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Another year has passed and another cohort of immensely talented young people has made the all-important transition from student to physician. Watching each of these 33 very gifted individuals make their way through our extremely demanding medical program, overcoming all sorts of challenges along the way, is a source of great happiness and pride for all of us at WCM-Q.

I want to thank every member of the college community for their contribution to the success of these young people, because I have no doubt that without your support, and that of their families and friends, their triumph would not have been possible. Teaching and learning are collaborative processes: it truly does ‘take a village’ to endow our students with the skills, knowledge and strength of character they need to complete our programs and excel in their new lives as working physicians.
Just as our graduating students have taken a bold step forward, WCM-Q as an institution has undergone an important period of transition and progress in the past 12 months. Again, these successes have been the product of collaboration and teamwork among staff, faculty, students and our partners in other institutions, supported and inspired by Qatar’s visionary leadership and Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation.

For example, in the Fall of 2015, we admitted our first cohort of students to the new six-year Medical Program, which integrates pre-medical and medical education into one cohesive program, streamlining our processes and providing our students with the continuity and stability they require to achieve their maximum potential.

In a similar vein, this year saw the start of a project to enhance, modernize and expand our Clinical Skills Center, which will soon be equipped with some of the most technologically sophisticated learning aids available, giving our students yet more opportunities to hone their practical skills in a safe, controlled environment. This investment not only makes a clear statement about our commitment to provide the very best education possible to our students, but also underlines our enthusiasm to embrace disruptive technologies and be inspired, not intimidated, by the possibilities of change and progress.

In the same spirit, WCM-Q researchers continued to make inspiring breakthroughs in diverse fields of study, with important discoveries made in areas of great significance for populations in our region, such as diabetes, obesity and the mechanisms underlying the metabolism of fat, as well as an exciting exploration of the Qatari genome that has the potential to usher in a new era of personalized medicine for people who trace their heritage to the Gulf. This last project was the result of fruitful partnership between researchers at WCM-Q, Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, Sidra Medical and Research Center, the Laboratory of Medicine and Pathology at Hamad Medical Corporation and the Department of Biological Statistics and Computational Biology at Cornell University at Ithaca. By working together and sharing knowledge and skills, this partnership was able to produce something of great value for the region, which I feel sure could not have been achieved by any of the constituent parts working in isolation.

It is positive experiences like this that are driving our ambition to become yet more engaged with other institutions, the local and global community, and other sectors. In May 2016, our Research Division hosted the Industry Academia Interactions event, which provided a forum in which biomedical researchers, business leaders, and key personnel from funding institutions could interact and discuss potential joint ventures for transferring knowledge from the laboratory to the marketplace and bedside. Through initiatives like this, along with many other conferences, summits and workshops, we are helping to place Qatar at the heart of the Middle East’s rediscovery of its rich history of scientific innovation. We are truly privileged to be able to contribute to such an auspicious endeavor.

I am sure you will enjoy reading about the progress that our joint efforts have delivered this year. Thank you once again for your steadfast support.

Javaid I. Sheikh M.D.
Dean
WCM-Q JOINT ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS
The Joint Advisory Board provides advice and assistance to the dean and the governing parties of Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar:

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Member, Ministry of Public Health  
Chair, Sidra Clinical Steering Planning Committee  
Chair, Qatar Foundation For Child & Woman Protection  
Consultant in Pediatrics  
Hamad Medical Corporation

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

**Omar M.A. El-Agnaf, Ph.D.**  
Acting Executive Director  
Qatar Biomedical Research Institute

**Cornell University Representatives:**

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The London Clinic

**Ziyad Mousa Hijazi, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Professor of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine  
Chief for Pediatrics, Sidra Medical and Research Center

**Ex-Officio Members:**

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Dean  
Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar

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Hamad Bin Khalifa University

**Abdulla Ali Al-Ansari, MBBCh**  
Deputy Chief of Medical, Academic & Research Affairs for Surgical Services  
Hamad General Hospital, HMC
Her Excellency Hanan Al-Kuwari, minister for public health, Dr. Javaid Sheikh, dean of WCM-Q, and the college’s Class of 2016.
This year the college was engaged in a process of transition in its educational program to be realized in the next academic year. Building on the success of the WCM-Q curriculum and several years of planning under Dr. Marcellina Mian, a new medical education curriculum began in the fall under the leadership of Dr. Thurayya Arayssi, senior associate dean for medical education, effective July 1, 2016.
New Curriculum

Weill Cornell Medicine in New York developed the new curriculum and implemented it in the 2014-15 academic year, then evaluated and revised it in 2015-16. WCM-Q is implementing this new curriculum in the 2016-17 academic year. In preparation, over the past two years, the Curriculum Design Leadership Group-Qatar, comprised of multiple course directors and student representatives, engaged in the new curriculum development process. The group coordinated thoughtful local review and adaptation of the new curriculum for the Qatar campus, since our students are on average younger than their New York counterparts, and the majority enter after an accelerated premedical program. Throughout there has been close communication and collaboration between the faculty on the two campuses, and, in June, 11 faculty members and a staff member from WCM-Q attended a meeting in New York with leaders of the new curriculum and those responsible for the learning units. Familiarizing themselves with the latest developments and gaining insights into the specifics of each component, the Qatar team returned well-prepared and energized to take on the last phase of preparation before the new academic year began in late August.

Class of 2016

On May 4, 2016, 33 students graduated. Of these, seven graduated with academic distinction, two with honors in research and one with honors in service. Two students earned both academic distinction and honors in research. The graduation ceremony in Doha this year was again attended by Dr. Laurie Glimcher in her last year as dean of Weill Cornell Medicine (WCM) in New York, Dr. Antonio Gotto, dean emeritus, Dr. Barbara Hempstead, senior associate dean for medical education at WCM, as well as faculty from Hamad Medical Corporation, Dr. Abdulaltif Al-Khal and Dr. Abdulla Al-Ansari.

The student address was delivered by Sally Elgazar, who commented on the joy and elation of the occasion and the gratitude the graduates felt towards everyone who had helped them reach that point, from His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, and His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, The Father Emir, to Qatar Foundation, the faculty at Weill Cornell Medicine in Qatar and in New York and affiliate institutions, the students’ families and friends, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation. She then imagined where each of her classmates might be in 20 years, including the many achievements she predicted for them. She shared their hopes and goals in choosing medicine as a career and exhorted them to remember their calling to help people and to treat patients with the compassion and empathy they deserve.

Thirteen of the graduates also attended the commencement ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York together with their New York peers. For the first time this year, one of the WCM-Q graduates, Vignesh Shanmugam, gave a short valedictory speech during the ceremony. He reflected on the diversity of the WCM communities in both the student body and patients at the New York and Qatar campuses and the benefits that the connection between the two campuses provides for the students’ learning and the building of meaningful relationships with their patients, colleagues, and teachers.
Once again this year students who applied to the National Residency Match Program in the US were successful, as 86 percent of them were able to secure positions in their chosen specialty. A number matched to prestigious institutions, including one in a Harvard-affiliated hospital in Boston. Ten graduates who applied to Hamad Medical Corporation in various specialties also received the good news of their acceptance. Our faculty has continued to receive very positive feedback regarding the performance of our students during their postgraduate training, including their being appointed as chief residents, pursuing successful research, winning clinical and teaching awards, or gaining admission to prominent fellowships.
Residency Director Symposium

The Residency Program Directors’ Symposium in 2016 welcomed 13 program directors from multiple specialties including: dermatology, family medicine, medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry and surgery. Most were visiting Qatar for the first time, and they were impressed with the WCM-Q facilities, the curriculum and research program, the faculty and students and how much the institution had accomplished during its short existence. They also provided valuable insights into successful strategies for students to match into the residencies of their choice. Nadia Merchant, an alumna from the Class of 2012 who successfully completed her pediatric residency at Wright State University in Ohio and was nearing completion of a genetics fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine in Texas, also attended the symposium and shared her insights and experiences with faculty and students.
Clinical Skills Center Expansion

The Clinical Skills Centre (CSC), where medical students and other healthcare learners can learn and practice clinical skills before caring for patients, is currently in the early stages of an expansion plan that will increase its footprint from 658 sqm to 998 sqm. The additional 340 sqm will incorporate a new state-of-the-art high fidelity simulation (SIM) center, three seminar rooms and six additional standardized patient (SP) rooms. SIM centers replicate clinical scenarios and allow students to experience situations they will encounter in their practice in a safe environment that help them to learn proper technique. High fidelity facilities can simulate real life situations very closely with the use of mannequins that can be electronically manipulated to simulate a number of patient conditions. The center’s robust standardized patient program continues to offer extensive programs for learners from WCM-Q and our affiliates to participate in and learn from simulated patient scenarios.

The CSC construction is broken down into four phases: phase 1 for the high-fidelity SIM space; phase 2 to update and expand the SP suite; phase 3 for the three seminar rooms and new office space, and finally, phase 4 for the six additional SP exam rooms. Phase 1 is currently 90 per cent complete, while the other three phases are in the tender process. Estimated time of completion for the remaining three phases is August 2017. Another initiative in progress of the CSC expansion project is to upgrade the current hardware and software of the digital capture system, which are used to plan and capture training sessions for teaching and learning purposes.
Anatomy Suite Enhancement

A new hi-tech Audio Visual System (AVS) was installed in the Anatomy Suite this academic year. The new AVS will benefit the students during anatomy dissection and anatomy reviews as well as activities happening in the anatomy lecture hall, as the system is capable of simultaneously connecting the two rooms in the suite. The other advantage of the new system is that it will help not only facilitate slide presentations and video demonstrations, but also facilitate dissection demonstrations that will guide the students step-by-step during the dissection in the lab. It has two high definition cameras that can be rotated to focus on any specimen and project the magnified high quality images on the lab’s four large LCD screens as well as the one in lecture hall. Students and instructors can interact freely by using the projector and wireless microphones connected to the AVS.

Faculty

Two faculty members joined the college during this academic year:
Dr. Amine Rakab, assistant dean for clinical learning in the Medical Education Division, and assistant professor of clinical medicine, came to WCM-Q from Sidra Medical and Research Center in February 2016. Dr. Rakab received his M.D. from the University of Southern California (USC)/Keck Medical School and conducted his residency in internal medicine at Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, California. He is American Board Certified in internal medicine and he worked for ten years as a hospitalist for Southern California Kaiser Permanente before moving to Abu Dhabi in 2007 to take a position as a hospitalist at Mafraq Hospital, before coming to Sidra in 2014.

Dr. Aicha Hind Rifai, assistant professor of clinical psychiatry in the Medical Education Division came to WCM-Q in June 2016. Dr. Rifai served as a clinician and teacher in a variety of academic and clinical settings in the US, and internationally at the Evangelisches Krankenhaus Elisabethenstift in Darmstadt, Germany, and at Hamad Medical Corporation in Qatar. Dr. Rifai holds an M.D. degree from Aleppo University Medical school, Syria, and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Psychiatry and in Geriatric Psychiatry. She is also a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Badreldeen Ahmed, professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology has been teaching medical students at WCM-Q for many years. In 2006, he founded the Feto Maternal Centre in Doha, and this academic year it became affiliated with WCM-Q as a teaching facility. This affiliation allows our students to benefit from an additional site that provides a different perspective from that of hospital-based obstetrical care.

Both the faculty based at WCM-Q, as well as those based at Hamad Medical Corporation, the Primary Health Centers, Aspetar and the Sidra Medical and Research Center, contributed significantly to the teaching of our medical students in didactic sessions in the classroom and in clinical teaching either at the College or in clinical settings. Recipients of excellence in teaching awards voted by the students this year were: Drs. Laith Abu-Raddad, Badreldeen Ahmed, Hassen Al-Amin, Thurayya Arayesi, Naim Haddad, Moncef Ladjimi, Ziyad Mahfoud, Stella Major, Avelin Malyango, and Ali Sultan. Many members of WCM-Q faculty have
also been active clinicians in the various settings, as well as being productive in research. Their numerous publications are listed in the appendix of this report.

