgery and organ transplantation, gynecology, geriatric internal medicine care, clinical genetics, newborn evaluation and care, neuromuscular disorders, medical intensive care, and thromboembolic disease.

New initiative to recruit clinician educators

Recruiting leading physicians to teach WCMC-Q’s medical curriculum, including performing traditional teaching-attending on inpatient services, has been a specific objective during the year. Beginning in late 2007, an initiative to speed up recruitment of clinician educators was developed, with new advertisements placed in medical journals for WCMC-Q clinical edu-
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

cator faculty in Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Obstetrics, and Surgery. As a result of the new advertisements, there were excellent respondents and a round of interviews was conducted. These clinical faculty will start in January, 2009.

Ground broken for Sidra Medical and Research Center

In the early months of 2008, ground was broken for Sidra Medical and Research Center. Now under construction directly across the road from WCMC-Q, Sidra is being planned as a state-of-the-art, digital, “paper-light” medical center for clinical care and training, as well as bench, translational, and clinical research. It will focus on key medical issues of special interest to Qatar. These include diseases and disorders of children and women, diabetes and related disorders of obesity and metabolism, inherited and acquired disorders amenable to cellular therapies, abdominal organ transplantation, hepato-biliary diseases, abdominal cancers and other gastrointestinal diseases including inflammatory bowel diseases, as well as surgical approaches to metabolic disorders.

The dramatic structure, conceived by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli, is already taking shape on site. Sidra’s construction and fitting-out is scheduled to finish in March-April 2011, with staff preparing within the facility until it opens its doors in November that year, thus forming an academic medical center of teaching college and teaching hospital side by side on one site.

WCMC-Q Clinical Faculty Chairs partner with Sidra planners

The Sidra planning team of over 100 experienced hospital managers and planning personnel worked closely with WCMC-Q and WCMC leadership to help assure that the physical plant and function support the best in modern patient care and medical scholarship. In-person visits and intercontinental
video conferences between Sidra planning teams involved in specific aspects of project development and WCMC departments in New York have taken place to assure that all parties are “in sync.” Between April and May 2008, eleven 90-minute videoconferences took place to discuss medical imaging, pediatric oncology, pediatric and adult emergency departments, pathology and laboratory medicine, as well as several other topics. This type of consultation is ongoing and will be expanded in the coming year, with the inclusion of additional on-site consultative visits by WCMC clinical leadership.

A Discussion Framework for an affiliation agreement between WCMC-Q and Sidra

Sidra is governed by a Board that includes representation from Qatar Foundation, other Qatari organizations, and WCMC-Q members. In striving to make Sidra the best possible world-class facility, its leadership has indicated the new hospital will most likely have more than WCMC-Q medical staff and researchers within its walls with alliances with other organizations being forged over time.

Work on the recruitment of staff is now underway together with consensus on the discussion framework for an affiliation agreement. This will enable Sidra Board planners and WCMC-Q to agree on the way forward on physician recruiting, governance, and department leadership.
A research funding advance from Qatar Foundation was a major step forward in the implementation of the five-year research plan. Work to build the research infrastructure in Qatar is underway, including the outfitting of WCMMC-Q laboratories.
Research

Steady progress continued toward establishing a sustainable and thriving world-class biomedical research program. As the long-anticipated core research labs grew closer to realization, research at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar continued to develop. Students and faculty were busy and successful in conducting research, presenting findings, publishing papers, and attending conferences around the globe.

Qatar Foundation and WCMC-Q unveil major bio-medical research program

One of the more significant events of the year was the advance on research funding received from Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. This major initiative is a critical step in the joint effort of Qatar Foundation and WCMC-Q to establish a world-class biomedical research program, the first of its kind in the Middle East.

The program has complementary aims: to create a bio-medical research infrastructure with development of a scientific and technical workforce and, in parallel, to conduct research into diseases prevalent in the region. This new infrastructure combined with an up-and-coming scientific research community will enable the development of first-rate, translational and clinical research projects that establish Qatar as a center of excellence.

The blueprint for the research infrastructure will include laboratories, compliance and regulatory functions. The program is recruiting principal investigators, post doctorates, technicians, and administrative staff for shared-use core facilities, clinical and translational investigators and clinical research support staff. It is envisioned that within five years, approximately 120 people will be engaged in the program, establishing a critical mass, which will give Qatar a sustainable scientific research community. Medical students will be involved from the beginning, so enabling WCMC-Q students to become physician-scientists.

Initial research will focus on genetic and molecular medicine, women’s and children’s health, gene therapy, stem cells and vaccine development, with a focus on improving public health. Eventually, the program hopes to create a conduit for commercialization of discoveries through the Qatar Science and Technology Park (QSTP). Existing healthcare organizations such as Hamad Medical Corporation and future entities such as Sidra Medical and Research Center will play a vital role in this endeavor of creating a new culture of research in Qatar.

Students present at the 4th Annual Medical Student Research Forum

Students who participated in the 2007 Summer Research Program in the United States returned to Qatar to present their findings at the fourth Annual Medical Student Research Forum on October 23. Now a regular highlight in the WCMC-Q calendar, this year’s event showcased 20 medical students who presented a series of 10-minute oral presentations to an invited audience, followed by a poster session.

The forum is part of the program’s mission to communicate research to the wider community by explaining the real-world application of research findings. Now in its fifth year, it gives students exposure to a dynamic research environment, allowing them to work with leading researchers, learn about how new knowledge in science is formed, and gain new knowledge of lab meth-
odologies and processes. Groups spend up to ten weeks in the U.S. over the summer conducting their projects with teams of investigators guided by some of the University’s most innovative academics, in the labs of Cornell University’s main campus in Ithaca and at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City.

For the first time, prizes were awarded to those students judged by a committee of senior faculty to have made the most outstanding presentations. Mohamed El Shazly and Nigel Pereira shared first prize for an oral presentation on their research conducted on genetic polymorphisms in diabetes in the lab of Dr. Ronald G. Crystal, professor and Chairman of the Department of Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell in New York. The research is especially pertinent since the disease affects up to 15% of the population in Qatar.

Anas Saleh, who worked in the lab of Dr. Robin Davisson, College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University and in Qatar, won second prize for his presentation on the role of NADPH oxidase in the brain in regulating blood pressure.

Zahrae Sandoouk and Adam Khader were recognized for their poster presentations. Sandoouk presented research on Alzheimer’s disease conducted with Dr. Linda Nicholson, Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University. Khader worked at Wyeth Research, Collegeville, Pennsylvania on Methods of Genotyping.

Thirty students head to U.S. for 2008 Summer Research Program

Meanwhile, participation in the 2008 Summer Research Program grew by 50% from the year before. In June 2008, 30 WCMI-Q students again traveled to the Ithaca and the New York City campuses to be paired with internationally renowned doctors and medical researchers. This time, students actively participated in evolving research fields of gene therapy, genomics, stem cells, cardiovascular disease, neurobiology and brain function. Of particular focus were areas of research that will benefit the population of Qatar, using the latest biomedical technology and knowledge.

In-house research well-funded

In addition to research opportunities abroad, students had the opportunity to gain from research in
Qatar thanks to the Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP). Grants worth $240,000 were awarded to eight WCMC-Q research projects by Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF). Twenty-four students and nine faculty members were involved in the projects.

QNRF administers funding for original, competitively selected research projects, and receives proposals from universities across the country. The funding for WCMC-Q research projects this year represents a 100% success rate for the college.

The research supported by the program is intended to address the economic and social needs and opportunities of Qatar, and is a first for the region. Projects undertaken by WCMC-Q students cover a range of issues of special significance to the community, from local traditions of healing to the incidence and indications for use of episiotomy during childbirth in Qatar. Other topics this year include disease-fighting phytochemicals in stress-induced plants, novel cationic lipids as gene therapy agents, and the impact of the incorporation of literature into the curriculum at Weill Cornell.
One project, on wind energy measurements in Qatar, was a collaborative effort between faculty and students at the Medical College and at Texas A&M University at Qatar.

Students participating in the program improve their problem-solving skills, their ability to communicate scientifically and their ability to undertake independent work. To date, a total of 73 students have participated.

**Core labs equipped**

Meanwhile, equipment for some of the core labs arrived and was installed this year. Kitting out of the microscopy, genomics and the basic core labs was continuing apace at year-end.

**WCMC-Q and the larger world**

In May 2008, Nigel Pereira, class of 2010, presented two posters in front of an international audience at the prestigious American Thoracic Society (ATS) meeting, held this year in Toronto. The ATS meeting is attended by the leading researchers and clinicians in the world.

Pereira presented research conducted at WCMC-NY during the summer of 2007. He was first author of *High Prevalence of the Cytochrome P450 CYP2C9* Allele in the Qatari Population, an Allele Associated with Slow Metabolism of Warfarin*, and co-author of *Differences in the Expression of Cytochrome P450 Enzymes in the Large Airway Epithelium Among Individuals of South Asian, African and European Ancestry*.

Both projects highlight the rapidly emerging field of Personalized Medicine. Thanks to a grant from the Undergraduate Research Experience Program, Pereira is continuing research in Qatar, aiming to identify genetic variants among Qataris which would affect dosaging of medication.