As many members of the medical faculty possess international expertise in their chosen field, they contributed in 2015 to a number of international scientific and educational organizations and conferences to present their research findings or other scholarly work. Selected examples include: Dr. Douglas Bovell presented at Physiology 2015, the annual meeting of the British Physiological Society, in Cardiff, Wales; Dr. Pablo Rodriguez del Pozo presented his work on informed consent and listening to the patient in Argentina, Chile, and Spain; Dr. Naim Haddad was a member of the organizing committee and presenter at the International Brain Research Organization MENA Neuroscience School; Dr. Amal Khidir presented educational workshops with her colleagues and collaborators in the USA and Singapore; Dr. Ziad Kronfol was a member of the education section of the World Psychiatric Association, and an executive committee member of the Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations; Dr. Mai Mahmoud was a presenter at and member of the AAIM (Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine) regional conference organizing committee and a member of the Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine program’s planning committee; Dr. Stella Major was a presenter at the first Interprofessional Education (IPE) Conference in Qatar, hosted by Qatar University’s School of Pharmacy; Dr. Ali Sultan was an examiner at the University of Khartoum’s Institute of Endemic Diseases in Sudan; Dr. Basim Uthman was a member of the honorary advisory board to the scholarship committee of Unite Lebanon Youth Project; and Dr. Mohamud Verjee was an examiner for Certification in the College of Family Physicians of Canada, as well as being a visiting professor of Family Medicine at the Saint Francis Medical Center (University of Connecticut), in Hartford, Connecticut.
Continuing Professional Development

The Division of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is continually working to fulfill its 2015-2020 strategic objective: “To Enhance Knowledge and Practice of Qatari and Regional Physician Workforce Through Graduate and Continuing Medical Education (CME)” by promoting educational endeavors, which extend beyond the undergraduate program and align with the mission of WCM-Q.

The division has continued to provide high quality professional development opportunities for healthcare professionals based on identified needs and the latest scientific and medical developments that will lead to the improved healthcare of patients. Additionally, the division endeavors to develop and disseminate best evidence-based practice and health education research, and to create opportunities for healthcare professionals to develop a community of practice to interact with one another personally and professionally. By the provision of accredited activities, the division offers healthcare professionals the opportunity to attain credits toward medical licensing requirements locally and internationally.

Dr. Basim Uthman discusses epilepsy during CPD’s Grand Rounds seminar series.
WCM-Q, via the CPD division, was accredited in November 2014 as a CME/CPD provider by the Qatar Council of Healthcare Practitioners-Accreditation Department (QCHP-AD). The division is now in the process of applying for re-accreditation by the QCHP-AD. Several WCM-Q activities have been accredited by the abovementioned system (see Table 1). The CPD division has also established a process for applying for CME credits via its continued collaboration with the Office of Continuing Medical Education at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, and AMA PRA Category I credits™ have been obtained for several of its activities (see Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Activities Accredited 2015/2016</th>
<th>CME NY credits</th>
<th>QCHP credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CPD/AAIM</td>
<td>Educators Across the Health Care Spectrum Series (EAHCS) – New Horizons in Medical Education</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPD</td>
<td>Educators Across the Health Care Spectrum Series (EAHCS) - Remediation in Health Professions Education Symposium</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPD</td>
<td>International Diabetes Excellence Academy Conference (IDEA)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPD</td>
<td>WCM-Q Grand Rounds</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHS</td>
<td>Safety in the Laboratory</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPH</td>
<td>Clinical Nutrition</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Emerging Technologies in Libraries</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Tips, Tools and Tech: Library Workshops for Faculty</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Ion Channels</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPD/Dean's Office</td>
<td>Law and Medicine</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspetar</td>
<td>Radiography</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: List of activities accredited by the CPD Division in 2015/2016.
CPD Activity and Audience

In 2015/2016 CPD accredited 11 activities and welcomed up to 2,000 participants, including practitioners from hospitals, educational institutions, private clinics, government, and industry (see Figure 1). The division is leading the way in providing a diversity of learning opportunities and providing practitioners with opportunities to network and promote collaboration in multidisciplinary teams.

The intended audience for the CPD activities is broad in consideration of our clinical care partners and their mission to improve quality of care throughout the region and includes:

- Faculty members and staff of the college and its affiliated hospitals and healthcare centers.
- Physicians and healthcare professionals in the State of Qatar and the region.
- WCM-Q alumni and current students.

Figure 1: Showing the increase in accredited activities offered as well as an increase in attendance from 2011 to 2016.
The CPD program of WCM-Q offers a variety of educational activities in different areas of concentration including:

1. Clinical Sciences

*WCM-Q Grand Rounds (GR)*

A regularly scheduled series providing frequent, convenient and formal opportunities for professional development for the WCM-Q community and local healthcare practitioners. This activity was developed by an interdisciplinary committee of experts in various areas of healthcare and research. The committee consists of members from multiple divisions within WCM-Q. It plays an integral role in providing practitioners the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the latest developments in medicine and health. The series was approved for 1 AMA PRA Category I credit™ per lecture and ran on a monthly basis delivering 10 lectures overall in the 2015-2016 academic year (see Table 2).

*Live Broadcasts of Medicine and Surgery WCM Grand Rounds from New York*

In the 2015-2016 academic year the CPD division successfully broadcast 26 surgery and 21 medicine grand rounds live from New York for WCM-Q faculty and students as well as local healthcare practitioners in Qatar. The series aims to inform professionals of new content relevant to their practice and ultimately improve clinical care.
International Diabetes Excellence Academy (IDEA) Conference

The International Diabetes Excellence Academy delivered May 20-21, 2016 featured keynote lectures and workshops developed by a team of expert medical educators from Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, India and the United Kingdom and built upon the pedagogical skills of the participants. The program has been designed to provide a holistic approach on how to improve diabetes care in view of the available therapeutic modalities. More than 80 local and international healthcare practitioners attended this conference, which was an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Category 1) as defined by the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners-Accreditation Department and was approved for a maximum of nine hours.

2. Medical Education

Educators Across the Health Care Spectrum (EAHCS)

A cross-disciplinary educational series of lectures and workshops bringing world-class scholars to speak on topics that will strengthen understanding of significant topics in health education among residents, medical students, faculty and other healthcare professionals. Two activities were run in the 2015-2016 academic year:

i. New Horizons in Medical Education (Nov 20-21, 2015) was a collaboration between WCM-Q and the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM). This two-day Faculty Development Workshop brought experts from Qatar, the US, the UAE, Oman and Lebanon together in Doha to give lectures and lead individual workshops designed to further the professional development of local and regional healthcare professionals by equipping them with the latest knowledge and skills related to innovations in medical education. More than 70 healthcare professionals attended to explore topics that included strategies for remediating struggling learners, maintaining professionalism in the era of social media, and assessment of ‘entrustable professional activities (EPAs)’, which are key skills that every medical school graduate has to master in order to begin their next stage of training. Weill Cornell Medical College designated this live activity for a maximum of 8.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™.

ii. Remediation in Health Professions Education Symposium (May 8-9, 2016). The two-day symposium sought to build on the skills and knowledge of professionals working in the medical education sector to help them assess learner needs, provide useful feedback to struggling students, build effective student support networks with colleagues and offer individualized solutions to students. It was co-directed by Dr. Stephen Scott, Associate Dean for Student Affairs at WCM-Q, and Dr. Calvin Chou, Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Healthcare education professionals from WCM-Q and several other healthcare education institutions from across Qatar attended the symposium. This live activity was designated for a maximum of 10.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™ by Weill Cornell Medical College.

EAHCS Awards Program

The CPD division launched a new CPD-administered awards program that has been developed to support innovative teaching initiatives among WCM-Q faculty as part of the EAHCS series. In the 2015-2016 academic year, through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process, the Remediation in Health Professions Education Symposium was selected for the award.
Dr. Javed Sheikh, dean of WCM-Q, delivers his speech at the Law and Medicine Seminar Series.
Law and Medicine Seminar Series

A series of interactive seminars aimed at providing physicians with greater awareness of law and legal issues which impact on medical practitioners in the State of Qatar. In the 2015-2016 academic year two activities were developed:

i. Crossroads of Law and Medicine: A Qatar Perspective “Protecting Human Subjects in Research” (September 12, 2015)

ii. Law and Medicine: Challenging the Future Conference (February 28, 2016) (This was a collaboration with Qatar University School of Law and School of Medicine, and HMC).

Topic of the Month

Critical reviews of pieces of literature that have been recently published in the area of graduate and continuing medical education are prepared by faculty inside or outside WCM-Q and published on the CPD website. In the 2015-2016 academic year ten articles were published (see table 3 below).

3. Research Education for the Clinician

Emerging Technologies in Libraries

This symposium was delivered April 11-13, 2016 and was developed by staff from the WCM-Q Distributed eLibrary. The attendees were introduced to a variety of technologies, which are emerging as influences in the activities of modern medical libraries such as on-line learning environments, big data in biomedicine and 3D printing for medical practice. Weill Cornell Medical College designated this live activity for a maximum of 16.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™.

Tips, Tools and Tech: Library Workshops for Faculty

This workshop program ran from April 19 to May 25, 2016 and consisted of 12 one-hour interactive sessions, which included workshops on the use of library-supplied information resources (Advanced PubMed/My NCBI; DynaMedPlus); broader topics in scholarly and medical publishing (Introduction to Systematic Reviews; Big Data in Biomedicine; Predatory Publishing; Citation Metrics); and the use of online resources in medical instruction (Creating Videos for Use in Instruction). Weill Cornell Medical College designated this live activity for a maximum of 7.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™.

Safety in the Laboratory

This course was delivered on May 11 and 12, 2016 and was developed by the Division of Environmental Health, Safety and Security. More than 200 researchers, educators, allied health professionals and laboratory personnel from institutions across Qatar attended the course. It was led by course instructor Dr. James Kaufman, president and CEO of the Laboratory Safety Institute, who explained the most up-to-date procedures and protocols relating to accident prevention, dealing with biological and animal hazards, chemical handling, storage and disposal, eye and face protection, and electrical safety, among other issues. The course was an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Category 1) as defined by the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners-Accreditation Department and was approved for a maximum of seven hours.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>Julian Periard, PhD Research scientist, Aspetar Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Hospital</td>
<td>Exercise in Heat: What Factors Influence Performance and Health?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Camillo Ricordi, MD Professor of medicine, biomedical engineering, micro and immuno, director Diabetes Research Institute and Cell Transplantation Program</td>
<td>Cellular Therapies and Regenerative Medicine Strategies in Diabetes and Chronic Degenerative Conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Basim Uthman, MD Professor of clinical neurology and clinical neuroscience, WCM-Q</td>
<td>First Seizure: Diagnosis and Treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>David Barlow, MD Professor of obstetrics and gynecology Chair Department Ob/Gyn, HMC</td>
<td>Innovation in Women’s Health. The First Long-Term Medical Management Option for Uterine Fibrosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>Mannikam Suthanthiran, MD Chief Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, WCM</td>
<td>The Miracle of Organ Transplantation: Progress and Challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Rodney Sharkey, PhD Associate professor, English, WCM-Q</td>
<td>On Love and Death: How the Arts Enhance Understanding of PTSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Ralf Holzer, MD Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Director Cardiac Catheterization &amp; Interventional Therapy, Sidra Medical &amp; Research Center</td>
<td>Quality in the Pediatric Cath Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>Thomas Eissenberg, PhD Professor, Department of Psychology Director, Center for the Study of Tobacco Products, VCU</td>
<td>Waterpipe (Shisha) Tobacco Smoking: What is the Evidence that It Supports Nicotine/Tobacco Dependence?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>H.E. Mohammed Al Maadheed, MD, PhD Healthcare advisor to HH Sheikh Jassim Bin Hamad Al-Thani President of Qatar Red Crescent</td>
<td>Healthcare Facilities From a Vision to Recognition as Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>Ashfaq Shuaib, MD Professor of medicine and neurology Director of Neuroscience Institute, HMC</td>
<td>Recent Advances in the Management of Acute Stroke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: WCM-Q Grand Rounds 2015-2016 Presentations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| September 2015 | Shireen Alnour, MD  
Clinical fellow, Internal Medicine  
Department HMC     | Why every institution should develop its Faculty Learning Community  |
| October 2015  | Barbara Blackie, MD  
Co-associate chief of education  
Sidra Medical and Research Center | Provision of Effective Feedback for Change                            |
| November 2015 | Rodney Sharkey, PhD  
Associate professor, English  
WCM-Q               | The Literary Doctor: Some thoughts on how literature might influence medical practice |
| December 2015 | Maha Elinashtar  
Program specialist, Cultural Competence WCM-Q | Arabization of Medical Sciences: History, Challenges and Recommendations |
| December 2015 | Huda Abdelrahim  
Associate specialist, Cultural Competence  
WCM-Q               |                                                                |
| January 2016  | Sharda Udassi, MD  
Director of quality and safety, Pediatrics  
Sidra Medical and Research Center | Influenza infection health risks and influenza vaccination            |
| February 2016 | Alla El-Awaisi, MPPharm  
Chair of Interprofessional Education Committee, College of Pharmacy | A Glance of Interprofessional Education in Qatar                    |
| March 2016    | Shadia Constantine, MD  
Internal medicine, co-director Junior Residency Training Program, Teine Keijinkai Hospital, Sapporo, Japan | Teaching Evidence-Based Medicine: Why Is It So Hard?                  |
| April 2016    | Ralf Holzer, MD  
Professor of clinical pediatrics, director, Cardiac Catheterization & Interventional Therapy, Sidra Medical & Research Center | Quality in Medicine: Implications for the Congenital Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory |
| May 2016      | Ming Ho, MD  
Vice chair, School of Medicine, professor, Department Graduate Institute of Medical Education Bioethics National Taiwan University College of Medicine | How to develop a medical professionalism curriculum with culture in mind |
| June 2016     | Ashfaq Shuaib, MD  
Professor of medicine and neurology  
Director of Neuroscience Institute, HMC | Cerebrovascular Disease: Recognition, prevention and treatment       |