The global medical, scientific, and academic communities are hearing from WCMC-Q in many other ways. WCMC-Q faculty, including 5 Pre-medical and 13 Medical Program members, published a total of 97\(^1\) articles and book chapters during 2007 and the first half of 2008. To highlight their many endeavors, a comprehensive list of faculty publications is currently being compiled for posting on the WCMC-Q website in the very near future.

---

\(^1\)Total faculty publications include 54 from the 2007 calendar year and 43 to the end of this reporting period in 2008.
Faculty

Faculty increased in size and in stature, with additional members teaching on campus and a growing number becoming credentialed to work and teach at local hospitals. The world heard from WCMC-Q as faculty traveled far and wide to participate in conferences, workshops and other meetings around the world.

The number of WCMC-Q faculty residing in Doha in the year stood at 60, which included 13 faculty members who had previous teaching positions at Cornell’s Ithaca or New York campuses. HMC-affiliated faculty increased, with 112 HMC physicians having faculty appointments at WCMC-Q. In addition, 39 visiting faculty members came from New York to Doha for one-week or two-week periods to support the Medical curriculum. As mentioned earlier, fifteen faculty members of WCMC-Q are now also licensed to treat patients in Qatar.

Teaching workshops extended to basic science faculty

The Office of Educational Development conducted a teaching workshop for basic science faculty from January through March. Eight faculty members took part in the workshop which covered topics ranging from creating a positive learning environment to approaches to evaluation. The workshop, an extension of a program offered to clinical faculty since early 2007, introduces new teaching behaviors, enhances faculty members’ versatility in the classroom and promotes discussion of teaching practices. To date, guest faculty and Stanford-trained WCMC-Q and HMC facilitators have run workshops for 140 clinical faculty and residents at the Medical College and HMC.

The Clinical Teaching Program also organized a number of training activities. In December, the third offering of the Clinical Teaching Workshop for HMC clinical faculty was attended by some 60 faculty members.

Faculty present around the world

Faculty and staff of WCMC-Q traveled far and wide during the year, attending—and often presenting at—nearly 200 workshops, conferences, symposiums, exhibitions, meetings and seminars in more than 30 countries across North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and the Middle East.

From San Francisco to Kathmandu, WCMC-Q faculty members presented to audiences on a variety of...
topics, serving as keynote speakers, conference presenters, workshop organizers and panel participants on subjects ranging from newborn screening to thyroid disorders.

**HMC physicians thanked for their contributions**

WCMC-Q and Hamad Medical Corporation joined together to mark Medical Education Day, February 20, and to recognize HMC physicians who are actively contributing to the clinical education of medical students.

The WCMC-Q/HMC partnership began with the signing of an affiliation agreement in October 2004 to have HMC doctors actively engaged as Weill Cornell faculty in teaching medical students. The first clinical rotations began in 2006.

Teaching awards were presented by WCMC-Q to 24 faculty-physicians. An additional collective award was made to HMC’s Department of Medical Education in recognition of its contribution to the education of medical students.

**Faculty honored for outstanding contributions**

At year’s end, exceptional members of the faculty were recognized by the senior class and by their peers.

The House Officer Teaching award is given by vote of the graduating class to one Hamad Hospital resident physician who best exemplifies clinical excellence and dedication to teaching. This year’s recipient is Dr. Abdallah Khairi.

The Senior List is comprised of six WCMC-Q and two visiting faculty members in recognition of commitment to and excellence in teaching. Their names are inscribed on a plaque displayed in the WCMC-Q Teaching Hall Of Fame. This year’s honorees are: Drs. Nady Mohamed, Nithila Isaac, Nounou Taleghani, Bakr Nour, Mohamud Verjee, and Mohamed Asif (WCMC-Q); Drs. Estomih Mtui and Mark Pochapin (WCMC).

The Humanism in Medicine award, chosen by vote of faculty members and students, recognizes one faculty member and one graduating student who have demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interaction with patients. Dr. Marcellina Mian and graduating senior Sharon King share the award this year.

Excellence for Teaching in the Basic Sciences is awarded by the medical student executive council to two faculty members for excellence in teaching in the basic science curriculum. This year’s recipients are Dr. Suresh Tate and Dr. Nithila Isaac.

The Excellence in Teaching award is awarded by a vote of the graduating class to one WCMC-Q faculty member for compassion, skill and distinction as a physician and teacher. This year’s recipient is Dr. Nounou Taleghani.
Students

Total enrollment reached a new high of 204 students. The student body grew in every way this year, with a large influx of new students, with an ever-expanding cultural diversity to the mix, and with new opportunities to grow as scholars, as individuals and as future professionals through a wide variety of events and activities occurring on campus and throughout the larger community.

WCMC-Q enrolls largest medical class to date

Fall 2007 brought the largest WCMC-Q Medical class to date with 30 students enrolled; to reach this number of enrolled students the Office of Admissions processed 86 applications from 32 countries. Demographics of the matriculated class of 30 include an external applicant from American University in Beirut, and another applicant who returned to WCMC-Q after spending a year at the University of Florida. There was a considerable increase in female students leading to a gender ratio of 17 females to 13 males. The strong academic profile of the Medical class was evident in their entering GPA and in MCAT Science results.

The Pre-medical applicant pool rose significantly to 320 applicants. The Committee on Admissions accepted 61 applicants, filling the class to capacity. With a full Pre-medical class, a waitlist was instituted at WCMC-Q for the first time. The academic strength of the class continues to be maintained with the SAT Math average score of 662 and TOEFL score of 614.

In the Pre-medical Program, the Committee on Admissions accepted nine students who had graduated from the very successful inaugural Foundation Program launched in January 2007 as a pilot semester. The Foundation Program is proving to be a vital bridge for students coming from diverse educational backgrounds to prepare for a Cornell education.
Office of Student Affairs continues to grow with the student body

As the student body matured from an inaugural class in the fall of 2002 to the first graduating class in the spring of 2008, the Office of Student Affairs has continued to evolve to provide the necessary support and resources to help every student develop academically, personally and professionally. A number of staff members including counselors are available to help students with academic support and career development.

In addition, the students have available to them ongoing administrative and logistical support customized to the needs of a student pursuing education at WCMC-Q. Student Affairs provides logistical support in coordination with Qatar Foundation to secure students resident permits, housing, local health insurance, exit permits, and international visas.

Online application system implemented

During 2007 the Office of Admissions team customized and introduced an online system to streamline and simplify the process of applying to WCMC-Q. The launch of the online application and management portal is believed to have assisted with the increased number of applicants this year.

The new e-application system uses state-of-the-art web-based technology which allows prospective students to submit the Pre-medical and Medical applications, and also permits letters of reference to be submitted electronically. Seamless integration of the applicant portal with additional portals used by interviewers and administrators allows faculty and staff to view and manage the applicant pool with ease. Applicants are able to track the status of their application and relevant documents on-line throughout the process.

Student academic counseling and career development activities accelerate

Academic, personal, and career counseling is tailored to meet the needs of students at the various stages of their academic progression. Students in the Foundation and Pre-medical Programs receive one-on-one advising and counseling. In addition, they have the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops and sessions to help them with study skills, time management, and preparation for admission to the Medical Program. Students in the Medical Program receive counseling and advising especially in their clinical years as they are preparing for their residency applications. They are also offered a wide variety of workshops and sessions for their career planning and residency preparation.

More than 250 counseling meetings

Students are provided with an enormous amount of one-on-one personal and academic counseling aimed at helping them to grow more independent and to make informed decisions.

Throughout the year, students are referred or encouraged to meet with the Student Academic Counselor. While meetings are documented, the con-
Students scheduled over 250 meetings ranging in times of 30 to 60 minutes per meeting. The scope of the meetings ranged from academic and personal counseling to career planning. Approximately 45% of the meetings were on career advising, 35% were a result of academic advising, and 20% were specifically for personal counseling.

Faculties are always available to meet with students to discuss their concerns and matters of academic importance. Additionally, the Senior Associate Dean for Education meets with all the fourth year students to provide guidance concerning their residency application, personal statements and career options.

Faculty advisors guide Foundation Program and Pre-medical Program students

All students in the Foundation and Pre-medical Programs are assigned a Faculty advisor who provides individual guidance for the duration of their respective programs. Once each semester, the Assistant Dean of the Pre-medical Program, the student’s faculty advisor, and the Student Academic Counselor hold a meeting with every student to discuss relative academic information and progress. The faculty spent over 24 hours in meeting 94 students in the 2007-2008 academic year. Topics around adjustment issues, academic progress, and career planning were discussed. According to a voluntary survey of the Advising Committee Meetings, students felt that these sessions provide helpful academic and personal advice.

Workshops and seminars increased this year

Students are offered a wide variety of workshops and seminars to enhance their academic success, career planning and residency preparation. A number of new workshops and seminars were added to this year’s schedule.

This year’s academic success workshops and seminars included:

- **Establishing a Positive Teacher-Learner Environment**: This interactive workshop uses case studies to facilitate a discussion about the roles and expectations of students, faculty, and administration in fostering and ensuring an environment conducive to learning.

- **Successfully Managing Your Time**: These workshop sessions, hosted twice per year, are open to all pre-medical faculty and students. Attendance this past year ranged from 18 to 45 including 8 faculty members.

- **Study Skills & Test Taking Tips**: These sessions expose Foundation students to different methods of studying, note-taking, test-taking methods, and managing anxiety.