Table 3: Topic of the Month Publications 2015-2016
The Foundation Program

The Foundation Program is a one-year program that serves as a pathway to the six-year Medical Program. Students take relevant courses in biology, chemistry, physics, and English to develop effective study skills and habits, critical thinking, and knowledge application in preparation for the Pre-medical Program. This curriculum has been specially designed to provide foundation students with the appropriate academic background for their intended degree.
During the first week at WCM-Q, pre-medical students collect and pack many items for charity.

This year, the Foundation Program recorded its highest student enrollment of 18 Qatari students, 15 of whom were promoted to the six-year Medical Program, constituting a yield rate of 83 per cent. The Foundation Program provides an invaluable contribution to the academic readiness of Qatari students by preparing them for the six-year Medical Program, which helps them to fulfill their dreams of becoming physicians.

From Foundation to Medical Education

This year, post-foundation students participated in the Foundation to Pre-medical Summer Transition Program, which comprised two mini-courses offered by teaching specialists. In one course, Dr. Majda Sebah, teaching specialist (general chemistry), introduced students to the essential problem-solving skills required for general chemistry while the other course, led by Ms. Padmakumari Sarada, teaching specialist (math), strengthened their algebra skills. In addition, five post-foundation students participated in the Post-Foundation Summer Program at Cornell’s main campus in Ithaca, New York. Arranged and supervised by Dr. Krystyna Golkowska, associate professor of English, this exciting program lets post-foundation students take two summer session courses while experiencing the beauty of upstate New York.
The Six-Year Medical Education Program

In the Fall of 2015, WMC-Q admitted its first cohort of students to the six-year Medical Education Program. This new program integrates pre-medical and medical education into one cohesive six-year program. Consequently, students no longer go through a separate admission process to transition from the two-year Pre-medical Program to the four-year Medical Program. Rather, a single admission process determines entrance to a six-year Medical Education Program, and students progress through the course according to advancement criteria such as academic performance, professionalism, and commitment to the medical profession. Students who successfully complete the six-year program are awarded the Cornell University Doctor of Medicine degree, the same qualification awarded to Cornell students who complete their studies in the United States.

Students spend the first two years of this program preparing for their clinical studies through a broad curriculum that focuses on the physical and social sciences, and the humanities. Faculty members deeply engage students to cultivate the necessary knowledge and skills to become competent physicians through experiences that bring course content to life. For instance, students in the biology class of Dr. Kuei-Chiu Chen, senior lecturer in biology, increase their understanding and awareness of research ethics through dramatic presentations. Learning activities like these introduce key concepts and complex ideas in fresh, innovative ways to extend student learning.
Participation in Faculty Research

Students at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar learn both in the classroom and through participation in faculty research. Over the course of their six-year medical education program, students have numerous opportunities to participate in biomedical, social, and humanities research with WCM-Q’s accomplished faculty. By participating in research, students acquire valuable skills and experience first-hand the positive impact of research on healthcare and quality of life in Qatar and beyond.

This year, Dr. Alan Weber, associate professor of English, guided students through two beneficial research projects. First, students teamed up with the Qatar Cancer Society to record the stories of cancer survivors and publish them in a patient booklet entitled, *Story of Hope*. Students interviewed cancer survivors and documented their stories of healing and recovery. Producing an educational booklet enabled students to further the healing process for cancer survivors and give back to the community by offering a hopeful resource to new patients.

In a separate study, Dr. Weber and a team of student researchers composed the first and most comprehensive systematic narrative review of e-health in the GCC region, which was then published in the Royal Society of Medicine’s *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*. The study reviewed current research in the GCC states and identified gaps for further research, including cost-benefit analyses and randomized controlled trials to demonstrate the benefits of e-health initiatives.
Mu Ji Hwang, Muhammad Panhwar and Ikram Al Lawati at the Art and Medicine exhibition.
in the region. As part of the Undergraduate Research Experience Program, students assisted Dr. Kuei-Chiu Chen, senior lecturer of biology, with two projects: one to authenticate packaged seafood using a DNA barcoding marker, and the other to determine the sub-species status of two threatened species of gazelle using molecular markers. Projects like these enrich learning by involving students directly in meaningful research within various disciplines.

WCM-Q’s faculty is committed to developing skilled biomedical researchers in Qatar. To this end, Dr. Krystyna Golkowska, associate professor of English, coordinated the Writing and Communication for Biomedical Researchers course, which fosters essential skills in workplace and scientific writing. She also contributed several print and online resources for biomedical researchers, including a handbook for WCM-Q biomedical researchers. Moreover, as part of the Qatar Doctor of the Future Scholarship Program, Dr. Golkowska developed a module for the winners of the Healing Hands Essay Writing Contest that teaches qualitative and quantitative research skills on the main campus in Ithaca, New York.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Students at WCM-Q learn beyond the classroom through numerous extra-curricular and community-oriented activities. The WCM-Q Debate Team, mentored by Dr. Rodney Sharkey, associate professor of English, continued its success at various national and international events. The team participated in the 36th annual World Universities Debate Championship (WUDC) held in Thessaloniki, Greece from December 27, 2015 to January 4, 2016. The WUDC is the world’s largest debate competition and hosts over 400 teams from 250 universities worldwide. After its return from Greece, the WCM-Q Debate Team won the league championship in the Qatar University Debate League (QUDL), organized by Qatar Debate. The QUDL involves teams from 12 universities across Qatar who debate monthly over the course of the academic year. Demonstrating commitment to the vital role of the arts in medicine, Dr. Sharkey inaugurated a new drama club called “Footlights” for students at WCM-Q.

Students at WCM-Q also participate in events aimed at enriching the broader Education City community. Under the guidance of Dr. Alan Weber, associate professor of English, and Dr. Stephen Scott, associate dean for student affairs, six WCM-Q students collaborated with faculty and students at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar to explore the juncture of art and medicine. Students contributed their original artwork to an exposition entitled Art and Medicine, and their work was displayed at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University Student Center in April and May, 2016.
Faculty members at WCM-Q and its clinical affiliates are committed to excellence in teaching, research, patient care, the advancement of the art and science of medicine, and to building the next generation of leaders in healthcare for Qatar and the region.

The Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs supports the recruitment, appointment, and promotion processes for all WCM-Q academic staff, which includes resident faculty, research associates and postdoctoral associates, and faculty at our affiliated institutions. The office also supports the implementation of policies and procedures, oversees the annual performance review process, maintains academic staff records, is the repository for academic staff data, and facilitates and monitors the credentialing of our clinical resident faculty.

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<tr>
<th>Full-Time Faculty</th>
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<td>Pre-medical Education Faculty</td>
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<td>Sidra Medical and Research Center</td>
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<td>Other Institutions</td>
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Appointments and Promotions

Faculty at Affiliated Hospitals and Other Institutions

Newly appointed and promoted faculty

Faculty at affiliated institutions play a valued role in supporting the college’s mission in Qatar by overseeing the clinical education of WCM-Q students and contributing to our research programs. During academic year 2015-2016, 91 colleagues from Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), the Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC), Aspetar, and Sidra Medical and Research Center received academic appointments at Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC), 25 of them at the rank of associate professor and professor. In addition, the following faculty members achieved promotion to a higher faculty rank:

To Assistant Professor:

- Dr. Ibrahim Naim Ibrahim Afifi, HMC: assistant professor of clinical surgery
- Dr. Aryan Hamed Ahmed, HMC: assistant professor of clinical surgery
- Dr. Zelaikha Mohsin Al-Wahedi, PHCC: assistant professor of family medicine in clinical medicine
- Dr. Aisha Larem, HMC: assistant professor of clinical otolaryngology
- Dr. Mayed M. Radi, HMC: assistant professor of clinical otolaryngology
- Dr. Nagy Mahmoud Younes, HMC: assistant professor of clinical urology

To Associate Professor:

- Dr. Talal Ibrahim, HMC: associate professor of clinical orthopedic surgery
- Dr. Wanis Ibrahim, HMC: associate professor of clinical medicine

New WCM-Q Associate Deans Appointed at HMC

In June 2016, Dean Sheikh appointed three associate deans at HMC who will support both HMC’s and WCM-Q’s overall mission to educate and train the next generation of leaders in clinical medicine, medical education and the biomedical sciences consistent with the Qatar National Vision 2030 of serving the health needs of the diverse population of Qatar.

Dr. Abdulla Al Ansari was appointed associate dean for clinical medicine at HMC. Dr. Al Ansari graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, and completed residency training in urology in the UK. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, and a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, UK. He served as head of urology at HMC (2004–2008) and as assistant chairman of the Department of Surgery (2008–2013), and currently serves as deputy chief of medical, academic, and research affairs for surgery services at Hamad General Hospital. In addition to holding clinical positions and serving on many key internal and external committees, Dr. Al Ansari has been an associate professor of clinical urology at WCMC since 2006 and a program director at Qatar Robotic Surgery Center since 2009. He was also recently appointed a member of the Joint Advisory Board at WCM-Q. Dr. Al Ansari’s most recent research has been in the field of robotic surgery.

Dr. Abdullatif Al Khal was appointed associate dean for education at HMC. Dr. Al Khal graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, and completed internal medicine training at the University of Connecticut Medical Center followed
by a fellowship in infectious diseases at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Infectious Diseases. He serves as deputy chief of staff for medical education and director of medical education, and has been head of the communicable diseases clinic since 1997 and head of the infectious diseases division since 1998. Dr. Al Khal has also been an associate professor of clinical medicine at WCMC since 2007 and associate dean for clinical affairs in the College of Medicine at Qatar University since 2014. He oversees a number of strategic projects at HMC, including the ACGME-I accreditation for residency training programs. He has an advisory role to several public health programs under the umbrella of the Ministry of Public Health and continues to publish and conduct research in the field of internal medicine, infectious diseases, and medical education.