- **What is Academic Dishonesty?** This session clarifies questions of students regarding academic integrity. Proper use of Internet citations and issues of plagiarism are discussed at length.
This year’s career development workshops and seminars included:

**My Personal Statement:** This workshop, conducted three times last year, is held in conjunction with the Writing Centre and a member of English faculty. Students in all three programs are given the opportunity to attend this session that discusses the importance of the Personal Statement.

**Maintaining Professionalism In and Out of the Classroom:** During the mandatory Medical Student Orientation program a workshop for all incoming students is held to introduce them to the concepts and expectations of professionalism in the classroom and as representatives of WCMC-Q.

**Getting into Medical School:** This session, hosted by the Admissions office in conjunction with the Academic Counselor, presents students with the general overview of deadlines and steps for a successful medical admissions process.

**Pre-Medical School Admissions Interview:** In this workshop students are presented with the dos and don’ts of interviewing. All 18 Foundation students were present along with 5 faculty members.

**Staying on Track to Medical School Admission:** Students are provided with ways to enhance their competitiveness for admissions to the Medical Program. Faculty advisors and Pre-medical students attend this session.

**USMLE Study Plan:** In the beginning of the M2 year, students are introduced to the USMLE Step 1 exam registration process and suggested study plan.

**Career Exploration Series:** During the Foundation Program, various practicing physicians and researchers from local clinics and hospitals are brought in as guest speakers to broaden the understanding of the diversity of the medical field.

**Mock Interview Sessions:** With the assistance of various faculty and staff, students can sign up for 1-3 mock interview sessions to practice and hone their interview skills.

**Student activities increase on and off campus**

Students at WCMC-Q are involved in many activities within WCMC-Q and Education City as well as outside of campus.

During the year, a significant shift occurred as student activities evolved from being administration-driven to student-driven. The Medical Student Executive Council-Qatar (MSEC-Q) provides WCMC-Q and Education City students, faculty and staff with a plethora of traditional and innovative social, educational and charitable activities. Nadia Merchant (class of 2010) was elected president of MSEC-Q – the first woman to hold the position.

There were over 15 recognized WCMC-Q clubs focusing on several themes, from athletics to music to charities and religion. One welcome addition to WCMC-Q’s numerous clubs has been the creation of a Qatar chapter of the American Medical Student
Students Association (AMSA). These clubs, together with MSEC-Q, hosted 16 events serving over 1500 students, faculty and staff.

The office of Student Affairs works very closely with Education City and all the other campuses Student Affairs offices to coordinate events’ and help build a sense of a greater campus community within Education City. Several programs have been initiated to attract local applicants. The Office also supports volunteering and other activities aimed at promoting personal development and growth. Following are highlights of the many activities and events of the year:

Volunteering

**Observerships:** Pre-medical students visited Hamad Hospital, observing everything from surgeries and deliveries to the care of sick children. They explored the institution and observed how doctors interact with patients, allied health workers, administrators and the families of patients.

**Blood Donation Clinic:** MSEC-Q organized the WCMC-Q Blood Donor Clinic for students, faculty and staff. This is now a regular event in Education City.

**Friends of HOPE:** WCMC-Q students hosted a fun day for special children from the HOPE school. WCMC-Q and HOPE students alike enjoyed a morning filled with fun games, activities, tours and refreshments.

**Medical Camp:** WCMC-Q Doctors in Training aligned with community volunteers to provide health and wellness check-ups, diabetes screening and other services not often offered in the Industrial Area.

**Charity Drive:** Students fully supported local and international charities by collecting much needed clothing and items for those less fortunate.

**Peer Tutoring:** During the year, students also volunteered their time to help one another.

Student Activities

**Coffee House V:** Students and staff were invited to show off their talents to the Education City community. Through a raffle, MSEC-Q was also able to raise over 1750 QR for the Qatar National Cancer Society.

**Education City Movie Nights:** Hundreds of Education City students were treated to a night of stars, not in the sky, but on the big screen. Students across Education City enjoyed fellowship, great food and an open-air venue to watch their favorite flicks.

**Valentine’s Day:** Students took the opportunity to show their classmates, faculty and staff how important each member of our learning community truly is. Flowers were given out of respect and friendship, cementing the bonds of our close-knit students and faculty.

**Basant:** In Pakistan and India, the spring festival of Basant is celebrated in part by wearing bright colors and flying Kites. All enjoyed sweets from the Sub-Continent and colorful kites filled the air in the WCMC-Q square.

**Wacky Week:** Studying medicine is tough, but students are still able to show their funny bones.

**MSEC-Q BBQ:** After challenging exams students relished this chance to share a meal, relax and reflect upon their hard work. Activities such as volleyball and basketball helped to burn off the unwanted calories.
International Night: WCMC-Q relishes our international students, faculty and staff. On International Night, WCMC-Q attendees explored and appreciated how our different cultures serve only to make us stronger and better members of the global community. And of course the food was fantastic.

Annual Photography Contest: Students, faculty and staff explored their creative side during our annual photography contest. For a month, WCMC-Q halls were filled with magic as scenes from across the globe were posted.

QatarDebate National Universities’ Debating Championship: WCMC-Q’s Pre-med women’s team won the QatarDebate National Universities’ Debating Championship. The competition was judged by visiting members of the Oxford Debating Union, and was organized by Qatar Foundation’s QatarDebate, a spin-off from the Doha Debates.

Special Events

Pre-Medical Orientation at WCMC-Q: To welcome 61 students (Class 2013) into the Pre-medical Program and 18 students into the Foundation Program.

Medical Orientation at WCMC-Q: To welcome 30 students (Class 2011) into Medical School.

Education Day at HMC Education Centre: A joint event between WCMC-Q and Hamad Medical Corporation to celebrate the graduation of HMC residents and fellows and award the preceptors and teachers for their contributions to the clinical education of the next generation of doctors in Qatar.

Senior Honors Convocation at the Diplomatic Club: For special recognition of outstanding performance of the graduating students (Class 2008). Awards were presented for excellence in scholarship, clinical education and research, as well as for distinguished contributions in service.

WCMC-Q Inaugural Graduation of Class 2008: To celebrate the graduation of class 2008 as the first graduating doctors from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar.

Athletics

Health and wellness is an important aspect of medicine and students showed their commitment to life-long healthy attitudes and exercise by engaging in several intramural athletic competitions. From football to basketball to Ultimate Frisbee and volleyball, students enjoyed the competition and camaraderie found in team sports. The WCMC-Q Cricket team won the Education City Cricket League championship with outstanding play and teamwork.

Doha calling Ithaca: Students share lively exchange

On March 4, Foundation Program students in Qatar and faculty, staff and international students on Cornell’s Ithaca campus took part in the first videoconference between the two groups. Conceived to establish a closer link between the two campuses and to increase awareness of the value Cornell places on inclusiveness, the exchange was also intended to prepare the Foundation class for their upcoming six-week period at the Cornell Summer College. Students shared ideas and information, helping to dispel stereotypes as each learned more about each other.
Outreach

Recruitment and outreach efforts expanded during the year, with a wide range of activities and programs within Qatar, throughout the region, and even further afield. Students, faculty and staff alike were actively involved in projects that created or cemented connections between WCMC-Q and the broader community.

WCMC-Q reaches out to high school students

In a series of ongoing activities, WCMC-Q is getting the message across to high school students in Qatar that medicine and biomedical research offer a wealth of attractive career options. Activities such as individual and group high school visits and tours, science days, off-campus office hours, and college nights continued to attract high school students across Doha. A total of 83 school fairs, visits and seminars were implemented during the year. A few examples of outreach activities in the local school system include the following:

A presentation on research conducted by Foundation Program faculty members informed 16 enthusiastic eleventh graders and their teachers from Omar Bin Al Khattab School for Boys about the significant level of funding available in Qatar for research activities. Students were challenged to identify ideas for groundbreaking research in Qatar and encouraged to go out into the field to collect data and share their knowledge by publishing their findings.

A testing technology workshop conducted at Al Bayan School introduced students and English teachers to speech recognition technology used to test English proficiency, aimed at predicting the outcomes and reducing test anxiety of English proficiency tests.

A science show centered on the theme of atoms was presented, in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, to an audience of about 80 students and science teachers at Omar Bin Al Khattab School. The session included demonstrations featuring gases, electricity and lasers and illustrated basic principles in chemistry and physics.

An annual Essay-Writing Competition was inaugurated. The first year’s theme of “Healing Hands: Outreach activities with area schools inspire local students to consider careers in medicine and biomedical research. Here, Roger Hinrichs, PhD, gives a demonstration at the Omar Bin Al Khattab School.
Being a Doctor in Qatar” encouraged high school students to express their ideas about health care in Qatar. The top two essay writers, both Qatari nationals, were awarded a two-week research experience at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City.

A poetry reading was given to over 100 middle school students at the American School of Doha, April 15, in honor of America’s National Poetry Month. A poetry writing clinic and ensuing discussion focused on the connection between medicine and the humanities.

A Science and Math Olympiad, hosted by Doha Independent Secondary School for Boys, was well supported by seven pre-medical faculty members. Teams of students from six secondary schools in Qatar competed in Internet-based, timed tests in biology, chemistry, math and physics.