Dr. William J. McKenna was appointed associate dean for research at HMC. He received a BA at Yale University before obtaining his Doctor of Medicine degree from McGill University. He completed internal medicine training at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, and in 1976 moved to the Hammersmith Hospital/Royal Postgraduate Medical School in London to train in cardiology. In 1988 he became Sugden Senior Lecturer at St George’s Hospital Medical School, and in 1993 was made professor of cardiac medicine. In October 2000, he was appointed BHF professor of molecular cardiovascular sciences, and in July 2003 moved to University College London (UCL) as professor of cardiology. Dr. McKenna was clinical director of The Heart Hospital, UCLH from September 2004 to August 2008, and founding director of the Institute of Cardiovascular Science, UCL from August 2008 to November 2011. Dr McKenna was cardiovascular program director for UCL Partners from 2009 to May 2014, and director of inherited cardiac disease at UCL from July 2003 to 2015. He is also honorary professor of medicine, University of Aberdeen and adjunct professor in cardiovascular medicine at Yale, where he has contributed to the development of the Inherited Cardiac Disease Clinic. Professor McKenna was appointed CEO and medical director of the Heart
Hospital, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar in October 2014. His main interests have been in clinical and basic research of the cardiomyopathies. Dr. McKenna’s recent work has contributed to the identification of disease-causing genes in hypertrophic, dilated and arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, to the establishment of new diagnostic criteria within the context of familial disease, and to the establishment of algorithms to identify patients at high risk of sudden death.

New WCM-Q Faculty

WCM-Q welcomed three new full-time faculty members during the academic year 2015-2016. The Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs facilitated the appointment of these doctors who have successfully integrated into the WCM-Q community.

Dr. Maria Pallayová joined the Clinical Research Core in August 2015 as instructor in medicine. She received her M.D. from Comenius University Faculty of Medicine in Bratislava, Slovakia, followed by training in internal medicine at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University and Louis Pasteur University Hospital. She also holds a Ph.D from Pavol Jozef Šafárik University Faculty of Medicine and has completed a research fellowship in sleep medicine and in diabetes, metabolic, and nutritional disorders at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust in Birmingham. Prior to joining WCM-Q, she was a faculty member in the Department of Human Physiology at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University and served as an attending physician at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University and Louis Pasteur University Hospital. Dr. Pallayová has taught human physiology to medical students, has trained and mentored residents and fellows, and has been an advisor and mentor to doctoral students. Her research interests are multidisciplinary with emphasis on improving the clinical understanding of diabetes mellitus and applying research findings to clinical practice. She has been the lead or co-investigator on several high impact studies in recent years in relation to diabetes, sleep apnea, and obesity.

Dr. Amine Rakab joined the Division of Medical Education in January 2016 as assistant professor of clinical medicine and assistant dean for clinical learning. Dr. Rakab joined us from Sidra Medical and Research Center where he was a senior attending physician, acute care. Dr. Rakab received his M.D. from the University of Southern California (USC)/Keck Medical School and conducted his residency in internal medicine at Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, California. He is American Board Certified in internal medicine and is licensed to practice medicine in Michigan and Qatar. Dr. Rakab worked for ten years as a hospitalist for Southern California Kaiser Permanente before moving to Abu Dhabi in 2007 to take a position as a hospitalist at Mafraq Hospital. In 2008, he was appointed chairman of academic affairs and the designated institutional official (DIO) with responsibilities for establishing a new department of academic affairs, building the foundation to establish new residency and internship training programs, and securing ACGME-I institutional accreditation (received in 2012). As the DIO, Dr. Rakab was responsible for the oversight of training for 57 medical students, 37 interns, and 48 residents. He was instrumental in developing and implementing the internal medicine residency curriculum and instituting the resident research curriculum.

Dr. Aicha Hind Rifai joined the Medical Education Division as an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry in June 2016. Prior to joining WCM-Q, she served as a clinician teacher in a variety of academic and clinical settings at the University
Dr. Michael Pungente. Dr. Hong Ding. Dr. Arnal Khidir.

of Pittsburgh Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, St Joseph Medical Center Reading, Pennsylvania, and the Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, Michigan, and internationally at the Evangelisches Krankenhaus Elisabethenstift in Darmstadt, Germany, and at Hamad Medical Corporation in Qatar. Dr. Rifai’s areas of expertise include the management of depression in the elderly and in patients with chronic multi-morbidities, the expansion of community services for patients with mental illness, and community outreach and education with special focus on fighting the stigma of mental illness. Her research interests include the study of depression and suicide in the elderly with special interest in the course of hopelessness during the treatment of major depressive disorder, the study of the etiology and treatment of chronic comorbid psychiatric and medical conditions, the history of psychiatry, and the narrative of war trauma in civilian women in areas of conflict. She has participated in NIMH-funded studies on the maintenance treatment of major depression in the elderly. Along with colleagues in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, she co-authored and edited a volume on the contribution of the German-speaking countries to the history of psychiatry for the World Psychiatric Association. Dr. Rifai holds an M.D. from Aleppo University Medical School, Syria, and is a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in Psychiatry and in Geriatric Psychiatry. She is also a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Promotions

In 2015-2016, we celebrated the promotion to senior faculty ranks of three of our colleagues in recognition for their contributions to medical education, research, and service.

Dr. Michael Pungente was promoted to professor of chemistry in February 2016. For the last 12 years, he has been actively involved in teaching our organic chemistry courses, which he co-developed, and has significantly contributed to the greater curriculum of the pre-medical education program. He also
contributed towards the development of the Carnegie Mellon University/WCM-Q joint bachelor of science degree in biological sciences. With the development of our biomedical research program, Dr. Pungente was able to develop his own research laboratory, attracting extramural funding and developing research collaborations with international groups, including partners in Norway, Great Britain, France, Canada, and the US. Efforts from his research have resulted in several peer-reviewed publications, a US patent application, and invitations to present at numerous international conferences. His laboratory has also provided the opportunity for undergraduate students, postdoctoral trainees, and research assistants to conduct research with his group. Dr. Pungente serves and has served on key internal and external educational committees and taskforces and serves as a research editor and reviewer for several international professional journals. Dr. Pungente holds a B.Sc. in chemistry (honors) from the University of Victoria and a Ph.D in organic chemistry from the University of British Columbia.

Dr. Hong Ding was promoted to associate professor of research in pharmacology in May 2016. She joined WCM-Q in October 2007 and is actively and enthusiastically involved in biomedical research, the teaching of pharmacology to first and second-year medical students, and research advising and mentoring of medical students and postdoctoral trainees. Dr. Ding obtained her M.D. degree from Zhejiang University in China and worked as a physician in Hangzhou Hospital for four years before moving to Canada. Dr. Ding obtained a Ph.D. in cardiovascular pharmacology from the University of Calgary in Canada, where she also undertook post-doctoral training. After additional postdoctoral work at the University of Ottawa in Canada and Yale University in the US, she joined the faculty in the Department of Medical Sciences and Microvascular Research Group at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia, where she pursued studies of microvascular disease in diabetes. At WCM-Q, she continues to pursue her research interests in the area of vascular disease and diabetes through international collaborations. Dr. Ding has been an invited speaker at several international conferences, is a member of editorial boards for multiple leading professional journals, and has served as a grant reviewer for funding agencies, such as the Wellcome Trust, Diabetes UK, and Diabetes Australia Research Trust.

Dr. Amal Khidir was promoted to associate professor of pediatrics in June 2016. She joined WCM-Q in 2006 to establish the inaugural pediatrics clerkship, and since then has been heavily involved in medical education and faculty development. She was instrumental in the initial implementation of the pediatric curriculum. One of her major contributions was the modification and implementation of the curriculum to maximize the students’ exposure to, and enrichment of, their clinical experience within Qatar’s diverse population and context. She has taught a variety of audiences, including medical students, residents, fellows, and junior physicians, in a wide range of settings, and is very active in developing educational materials for undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education. Dr. Khidir also runs an outpatient service for HMC, where she implements primary and continuity care concepts and supervises medical students and residents. Her research interests include medical education, faculty development, cultural competency, professionalism, and health promotion. Her interest in cultural competency has led to several grants and publications. She has been invited numerous times to present her research and deliver professional and faculty development workshops regionally and internationally, and she is a member of key international medical education organizations, and a reviewer of leading medical education journals. Dr. Khidir holds an MBBS from the Faculty of Medicine of Khartoum University, Sudan, is a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics, and a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.
Medical License and Privileges in Qatar

In 2015-2016, HMC’s Board of Directors approved the applications for credentialing and delineation of privileges for WCM-Q physicians Dr. Robert K. Crone, professor of clinical pediatrics and clinical anesthesiology and associate dean for clinical and faculty affairs, and Dr. Amine Rakab, assistant professor of clinical medicine and assistant dean for clinical learning. Both Dr. Crone and Dr. Rakab have now been appointed to the medical staff at HMC.

As HMC continues to implement the automation of its medical records, the WCM-Q Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs has been working in close collaboration with several HMC offices to facilitate the training required by our clinical faculty to access the CERNER record system and Nuance voice system.

In March 2016, Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP) of the Ministry of Public Health launched the National CME/CPD framework that mandates all licensed healthcare practitioners to participate in CME/CPD activities according to certain policies and regulations. Licensed healthcare practitioners are required to report all learning activities in a CPD ePortfolio. Since fulfilling the CPD requirements is linked to the renewal of licensure, the Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs has been actively involved in ensuring that the college’s clinical faculty understand the requirements and how to document them.

Activities and Events

We have been actively engaged in efforts to enhance the value of being a WCM-Q faculty member by providing educational and informational programs that are relevant to our clinician educators. The Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs organized several activities during this academic year to enhance engagement with its clinical affiliates, other local educational institutions, and the wider Cornell community in both Qatar and the US.
Faculty Orientation

In October 2015, WCM-Q hosted its second annual faculty orientation for affiliated faculty. The event attracted more than 40 of WCM-Q’s new appointees. This orientation was focused on fully integrating newly appointed faculty as part of the WCM-Q community. This successful endeavor served to encourage new faculty to become involved with the academic life of WCM-Q and introduced them to the resources available at the college. Topics discussed included the appointment and promotions processes, access to library resources, and opportunities to contribute to teaching and research at WCM-Q.

Faculty Promotion Seminar

Also in October 2015, WCM-Q hosted the first promotion seminar aimed mainly at our faculty at affiliated institutions. Seventy-two instructors, assistant professors, and associate professors attended the two-hour seminar where the new WCMC criteria for appointments and promotions that came into effect in July 2015 and the different parts of the required promotion dossier were described. The promotion seminar was the catalyst for follow-up seminars at the college and small workshops at several HMC departments.

Law and Medicine Series

Continuing the initiative that started during the last academic year, the Office of Clinical and Faculty Affairs collaborated with WCM-Q’s Division of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Qatar University Law School to hold a seminar entitled ‘Protecting Human subjects in Research in Qatar’ in September 2015 and an international conference entitled ‘Law and Medicine: Challenging the Future’ in February 2016. The topics addressed by the delegates included an analysis of the existing regulatory framework for practicing medicine in Qatar and the Gulf, the liability of healthcare providers, protecting patient privacy and rights, the current legal framework for supporting innovation in healthcare delivery, and the development of a healthcare workforce for Qatar, now and for the future.

WCM-NY and WCM-Q Faculty Affairs Meeting

The annual meeting in New York took place in March 2016. In addition to meeting with several departments’ chairs and administrations to discuss the operations and procedures, promotions, and strategies to improve appointment and promotions processes, Dr. Robert Crone, associate dean for clinical and faculty affairs, and Dr. Alicia Tartalo, director of clinical and faculty affairs, hosted the traditional closing luncheon, which was attended by Dr. Jane E. Salmon, WCM associate dean for faculty affairs, Dr. Mark Albano, WCM assistant dean for faculty affairs, and 41 WCM New York colleagues.
RESEARCH

A year of discovery, innovation and investment in local research talent

The work of the Biomedical Research Program (BMRP) during 2015-16 continued and extended WCM-Q’s contribution to the development in Qatar of a thriving, sustainable R&D sector based on discovery and innovation.

To this end, the program’s strategic vision this year placed special emphasis on nurturing local talent and facilitating relationship-building among researchers and high-level actors in the commercial sector, and strengthening collaborative research activities with local partners, while continuing the core mission of supporting world-class scientists in their endeavors to make groundbreaking discoveries across a wide range of disciplines and research areas.

As such, the Research Division launched the new Summer Research Internship for National High School Students to help realize the potential of Qatari nationals in grades 10 and 11 who have a flair for science and innovation. A new research internship program for Qatari nationals is soon to be launched and is already accepting online applications, while the existing Biomedical Research Training Program for Nationals continued its success in its sixth year as four talented young Qatari graduates completed this year’s program.

In May 2016, links with the commercial sector were boosted when the Research Division hosted the Industry Academia Interactions conference, which brought together biomedical researchers and industry representatives from across the globe to discuss strategies for translating innovation from the laboratory to the marketplace. During FY 2016, more than 1,000 participants attended events hosted by the Research Division, helping to entrench and enhance Doha’s position as a key regional and global hub for biomedical research and knowledge exchange.

Important achievements were also made inside the laboratory as WCM-Q researchers, ably supported by the division’s administrative support staff, made a series of significant discoveries, many of which were published in high impact international journals. WCM-Q scientists contributed valuable new knowledge about the role of micro-RnA in regulation of cholesterol levels, gained greater understanding of the way fat cells proliferate, and developed a new kidney transplant rejection test, among many other exciting discoveries.

Following this strategy of identifying and encouraging local talent, while simultaneously recruiting world-class researchers and research administrators from all over the globe, has allowed the program to establish itself as the premier biomedical research program in Qatar and the region in just seven years. The program is now able to consistently deliver very high quality research in many areas, particularly relating to conditions that are most relevant to the region, such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

The division’s research endeavors continue to take a wide scope, spanning basic molecular understanding of mechanisms underlying disease to translational and clinical research findings aimed at improving health and healthcare across the region. Support for the BMRP remained steadfast, with the total sum awarded in competitively-funded extramural programs through QNRF and others over the past seven years rising to $109.94M. This focus on the continuum of the biomedical research spectrum ensures a sustained pipeline of novel discoveries based on the basic research being undertaken, while exploring the commercialization potential of existing discoveries through investments in translational and clinical research.
Dr. Hani Najafi who helped discover potential therapeutic targets for abnormal cholesterol levels (see page 46).
A strong, stable platform for research

Now in its eighth year of operation, the BMRP has 32 active laboratories and a total of 181 employees engaged in research or administrative functions to increase understanding of some of the most critical health issues facing Qatar and the wider region.

WCM-Q fulfills its duty to contribute to the realization of human potential in Qatar by recruiting the majority of new research hires locally and providing training for them within our labs. Since 2008, a total of 226 volunteers and visiting researchers were trained with the objective of gaining practical and hands-on experience in an actual research lab environment. Trainees are henceforth seeding local partners’ biomedical research programs thus enhancing our national research capacity.

Strengthening our team

WCM-Q’s commitment to identifying and recruiting the very best professionals to its research team continued this year with the appointment of Gabriel Ruiz as the new director of research administration. Gabriel comes to WCM-Q from King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia where he was the director of budget, planning and performance. Prior to that appointment, he served as director of budget and finance at the College of Engineering and Applied Science in University of Colorado in the US. Gabriel brings with him a wealth of administrative experience and knowledge of the region that is helping to enhance the research effort at WCM-Q still further.
Expanding our skills base

Existing faculty continued to work diligently to develop their skills, explore new avenues for collaboration, and progress in their careers. Significant new appointments and promotions included:

**Dr Shahrad Taheri’s appointment as assistant dean for clinical investigations**
In this position, Dr Taheri takes a leadership role in promoting our relationship with our primary clinical partner, HMC, on the clinical investigations front, to empower the progress of our research activities involving human subjects. Dr Taheri will also have administrative oversight of the institutional Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB), which oversees clinical trials.

**Dr Hong Ding’s promotion to associate professor of research in pharmacology**
Dr. Ding has distinguished herself in the field of vascular disease and diabetes through research, scholarship, teaching, and mentoring.

Her research focuses on the mechanism of diabetes-induced endothelial dysfunction and the contributions of an increase in intracellular oxidative stress linked to hyperglycemia. She is currently the Lead PI on two research projects funded by QNRF for approximately $1M each, one of which is studying the protein SLMAP. The first paper from that project was recently published in the *Journal of Translational Medicine* under the title, ‘Role of SLMAP genetic variants in susceptibility of diabetes and diabetic retinopathy in Qatari population.’

The paper, which is a model of a successful collaboration among researchers from...
WCM-Q, WCM, and HMC, is an important landmark concerning the risk factors and genetic variants in the Qatari population. In total, Dr. Ding has co-authored more than 40 peer-reviewed articles that have been published in leading journals such as *Journal of Translational Medicine*, *Diabetes*, and *Circulation*, as well as several book chapters and reviews.

**Adjunct appointments of WCM-Q faculty at HBKU, College of Science and Engineering**

In an effort to support the young graduate programs at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) in the biomedical sciences, ten faculty from WCM-Q now have adjunct appointments in the College of Science and Engineering at HBKU. This allows them to host and train graduate students in their labs, thus enhancing the robust collaborative relationship between HBKU and WCM-Q.

Salah Mahmoud was the first person on the Summer Research Internship for National High School Students.
Training the next generation of researchers

Another key commitment of the Research Division is to invest in the researchers of tomorrow by providing training opportunities to talented students with an interest and talent for research, with a particular focus on Qatari nationals.

This year saw a significant expansion in the scope of these efforts. New and ongoing initiatives include:

- The Research Division has launched the Summer Research Internship for National High School Students with the ultimate goal of increasing research capacity and helping to fulfill the goals of Qatar National Vision 2030. The program targets nationals who have recently completed grades 10 or 11 and are interested in scientific research. Building on WCM-Q’s productive relationship with Qatar Foundation, a student from Qatar Academy has completed the first cycle of the program.

- WCM-Q is soon to launch a new internship program for college students, called Research Internships for National College Students. Applications to join the new program are now being accepted online.

- WCM-Q has trained Ph.D. students in collaboration with the Qatar Research Leadership Program, a program administered by Qatar Foundation. Dr. Halema Al Farsi and Dr. Hamda Al Thawadi both received their degrees from the University of Paris-Sud (Paris 11) in France while Dr. Wadha Al Muftha and Dr. Mashael Al-Shafai graduated from Imperial College London’s Department of Genomics of Common Diseases.

- The program continues its training of Qatar University (QU) graduate students in WCM-Q labs with the adjunct appointment of several WCM-Q faculty members at QU. Currently there are four graduate students from QU training in WCM-Q labs, while three QU students have graduated from WCM-Q labs to date: Mona Mohsen, who trained in the Machaca Lab and graduated with an M.S. degree; Iman Al Azwani, who trained in the Malek Lab; and Aisha Madani, who trained in the Mazloum Lab.

- Lab Staff Training Program: The program, designed specifically for lab support staff, resumed on October 2015. The program focused on skill development in three main areas: wet bench, administrative and personal development/leadership.

- The Biomedical Research Training Program for Nationals continues its success into its sixth year, with four talented young Qatari graduates completing this year’s program. Interns on the program learn a wide variety of competencies including practical lab skills, how to undertake clinical research, and research administration. So far, a total of 28 Qatari graduates have completed the training since the program’s launch in 2011.
Publications

WCM-Q researchers have more than 500 publications to their names since 2010, many in highly prestigious journals. WCM-Q publications were cited approximately 1,900 times from 2010 until 2015.

Weill Cornell researchers develop new kidney transplant rejection test
Researchers at WCM-Q discovered a new test to detect whether a patient’s immune system is rejecting a transplanted kidney. The newly developed test uses urine analysis and is non-invasive, while the current test used in hospitals involves taking biopsy material directly from the implanted kidney using a syringe, which can cause discomfort and bleeding.

The research is described in a paper published in the prestigious Journal of the American Society of Nephrology and was conducted by a team of WCM-Q researchers led by Dr. Karsten Suhre, professor of physiology and biophysics, in partnership with colleagues at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, led by Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran, Stanton Griffis distinguished professor of medicine.

The new test works by analyzing the urine for metabolites, which are substances produced by biochemical processes in the body. Some metabolites are only produced under certain conditions and can thereby be used as markers for disease. Dr. Suhre’s team analyzed a total of 1,516 samples from 241 kidney transplant recipients and found that they could identify a particular set of metabolites that indicated the implanted organ was being rejected.

New hope in fight against cholesterol
A researcher at WCM-Q has discovered potential new therapeutic targets for the treatment of abnormal blood lipid/cholesterol levels.

Dr. Hani Najafi, assistant professor of cell & developmental biology at WCM-Q, discovered in an earlier study that micro-RNA (miRNA) 33 plays a major role in homeostatic regulation of cholesterol levels.

Building on this knowledge, Dr. Najafi and his colleagues examined data from other genomics studies, which typically focus on identifying single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) within gene sequences that are strongly associated with a particular characteristic (phenotype) or disease. But Dr. Najafi saw that alongside the genes that were listed there were also miRNAs embedded within the vicinity of the SNPs, which could be playing a role in contributing to the reported lipid abnormality.

Dr. Najafi and his team found that 69 miRNAs overall were in close proximity to the signature SNPs associated with abnormal lipid levels. They also found that more than 30 different genes that have a role in lipid metabolism are potential targets of the identified miRNAs. The research team selected four microRNA candidates and conducted a functional analysis, which found that they all regulated two key players in lipid metabolism – LDLR (low-density lipoprotein receptor) and ABCA1.

These discoveries could potentially lead to new therapies for high cholesterol, helping people to avoid cardiovascular disease.

WCM-Q research into obesity reveals new process for how fat cells increase in number
Researchers at WCM-Q led by Dr. Nayef Mazloum, assistant professor of research
in microbiology and immunology, made important new discoveries about how fat mass expands, which could help scientists develop new medications to combat obesity.

The research focused on a protein known as ‘SIRT1’ that plays a key role in regulating metabolism and counteracting the complications of obesity. Using mice precursor fat cells with artificially lowered levels of SIRT1, the WCM-Q researchers were able to confirm that the protein does indeed play a key role in limiting accumulation of metabolically dysfunctional hyperplastic adipose (fat) cells.

**Students’ discovery could affect diabetes drug prescription**
Research conducted by three WCM-Q medical students may have implications for diabetics and the drugs that doctors select when treating the disease.

Mu Ji Hwang, of the Class of 2018, along with Haidar Kubba and Ahmed Mushannen of the Class of 2017, helped demonstrate that the diabetes drug metformin also helps protect the endothelial cells of the body’s vasculature from the effects of high blood glucose levels. The students were supported by WCM-Q’s Dr. Hong Ding, associate professor of research in pharmacology; Dr. Chris Triggle, professor of pharmacology; Arun Lakshmanan, postdoctoral associate in pharmacology; and Suparna Ghosh, research specialist, in co-authoring the paper, which was published by the high-impact journal *Biochemical Pharmacology*.

The study also placed second in the oral presentation category of the annual Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) competition.

**WCM-Q research named as one of the most significant studies of 2015**
Research involving WCM-Q into how the body metabolizes fat and cholesterol was named as one of the top ten most significant advances in heart disease of 2015 by the American Heart Association.

The research was conducted by WCM-Q scientists in collaboration with other research centers including Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School and Weill Cornell Medicine in New York.

The research, which identified tiny particles of previously overlooked genetic material that can affect how the body deals with cholesterol and other fats, had already been published in the high-impact journal *Nature Medicine*. The latest accolade from the American Heart Association demonstrates just how significant the research is, potentially offering doctors new avenues for treating patients with abnormal cholesterol levels.

Dr. Hani Najafi, assistant professor of cell & developmental biology at WCM-Q, initiated the research project five years ago. He said it was gratifying that research conducted in the laboratory has the potential for direct and positive impact on the lives of patients by providing new strategies on how to combat abnormal cholesterol and fat levels in the body.

**Questioning an old dogma**
Research-grown vertebrate oocytes in the ovary are arrested in early meiosis for many years (up to 40 in humans for example). It has been taken for granted for decades that this meiotic arrest is released by lowering of cAMP levels in the oocyte, leading to oocyte maturation in preparation for fertilization. A new study from the Machaca Lab at WCM-Q published in the premier developmental...
To date, the annual Research Retreat has been held six times.

biology journal Development, shows that oocyte meiotic arrest in Xenopus can be released independent of any changes in cAMP levels, arguing for a novel pathway that directly stimulates oocyte maturation.

Facilitating local, regional and global knowledge exchange
Providing platforms upon which researchers from institutions all over the world can meet to share their discoveries and forge collaborative partnerships is a key plank of the mission of WCM-Q’s Research Division.