Third Annual Symposium on Science Teaching and Learning draws 250 attendees

This year’s meeting drew an all-time high attendance, representing a three-fold increase in three years. Organized by faculty of WCMC-Q and Qatar University, the one-day event engages Qatar’s community of science educators in the mission of WCMC-Q while providing a platform for science educators in Qatar and the region to come together and exchange ideas. By sharing information and experiences, faculty members are contributing to the process of equipping students, current and potential, with the tools they need to excel and become successful doctors.

Science faculty, staff and teaching assistants from WCMC-Q and Qatar University participated in the symposium for the third year running, alongside partner institutions Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar and Texas A&M University at Qatar.

Faculty and students volunteer in the community

More than 30 WCMC-Q students and three faculty members actively participated in a day-long medical camp providing health education and care for some 4,000 low-income workers. Organized by the Indian Medical Association Qatar Chapter and the Indian Islamic Association Qatar, the camp offered free health checks, with the focus this year on diabetes and hypertension, counseling, health education, and nutrition advice.

WCMC-Q continued to work together with the local community in various other ways throughout the year.

On campus, 18 participants joined in an Education City working lunch “Teaching Academic Writing: Issues and Concerns,” sponsored by WCMC-Q’s Foundation Program and attended by representatives from WCMC-Q, the Qatar campuses of Northwestern, Georgetown, Virginia Commonwealth and Carnegie Mellon Universities, as well as the Academic Bridge Program and Al Bayan Scientific School for Girls.

Professor of Public Health, Dr.
Ravinder Mamtani, gave a presentation to health care workers in Qatar on the topic of avian influenza (H5N1) during an awareness day organized by the National Health Authority.

In addition, WCMC-Q, as a member of the Hamad Medical Corporation Health Professions Awareness Committee, continued to participate in all its events, with WCMC-Q students, faculty and admissions staff lending active support.

**Reaching a regional audience**

Admission staff worked with local and regional school counselors in the GCC as a collaborative effort with Qatar Foundation to proactively establish public awareness about the presence of an Ivy League medical college in the heart of the Middle East.

Throughout the year WCMC-Q teamed up with colleagues from Qatar Foundation and our sister campuses in Education City to take the message about WCMC-Q to a regional audience. A WCMC-Q delegation attended college fairs in Alexandria and Cairo, and also visited some of Egypt’s most prestigious schools. In late October, crowds flocked to Doha’s Discover Education City fair. Many Medical and Pre-medical faculty members, as well as students, volunteered to meet potential students and their families. The exhibition then traveled to Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Abu Dhabi and Dubai, spreading the word about the opportunities offered by WCMC-Q.

**WCMC-Q reaches out internationally**

With 4,000 people attending the event, WCMC-Q’s delegation to the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges held in Washington D.C. last November, spread the word about the Medical College among colleagues in North America.

Weill Cornell Medical College worked with WCMC-Q, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital to stage a massive information and display booth. WCMC-Q’s presence on the display was testament to the growing interest in WCMC-Q and the international reach of Weill Cornell.

A highlight of the year was participation in Arab Health 2008 in January, the second largest healthcare event in the world held in Dubai, UAE each year. WCMC-Q joined forces with other healthcare organizations in Qatar including the National Health Authority (NHA), HMC, Sidra, Qatar Science and Technology Park (QSTP), College of the North Atlantic-Qatar (CNA-Q) and the University of Calgary-Qatar (nursing program).

Under the theme of “Quality care in Qatar,” this was the first time healthcare organizations have united together at a major exhibition and trade event under the Qatar flag to present the developments in the sector to the healthcare profession across the world with over 50,000 visitors from the region, Asia, Europe and North America attending.
Statistics

Faculty and Staff Numbers, 2001-2008  Figures for faculty include all those on the WCMC-Q payroll residing in Doha for all, or a significant part, of the academic year. Figures for staff are as of June 30, 2008 and include those residing in New York.

Total Number of Students, 2002-2007  Figures are as of September 1, and include 18 students in the new Foundation Program (not included in previous years’ counts). Student count reflects any attrition that may have occurred from incoming classes in subsequent years.
Profile of classes entering the Pre-medical Program, 2002-2007

Total enrollment and applicants

Gender profile

Entering profile: SAT 1 Math score
Profile of entering medical students, September 2007

Enrolled students.................................................................30
Male....................................................................................13
Female..............................................................................17

Previous education:
- WCJM-C-Q ........................................................................28
- American University of Beirut ......................................1
- University of Florida......................................................1

Average Science GPA...........................................................3.44
Average age (Sept 1st, 2007)................................................20.5
Scholarships

WCMC-Q selects students on merit, without knowledge of their ability to pay fees (‘need-blind admissions’). Qatar Foundation has developed a financial assistance program, adapting procedures used at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, and many of WCMC-Q’s students are eligible to receive financial aid through this program.