This year to date, WCM-Q has hosted its annual Research Retreat for the sixth consecutive year, more than 200 departmental seminars, eight international conferences and multiple local conferences/workshops on a diverse range of research areas. In FY 2016, more than 1,000 participants attended events hosted by the Research Division.

Notable research events for FY 2016 include:

Specialist Certification in Obesity Professional Education, Oct 2-4, 2015 (133 participants)
Healthcare professionals from across the globe convened at the two-day Specialist Certification in Obesity Professional Education (SCOPE) event in Doha to explore the latest strategies for managing patients with obesity. The training symposium was hosted by WCM-Q and Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC).
Concepts in Biomedical Research Methodologies Course, Nov 3-17, 2015 (180 participants)
WCM-Q collaborated with Hamad Medical Corporation’s Academic Health System to deliver a series of lectures, workshops and discussion sessions over two weeks to help clinician-scientists in Qatar develop translational research projects.

Infections in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus: Evolving Challenges for the 21st Century, Nov 19-21, 2015 (90 participants)
Doctors from all over the world gathered at a three-day workshop organized by WCM-Q with support from Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) to explore multi-disciplinary approaches to preventing and treating infections in people with diabetes.

Ion Channels and Transporters in Health and Disease, Feb 21-22, 2016 (60 participants)
Leading biomedical researchers from all over the world met for the two-day Ion Channels and Transporters in Health and Disease conference organized by WCM-Q and sponsored by Qatar National Research Fund’s (QNRF) Conference and Workshop Sponsorship Program (CWSP).

Sixteen speakers from Qatar and the wider world presented the findings of their projects to their peers on the intricate biological processes that take place at the cellular level to cause conditions such as diabetes, brain disorders, gastrointestinal disease and heart disease.

Safety in the Laboratory, May 11-12, 2016 (200 participants)
More than 200 professionals visited WCM-Q as the college sponsored two one-day training courses on laboratory safety for researchers, educators, allied health professionals and laboratory personnel from institutions across Qatar.

The 6th annual Safety in the Laboratory course brought an expert from the US-based Laboratory Safety Institute (LSI) to WCM-Q to explain the most up-to-date safety procedures and protocols.

Industry Academia Interactions, May 21-22, 2016 (70 participants)
Biomedical researchers and industry representatives from across the globe met to discuss strategies for translating innovation from the laboratory to the marketplace.

Held at the Hilton Hotel in collaboration with Qatar Foundation, Qatar National Research Fund, Sidra Medical and Research Center and Qatar Science and Technology Park, the event explored ways to foster productive partnerships among researchers, funding institutions and businesses in order to develop commercially viable Intellectual Property (IP), a key aim of Qatar National Vision 2030.

Adaptation of Rheumatoid Arthritis Guidelines for the Eastern Mediterranean Region, May 21-22, 2016 (40 participants)
Rheumatologists from all over the world convened at a WCM-Q event to agree common guidelines for ensuring high quality treatment of rheumatoid arthritis across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

WCM-Q coordinated the three-day summit that brought together experts from ten different countries to determine how to adapt the recently published American College of Rheumatology (ACR) Guidelines for implementation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.
Student Syeda Haider gives a presentation about the eight weeks she spent working under supervision at Weill Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania.
GLOBAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH
Dr. Ravinder Mamtani, associate dean for the Division of Global and Public Health (front), with the GPH team.
The Division of Global and Public Health (GPH) strives to engage in population health research; develop and support student and healthcare professionals’ education in public health, integrative medicine and lifestyle medicine; and to implement health awareness programs while being responsive to the needs of the community.

GPH continues to fulfill its 2015-2016 strategic objectives, namely: Enhance quality of life through population-based health promotion, research and disease prevention initiatives, and to create and advance educational opportunities in global and public health for medical students from Qatar and around the world. In doing so, GPH follows the principle that health problems are best addressed by cooperative actions and approaches guided by experience and sound scientific research.

Our vision that effective public health policies, healthy lifestyles, and informed healthcare decisions can improve life expectancy and health outcomes and advance the overall quality of life, aligns with the vision of WCM-Q, Qatar National Health Strategy 2011-2016 and Qatar National Vision 2030. The division’s activities focus on the broad areas of education, research and patient-related healthcare and community support.

Education Activities

Certificate in Clinical Nutrition

GPH hosted the inaugural Certificate in Clinical Nutrition course in April 2016 at WCM-Q. The course provided healthcare practitioners with an understanding of how nutrition affects physiological and biochemical systems in the human body, relevant clinical information and skills, and nutrition strategies to prevent disease, manage illness and promote health.

The 50-hour course consisted of an onsite unit (32 hours) and an online self-study unit (18 hours). The onsite unit comprised lectures and interactive discussions led by WCM-Q faculty (Dr. Ravinder Mamtani, Dr. Sohaila Cheema, Dr. Amal Khidir, Dr. Badrelddeen Ahmed, Dr. Mohamud Verjee, Dr. Moncef Ladjimi, Dr. Rayaz Malik and Dr. Shahrad Taheri), Dr. Mohammed Ilyas Khan (Hamad Medical Corporation) and international experts Dr. Benjamin Kligler (vice chair and research director, Department of Integrative Medicine, Mount Sinai, New York), Dr. David Reilly (The NHS Centre for Integrative Care, Glasgow) and Dr. Albert Lowenfels (New York Medical College). The online self-study unit was available to the course participants on Canvas, a cloud-based learning management system, and consisted of 14 modules and six quizzes, which complemented the onsite lectures and interactive discussions.

The course was very well received. Feedback from the course participants was positive and praiseworthy. Course participant Dr. Mahnaz Mousavi, director, Student Wellness & Counseling Center at Georgetown University – Qatar said: “The Clinical Nutrition Program provided an interactive milieu for exchanging up-to-date knowledge and insight on nutrition for optimizing health and well-being. The speakers shared their holistic views and encouraged student participation to enrich the discussions.” Another course participant, Dr. Rasmeh Al-Huneiti of the Ministry of Public Health, elaborated her experience in saying: “For me it goes extra miles beyond traditional training. It was a fantastic experience of knowledge sharing, interaction with colleagues, and meeting with scholars, experts and scientists.”

Based on the overwhelming response to this course, GPH plans to offer additional nutrition courses in the future, and also explore offering courses on other topics of interest to healthcare professionals.
Global Health Education and Research Program 2015

The Global Health Education and Research Program (GHERP) is a collaborative program between WCM-Q, the Global Health Office at Weill Cornell Medicine New York and the Weill Bugando School of Medicine (WBSoM). The program is now in its sixth year. Sahar Mahadik, a first year medical student, spent eight weeks during the summer in Mwanza, Tanzania gaining valuable experience in healthcare delivery, public health, research and introductory aspects of clinical medicine and healthcare in a low-income setting. The program has three overarching pillars – clinical, research and community-related work. For Sahar, the clinical component comprised of attending morning report, ward rounds, observing patient care and case reports as well as spending time in various departments at Bugando Medical Center to gain additional experiential learning. Mentored by faculty members from Weill Cornell Medicine–New York who are resident in Mwanza, Sahar had an opportunity to be involved in data collection for a prospective study looking into the survival and well-being of children born to HIV positive mothers. While engaging with the community Sahar visited orphanages, special centers for children with HIV, centers for albino children, district clinics, and the Baylor HIV clinic. Her community experience was enriching and humbling at the same time. Putting her experience in words, Sahar said: “The GHERP will definitely leave a lasting impression on me. The people I had the privilege of meeting and working with during this experience have all shaped my outlook on the field of global health and life in general. Now, I can only hope that my future career can be molded into one where I can return the kindness.”
Collaborative Educational Engagements

GPH collaborates actively with its affiliates and engages in various teaching activities throughout the year to promote healthcare and public health education in the region and beyond. The following is a synopsis of the educational engagements for which GPH faculty and staff were invited as speakers:

- In July 2015, Dr. Ravinder Mamtani and Dr. Sohaila Cheema were invited to teach in the Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) Community Medicine Residency Program. Topics included the emerging face of healthcare, population health, global health and communication in public health.

- In September 2015, Dr. Mamtani was invited to speak on environmental sustainability and human health for the sustainability fundamentals and tools course, part of the Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) master’s and Ph.D. in sustainable energy and sustainable environment.

- Dr. Cheema was invited as a speaker at the 1st Health Services Research Symposium at HMC, hosted in November 2015. The topic of her talk was ‘Population Health in Qatar’.

- Dr. Mamtani gave a series of lectures for the Preventive Medicine Residency program at Weill Cornell Medicine-New York in December 2015 and June 2016.

- In January 2016, Dr. Cheema participated in a Global Cultural Skills program organized by Georgetown University in Qatar for HMC leadership. She presented a seminar on ‘Healthcare Politics and Policy: Qatar Today’.

- GPH faculty and staff actively participate in the Pre-college Enrichment Program and Qatar Summer Explorer Program aimed at providing prospective high school students with an opportunity to explore their intellectual curiosity in a college setting. The Division of Student Recruitment and Outreach organizes the programs.

Journal of Local and Global Health Perspectives

The Journal of Local and Global Health Perspectives (ISSN: 2225-9228) is a peer-reviewed international journal, which publishes research on all aspects of global health practices in specific local environments as well as the implications of local health issues in a global perspective. The journal is committed to advancing and sharing creative, innovative and emerging evidence-based approaches that are likely to influence public health policy and improve the public health of various communities around the world. The journal’s editors-in-chief are Dr. Ravinder Mamtani and Dr. Albert B. Lowenfels, of New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York. Dr. Sohaila Cheema, director of GPH, serves as managing editor and Dr. Hekmat Alrouh, project specialist in GPH, serves as assistant managing editor.

Population Health and Primary Care Perspectives Elective

Senior medical students from WCM-Q and around the world are eligible to apply for this four-week elective. During the elective students are introduced to various global health topics with a special focus on population health and primary healthcare. Dr. Ravinder Mamtani serves as sponsoring faculty for the elective.
Global and Public Health Internship

This innovative internship program is open to undergraduate students from around the world. Talented high school students who have exhibited a strong interest in healthcare are also considered. The program introduces students to the basic core concepts of global and public health with a view to optimizing their awareness and knowledge in these areas. Dr. Ravinder Mamtani directs the program and Dr. Sohaila Cheema serves as co-director.
Global and Local Community Initiatives

GPH actively participates in a wide range of educational, health promotion and awareness activities both for healthcare professionals and for the public at large.

Global Educational Exchange in Medicine and the Health Professions

Global Education in Medicine Exchange and the Health Professions (GEMx) is a worldwide partnership of exchange in medical education that connects medical schools, students and faculty worldwide, administered by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). WCM-Q joined GEMx as a partner school in November 2013 and currently offers two electives via the GEMx portal (http://www.gemxelectives.org): the Population Health and Primary Care Perspectives Elective, and the Sports Medicine in Primary Care Elective. Dr. Ravinder Mamtani serves as the chair of the GEMx Advisory Committee, while Dr. Sohaila Cheema serves as the manager for the GEMx program at WCM-Q. We continue to strengthen and support our partnership with ECFMG’s Global Educational Exchange in Medicine and the Health Professions (GEMx) program. GPH welcomed Salvador Alvarado, a 6th year medical student from The National Autonomous University of Mexico, Faculty of Medicine, Mexico for ‘Population Health And Primary Care Perspectives,’ a four-week elective in September-October 2015. Salvador gained knowledge and understanding of major global health issues like the global burden of disease and the social, economic and political aspects of healthcare systems around the world. Salvador had an opportunity to interact with WCM-Q students while attending the Primary Care Clerkship lectures. He also visited an ambulance station, attended the HMC smoking cessation clinic and visited a primary healthcare center. Salvador was very impressed by Qatar’s healthcare system and more importantly, while at WCM-Q, he got the chance to see how a healthcare system works in a different part of the world, which was extremely worthwhile to him. The opportunity also allowed Salvador to learn about the culture, people and traditions of Qatar, which was an important life experience for him. Salvador said: “My ultimate dream is to be the health minister in my home country, to apply all the knowledge I have learned and apply it to change our healthcare system. Maybe it’s a crazy dream, but if you don’t dream it then you can never achieve it.”

Partner with Communications Division for Sahtak Awalan – Your Health First initiative, Ask The Expert Series

Ask The Expert is a series of interactive health seminars and is part of WCM-Q’s Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First initiative, a five-year campaign to encourage individuals of all ages and backgrounds to adopt healthier lifestyles. The 2015-16 cycle consisting of the following talks primarily targeted towards a public audience:

- September 2015: ‘Road behavior and your health’; Speaker: Dr. Sohaila Cheema, director, Division of Global and Public Health and instructor in healthcare policy and research, WCM-Q
- November 2015: ‘Can you cure diabetes?’; Speaker: Dr. Rayaz Malik, professor of medicine, WCM-Q
- January 2016: ‘What happens when we sleep?’; Speaker: Dr. Shahrad Taheri, professor of medicine and integrative medicine, director of CRS Core and assistant dean for clinical investigations, WCM-Q
- March 2016: ‘Breastfeeding and Infant Nutrition’; Speaker: Dr. Mohammed Ilyas Khan, specialist in MCH/lactation consultant, Obstetrics & Gynecology Department, Al Khor Hospital, (HMC), Qatar
- May 2016: ‘Headaches’; Speaker: Dr. Basim Uthman, professor of clinical neuroscience and clinical neurology, WCM-Q.
Dr. Ravinder Mamtani, associate dean for GPH, featured on a health video for Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First, and also on the QF Radio show, ‘Rise’.
Qatar Foundation Radio Morning Show appearance

Dr. Ravinder Mamtani and Dr. Sohaila Cheema featured on Qatar Foundation Radio’s morning show, ‘Rise.’ Dr. Mamtani enlightened the public about integrative medicine and Dr. Sohaila Cheema engaged in a lively, absorbing conversation on road safety.

Teach for Qatar Camp 2015

Under the overall direction of Dr. Sohaila Cheema, GPH conducted four sessions on nutrition and physical activity in July 2015 at the Teach for Qatar Camp hosted at Awsaj Academy. Dr. Hekmat Alrouh delivered the sessions in Arabic. Dr. Amit Abraham, Ms. Sura A-Samraye and Ms. Raji Anand also participated in the activity. Over 100 boys aged 11 to 15 years from various independent schools in Qatar attended. The nutrition session covered learning how to read and examine nutrition labels on packaged foods using simple and easy to remember concepts. The physical activity session focused on the relationship between exercise and heart health, as well as general tips for exercising in a safe and appropriate manner. GPH received wonderful feedback from the organizers and camp facilitators. Students enjoyed the activities with a lot of engagement from both students and their facilitators.

Cancer Awareness Sessions at Debakey High School

Dr. Sohaila Cheema conducted cancer awareness sessions for high school students at Debakey High School For Health Professions, Qatar in October 2015. 360 students from Grades 7 – 12 attended these sessions. Dr. Cheema discussed common types of cancer, their risk factors and the guidelines for cancer prevention. Students were engaged, asked good questions and made interesting observations in the Q&A session.

Road Safety at Qatar Chemical Company (QChem)

Dr. Sohaila Cheema was invited to deliver road safety seminars to QChem employees at their Mesaieed Industrial City facility and West Bay office in November 2015. Dr. Cheema spoke about road behavior, its effect on health and the road traffic injury burden in Qatar and globally. The Qatar National Road Safety Strategy 2013–2022 and current efforts for road safety improvement in Qatar were also highlighted during the talks. Custom-made videos on traffic injury risk factors and tips to avoid aggressive driving delivered key messages effectively and employees appreciated the sessions. They indicated statistics on road traffic injuries were an eye-opener and simple steps taken at the individual level can go a long way in preventing these avoidable events. More than 150 employees benefitted from these sessions.

Medicine Unlimited 2016

GPH participated in Medicine Unlimited, the annual flagship event organized by the Division of Student Recruitment and Outreach. Activities included the ‘Nutrition Detective’ game on how to read food labels and a quiz on nutrition. Pamphlets showcasing ‘sugar shockers’, portion control, tips on reading food labels and how to choose smart snacks were distributed among the visitors. Several hundred students from Qatar schools and their families visited the booth and benefitted from the information provided to them.
32nd GCC Traffic Week at Darb Al Saai

GPH participated in the 32nd GCC Traffic Week in March 2016, an event organized by the Ministry of Interior. Dr. Sohaila Cheema, Dr. Hekmat Alrouh and Ms. Raji Anand engaged with several hundred primary and secondary school students to teach them about evidence-based best practices in road safety, risk factors for road traffic injury and appropriate road behavior. Using videos and interactive question and answer sessions, Dr. Cheema and Dr. Alrouh talked about the importance of seatbelts, why mobile phones should not be used while driving, and risks associated with speeding and other related topics. The aim of the interactive sessions was to share knowledge with children during their formative years so that when they grow older and begin to drive themselves, they will remember the lessons they have learned. In addition, they will pass those lessons on to their families and friends so as to discourage dangerous, anti-social and irresponsible driving.

Participation in Committees of Public Health Importance

GPH represents WCM-Q on the following local and national committees:

1. National Preventive Healthcare Committee, Ministry of Public Health: Dr. Ravinder Mamtani (member) and Dr. Sohaila Cheema (designee).

2. National Oral Health Committee: Dr. Ravinder Mamtani (member) and Dr. Sohaila Cheema (designee).

3. National Workforce Committee, Ministry of Public Health: Dr. Sohaila Cheema (member).

4. Step into Health in Campuses 2015-2016 by Healthy Lifestyle Program, Aspetar: Dr. Ravinder Mamtani (member).

5. Human Nutrition Advisory Board, Qatar University: Dr. Sohaila Cheema (member).

6. Institutional Review Board of College of the North Atlantic in Qatar: Dr. Sohaila Cheema (member).

7. Health Sciences Department Advisory Committee, Qatar University: Dr. Sohaila Cheema (member).

Research

GPH continues to partake in population-based public health research projects, which aim to enhance the overall health and wellbeing of the population in the State of Qatar. The main research focus areas are obesity, road traffic injuries, smoking and diabetes, including estimating diabetes risk in Qatar’s adolescent population. Collaborating institutions on these research projects include the Ministry of Public Health, Hamad Medical Corporation, Primary Health Care Corporation, the Ministry of Interior’s Traffic Department, and Qatar Diabetes Association. A collaborative study between the Division of GPH and the Ministry of Public Health entitled ‘Seat belt and mobile phone use among vehicle drivers in the city of Doha, Qatar: an observational study’ was recently published in *BioMed Central Public Health*. The authors of the study, which included members of the GPH team and Dr. Sheikh Mohamed Al Thani and Dr. Al Anoud Al Thani from the Ministry of Public Health, concluded that three out of 10 drivers in Qatar do not use a seatbelt and one in 12 use a mobile phone while driving. Qatar has made
great strides in improving road safety in the country. However, there is room for improvement with increased law enforcement and improved public awareness to ensure safe road environment for all road users.

The division’s faculty and staff participated in the following oral and poster presentations:


**Center for Cultural Competence in Health Care**

Initiated as a medical interpretation program in 2007, the Division of Global and Public Health’s Center for Cultural Competence in Health Care (CCCHC) has expanded to promote culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare in Qatar via cultural competence education. Under the guidance of Dr. Ravinder Mamtani, associate dean for global and public health, the center is led by Ms. Maha elnashar, who serves as director, and ably supported by Ms. Huda Abdelrahim, senior specialist of cultural competence. CCCHC provide a wide range of activities in the broad areas of education, community outreach and research.

**Education**

Since 2008, CCCHC has provided essential cultural competence training to WCM-Q medical students. The 20-hour training module is built on the Association of American Medical College’s Tools for Assessing Cultural Competence Training’s five domains and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education standards. Students engage in didactic lectures, group discussions, interactive exercises and videos, and various other activities to build their cultural competence knowledge and skills. Topics include diversity and its impact on healthcare; bias and stereotyping; knowing your community and exploring the patient’s perspective; health disparities; medical interpretation; evidence-based traditional healing practices, and traditional healing systems and practices. All medical students also participate in a practical simulation session with trained standardized patients hosted at WCM-Q’s Clinical Skills Center to learn how to implement their cultural competence knowledge and skills in practical situations.

Prior to the start of their clinical clerkships, CCCHC conducts a one-hour refresher session with the students on how to work with a medical interpreter. CCCHC also provides medical interpretation services to WCM-Q students during their clinical
training in HMC hospitals and primary healthcare centers whereby trained medical interpreters help WCM-Q students to communicate effectively with patients. This also enhances the students’ cross-cultural communication skills.

CCCHC continues to contribute to WCM-Q orientation sessions for new employees to validate the importance of diversity in the workplace and introduce the center’s activities and services. In May 2016, in collaboration with Education City campuses, CCCHC participated in organizing workshops with Qatar Institute for Intercultural Communication (QIIC), a leading international organization in the field of intercultural communication based in the US. This event provided an opportunity for faculty and staff from Education City campuses and from regional institutions to enhance their intercultural communication knowledge and skills through various interactive seminars and workshops hosted by leading experts in the field.

CCCHC participates in the Comskil training module prepared by Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. The module mainly focuses on ‘end of life’ communication skills and targets HMC residents and specialists. Furthermore, on a regular basis the center provides a four-hour cultural competence training workshop to healthcare professionals from the primary healthcare centers. A four-hour cultural competence training workshop is provided to all newcomers joining the paramedics team of the Qatar Ambulance Services Department in HMC.

On an annual basis, CCCHC conducts two sessions at Qatar University’s College of Pharmacy on cultural competence skills and medical interpretation. These sessions are integrated with the professional skills course of the first-year curriculum. CCCHC provided a two-hour cultural competence training workshop for two groups of social workers from Sidra Medical and Research Center.
Community Outreach

On a biannual basis, the center offers Bridging the Gap medical interpreter training to the community. The aim is to build a capacity of trained medical interpreters who will voluntarily provide medical interpretation services in any healthcare setting within the State of Qatar. Participants are chosen from different academic and professional backgrounds. They include physicians, pharmacists, dentists, healthcare administrators, legal advisers, engineers and IT professionals. To date, 150 individuals representing 20 languages have been trained. The trained medical interpreters engage with WCM-Q medical students during their practical training at HMC to help them communicate effectively with their patients. A certificate ceremony is held annually to acknowledge and recognize the medical interpreters for their volunteer services.

Research

The center continues its participation in the NPRP research grant (NPRP:08-530-3-116) entitled ‘Providing Culturally Appropriate Healthcare Services in Qatar: Development of a Multilingual Patient Cultural Assessment of Quality Instrument’. The project is now in the data publishing phase. A paper entitled ‘Patient responses to research recruitment and follow-up surveys: findings from a diverse multicultural health care setting in Qatar’ has been published in BMC Medical Research Methodology.

The Division of Global and Public Health will continue to actively work in partnership with local, regional, and global partners to develop and implement best evidence-based public health programs and activities with a view to promoting the overall wellbeing of the people in the State of Qatar, the Middle East region and beyond.
STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND OUTREACH
The winners of the Doctors of the Future scholarships spend two weeks in the research laboratories at WCM in New York.
The Office of Student Recruitment and Outreach is committed to serving prospective students, parents, schools as well as the wider community by providing a supportive environment focused on relationship building through recruitment, outreach and cultivation initiatives. The primary target for our outreach and cultivation programs is Qatar as a priority, and the secondary target is the region.

In the year 2015-2016, the office expanded its programming to achieve better reach in supporting the Qatari population to explore and consider the field of medicine as a career. While ongoing successful programs have been further reinforced, newly created initiatives have helped bridge the academic needs of Qatari students aspiring to study medicine with the requirements of medical schools applications.

The main achievements for the office this year are to provide better access to students, support their academic goals that will eventually facilitate their integration into our six-year Medical Program, as well as raise their awareness to what the medical field has to offer to them. This has led to the increase in the quality of Qatari applicants and acceptances into our six-year Medical Program, our four-year medical curriculum.