A number of scholarships are also available to WCMC-Q’s students:

Currently, five Al Darwish Scholarships are held by:
- Ali Saad (Class of 2009)  Karima Becetti (Class of 2011)
- Salman Al Jerdi (Class of 2012)  Moamena El Matbouly (Class 2013)
- Fadwa Fares (Class 2013)

Seven Amiri Diwan Scholarships are held by:
- Amila Husic (Class 2008)  Vildana Omerovic (Class 2008)
- Dino Terzic (Class 2008)  Hala Mint El Moctar (Class 2010)
- Munjid Al Harthy (Class 2013)  Maha Al Ghafry (Class 2013)
- Rawy Al Asaly (Class 2013)

Four Qatar Foundation Scholarships are held by:
- Muhammed Baljevic (Class 2009)  Jowad Thamir Jowad (Class 2011)
- Mohammed Jawad (Class 2012)  Iqbal Al-Asaad (class 2013)

Other scholarships are:

The HSBC Qatar Scholarship, held by Nigel Pereira (Class of 2010).

The Abdul Ghani Hammour Scholarships, held by Tania Jaber (Class of 2011) and Hekmat Al Rouh (Class of 2010).

The Moufid Farra Scholarship, held by Juman Takeddin (Class of 2010).

The Iraqi Embassy Scholarships, held by Sadeer Al Kindi (Class 2013) and Mustafa Ghani (Class 2013)

The Bahraini Government Scholarship, held by Khawla Ali (Class 2013)
Leadership

Cornell University
Peter C. Meinig, Chairman, Board of Trustees
David J. Skorton, M.D., President

Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Sanford I. Weill, Chairman, Board of Overseers
Hushang Ansary, Vice Chair
Barbara B. Friedman, Vice Chair
Arthur J. Mahon, Vice Chair
Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil., Provost for Medical Affairs and the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of the Medical College

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar
Daniel R. Alonso, M.D., Dean
Javaid I. Sheikh, M.D., M.B.A., Deputy Dean and Vice Dean, Research
Havva S. Idriss, Vice Dean, Administration
Bruce L. Davidson, M.D., M.P.H., Senior Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs
Maya Hammoud, M.D., Senior Associate Dean, Education
David Robertshaw, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Pre-medical Education (until July 2008)
Michael D. Johnson, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Pre-medical Education (from January 2008)
Nounou Taleghani, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Dean, Clinical Curriculum (until August 2008)
Marcellina Mian, MDCM, MHPE, Associate Dean, Clinical Curriculum (from April 2008)
Marco Ameduri, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Pre-medical Education
Imad Makki, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Research Administration
Susan E. Lacey, Assistant Dean, Administration
Laurie K. Summers, Assistant Dean, Academic Planning & Development (until August 2007)
Susan S. Lukesh, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Academic Planning & Development (from September 2007)

Lee Askin, Director, Admissions (until June 2008)
Adrienne Gibbons, Director, Admissions (from May 2008)
Jack Butler, Director, Facilities Management
Thomas Doyle, Director, Environmental Health & Safety
Siraj Halil, Director, Information Technology and Telecommunications
Sharon Hynes, Director, Human Resources (until November 2007), Director, WCMI-Q New York Office (from November 2007)
Anton Josephson, Director, Human Resources (from December 2007)
Shahzad Jafri, Chief Information Officer
Betty Monfort, Registrar (until January 2008)
Raya Al-Irani, Registrar (from February 2008)
Bruce Montgomery, Director, Finance (until March 2008)
Pim Thukral, Director, Finance (from May 2008)
Charles Paragg, Director, Student Affairs (until July 2007)
Eric Fry, Director, Student Affairs (from August 2007)
Michael Vertigans, Director, Public Affairs
Thomas Williams, Director, Distributed eLibrary
Farida Lada, Director, Research Compliance
Noha Saleh, Director, Student Recruitment
WCMC-Q Chronology: Milestones from 2007-2008

1. Summer 2007 15 WCMC-Q faculty practicing at HMC hospitals.


10. June 2008 Biomedical research program unveiled.

9. May 2008 Graduation ceremony for the inaugural class.
التسلسل التاريخي للمحطات الرئيسية: 2007 - 2008

5. أكتوبر 2007  مكافآت جائزة في المنتدى السنوي للبحوث الصيفية

6. مارس 2008  النجاح في يوم انتخاب مراكز التخصص لأول مرة.

7. ربيع 2008  بدء عمليات بناء مركز السدرة للطب والبحوث

8. مايو 2008  السنة الأولى للبرنامج التأسيسي