This was done through the following:

**Local Recruitment and Outreach**

**Qatar Aspiring Doctors Program (QADP)**

The QADP is a yearlong program that runs in parallel with the high school academic year, and offers academic and career support to a selected number of high potential Qatari students. Nominated through their schools, students have to be highly performing in the sciences and math and to have an interest to explore medicine as a career.

Through online modules developed and taught by our faculty members, as well as face-to-face interactions, students are provided with comprehensive support to complete modules in biology, physical sciences, English for academic purposes and research skills.

A total of 35 students were invited to take part in this program, 20 of whom were highly active, and 17 of whom were Qatari. A total of 11 students completed the program successfully, nine of whom were offered admissions into our Foundation and six-year Medical Program. *

*Please note that these numbers do not take into account students who are still in the pipeline, i.e. those who were still in grades 10 and 11 during the application cycle and therefore are not eligible to apply this year.*

**Doctors of the Future Scholarships**

The Qatar Doctor of the Future Scholarships are fully funded, two-week experiences of a life-time at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City. To apply for these scholarships, students need to enter the Healing Hands Essay Competition.

Four Qatari high school students, from Qatar Academy and Al Bayan Independent School for Girls, who won the Healing Hands essay writing competition, received WCM-Q’s Doctor of the Future Scholarships as their prizes.
WCM-Q’s enrichment programs show potential students what life is like at the college.
During the summer of 2015, the four winners visited prominent research laboratories and spent time with distinguished Weill Cornell researchers in major New York hospitals. The scholarships also cover the cost of travel for the winners along with one of their escorting parents.

A local research orientation was also offered to the students prior to their departure in WCM-Q’s research laboratories. The program continues to yield highly qualified, prospective Qatari students who go on to join our Foundation and six-year Medical Program.

Six more participants in the essay competition were recognized by receiving honorable mentions from the judging committee and 10 received a certificate of participation.

**Summer Enrichment Programs (SEP)**

Two programs, the Qatar Medical Explorer and the Pre-college Enrichment Programs, were offered to high school students during the summer of 2015. A total of 33 students participated in the Pre-college Enrichment Program, and 32 in the Qatar Medical Explorer Program. Participants in the SEPs this year were predominantly Qatari and long term residents of Qatar, in addition to a number of regional and international students coming from as far as Germany, the USA and Canada.

Both programs continue to offer students the opportunity to attend pre-medical and medical class simulations, tour Hamad General Hospital, get hands-on experience in laboratories, participate in student research projects, and prepare for college admissions.

Due to a rigorous application process, mimicking that of the six-year Medical Program, the Summer Enrichment Programs have been a great source for identifying talented young men and women who later on enrolled into our Foundation and six-year Medical Program. The yield of this year’s programs is around 80 per cent applications from those eligible to apply.

**Winter Enrichment Program**

The Winter Enrichment Program invited students following nominations from their independent schools to join the Qatar Medical Explorer Program (QMEP), during the independent schools’ winter break. This two-week program was conducted with a total of 28 students, sixteen of whom were Qatari. Students spent two weeks learning what it is like to train to become a medical doctor at WCM-Q. The QMEP was delivered by pre-medical and medical faculty members, teaching assistants, current students, graduates and staff of WCM-Q.

The winter session of the enrichment program helps identify potential Qatari students who are offered to participate in the QADP program. This year seven Qatari students from this program enrolled into the QADP program.
Medicine Unlimited Community Outreach Event

Medicine Unlimited, WCM-Q’s flagship community outreach event, took place on February 22. Students and their families visited the college for the annual fair, which offered the chance to discover WCM-Q’s state-of-the-art facilities, take part in interactive demonstrations presented by college faculty and staff, as well as learn about careers in medicine.

This year, there were a total of 20 interactive stalls, with subjects ranging from anatomy, pediatrics, research and English writing, to physics, chemistry, biology and pathology. Hamad Medical Corporation, for the ninth year, and Sidra Medical and Research Center, for the second year were in attendance to offer demonstrations and free health screenings to parents and adult participants. The Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First campaign also participated for the first time this year with activities aiming at raising awareness about adopting a healthy lifestyle.

The event was a major success, being attended by about 400 participants.

Adopt a School Program

The Adopt a School Program offers a yearlong relationship with high schools in Qatar, providing curriculum support, teacher and counselor training, and workshops targeted at academic counselors and schoolteachers. A series of meetings with key personnel of major feeder schools were conducted to cement the college’s relationship with these schools. Dr. Rachid Bendriss, assistant dean for student recruitment, outreach and foundation programs, continues to serve on the advisory board of the Debakey High School for Health Professions. WCM-Q’s participation helped guide Debakey’s reaccreditation process.
This year the Adopt a School Program concluded a very successful school visitation program, attending open days and fairs in Qatar as well as participated in joint activities organized by HBKU:

**Counselors’ Workshops, Parents’ Nights and Principals’ Meetings**

In the fall of 2015, two Discover Education City events and two parents’ nights were organized in partnership with Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) and other Education City branch campuses, attracting prospective students, parents and school counselors. The events, held in the HBKU Student Center, are considered the largest local recruitment fairs, and attracted hundreds of visitors.

In collaboration with Education City branch campuses and HBKU, the Doha Counselors’ Day was organized on October 7 and offered the opportunity for 52 counselors from across Doha to receive campus updates, learn about the application process and receive information about our six-year Medical Program.

Invited as a speaker to address independent school students in Qatar, Dr. Marco Ameduri, associate dean for pre-medical education presented at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University’s School Day, organized by HBKU in February.

**School Visits, Open Days and Fairs**

The Student Recruitment and Outreach (SRO) team visited about 35 local schools and approximately 40 regional schools throughout the year. During the fall, graduating seniors were offered information including admissions requirements and deadlines, along with one-on-one counseling relating to test scores, subject selection, the application process and funding opportunities.
More than 25 open days and campus tours were organized for parents, students and interested schools during the year. A typical open day consists of a formal presentation of WCM-Q’s programs and admissions requirements, a tour of the college and an interactive activity in the Clinical Skills Center. Additionally, the office responded to an increasing number of online, phone and walk-in inquiries throughout the year.

This year the SRO office also attended a number of local fairs, the most significant of which were the Hamad Medical Corporation Careers in Health Fairs on October 12 and 13, 2015 and the Supreme Education Council fair from October 20 to 22, 2015 held at the Qatar National Convention Center and attracting a number of local, regional and international Higher Education institutions. The office also attended the American Education Fair organized by the American Chamber of Commerce on February 21, 2015.

Noha Saleh, director of student recruitment and outreach, and Dr. James Roach, visiting associate professor of chemistry, and students from the QADP (see page 67).
Regional Recruitment

The Office of Student Recruitment and Outreach continues to participate in the Discover Education City Regional Roadshow jointly organized with Education City branch campuses. During the fall of 2015, the team visited about 40 schools in several locations across the region including Dubai, Sharjah, Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Kuwait, Manama and Amman, and was successful in recruiting a number of highly qualified regional candidates.

The office continues to foster regional relationships with higher education institutions to expand access for highly qualified graduates considering WCM-Q’s four-year medical curriculum. This year, in addition to cementing our relationship with New York University in Abu Dhabi, exploring further ones with Fatima College for Health Sciences was actively pursued.

The office also attended the GETEX fair in Dubai during the fall, and spoke to tens of interested potential applicants from a variety of schools in the UAE.
The success and visibility of WCM-Q and its programs continue to grow from strength to strength, leading to strong competition from applicants for a place at the college. This Office of Admissions report for the year 2015-2016 summarizes information on the new six-year Medical Program, the admissions process, the expected number of incoming students and their demographics, new appointments, and recent advances in the Admissions Information System.

**Six-Year Medical Program**

Dr. Javaid Sheikh, dean of WCM-Q, announced the new six-year Medical Program in November 2014. The new program integrates pre-medical and medical curricula into one cohesive and unified six-year Medical Program. The successful completion of this program will lead to the award of the Cornell University Doctor of Medicine degree.

As a result of this integration, the first class of the six-year Medical Program joined WCM-Q in August 2015 and the second class joined in August 2016. These students will no longer have to take part in a separate admissions process upon satisfactory completion of the pre-medical curriculum. Rather, the students will progress through the six-year Medical Program according to advancement criteria, which include academic performance, professionalism, and commitment to the profession of medicine. The four-year medical curriculum component of the Medical Program will remain available to external applicants who have completed a baccalaureate program at other colleges or universities.
Admissions Process

WCM-Q seeks applicants who uphold the highest academic and personal standards. Its goal is to identify the best-qualified applicants from diverse academic and personal backgrounds. The Committees on Admissions make final decisions on the suitability of applicants for the respective programs. The committees, appointed by the dean of WCM-Q, are composed of members of the faculty. The dean also appoints to the committees student representatives and ex-officio members as appropriate. The Office of Admissions continues to support the Committees on Admissions in their use of a holistic approach to select a diverse and academically well-prepared entering class.

Incoming Students

For the six-year Medical Program, 382 applications were submitted. Of the 382 submitted applications, the Committees on Admissions accepted 45 students directly into the program. A further 15 students were promoted from the Foundation Program into the six-year Medical Program. In August 2016, 48 students entered the six-year Medical Program.

In the class entering the six-year Medical Program in August 2016, 13 nationalities were represented with approximately 65 per cent of those students making their home in Qatar. Of the 48 students, 19 (40 per cent) are Qatari nationals.

Admission was offered to 18 candidates for the Foundation Program and in August 2016 12 students enrolled in the program. Of these students, 8 students are Qatari citizens. The WCM-Q Foundation Program is a one-year program that prepares students for entry to the six-year Medical Program. It allows students to study the relevant subjects, in addition to helping them further develop their study skills and critical thinking abilities. The program has been very successful and continues to yield positive results.

This year there were 84 applications for admission to the four-year medical curriculum component of the Medical Program. Of those who applied, 42 were accepted into the program. Of the 42, 41 had accepted the offer of admission as of June 2016. Of the 41, 38 recently completed their pre-medical education at WCM-Q. This was the last academic year where WCM-Q Pre-Medical 2 students had to apply to the four-year medical curriculum component of the Medical Program.
Yusuf Suliman from ITS and Claudia Mihaescu from Admissions gave a presentation at the Jenzabar Annual Meeting 2016 in Dallas, Texas.
The 41 students who accepted the offer of admission to the four-year medical curriculum of the Medical Program represent 14 nationalities, and three are external applicants. The latter comprise two graduates of Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, and the third a graduate from the University of California, Berkeley.

Of the 101 students who joined WCM-Q’s Foundation, six-year and four-year Medical Programs, 40 are Qataris. The remaining students come from diverse cultural, social and ethnic backgrounds. It is noteworthy that of the 41 students who joined WCM-Q’s four-year medical curriculum component of the Medical Program, 14 are Qataris. Of the 13, 12 began their journey in the WCM-Q Foundation Program. This is a testament to the success of the initiative. In summary, the data indicates a strong interest among Qataris to pursue a medical education at WCM-Q.

New Appointments

During the 2015-2016 academic year, the Office of Admissions went through some changes in personnel. Farhan Aziz was appointed as the new director of admissions. Claudia Mihaescu was promoted to the position of admissions officer. Jyothi Rosario was appointed as the new admissions coordinator.

New Information System

The new application software Jenzabar-EX, which was launched in September 2013 in strong collaboration with the Educational Computing Team, was utilized very effectively this year. The new Student Information System allows WCM-Q to capture student information from when an applicant makes their initial inquiry through to when they become a graduate of the college. The Office of Admissions continues to utilize the new system to improve its efforts in providing appropriate guidance and timely processing of all applications. This in turn will continue to allow and facilitate timely and careful review of applications by the Committees on Admissions in the next admissions cycle. The multiple features developed in the first three years of implementing this new Student Information System were highlighted at the annual Jenzabar conference 2016 in Dallas, Texas. The presentation ‘Baby Years with Jenzabar’ was delivered in collaboration with Admissions and ITS staff.
The beginning of the new year gives students the chance to collect clothes and other items for charity.
Students starting the medical curriculum visited the Qatar Foundation for Elderly People Care.
Orientation Programs

In August 2015, the Division of Student Affairs in cooperation with the Pre-medical Program, hosted a four-day orientation program for the new foundation and pre-medical students. The program welcomed new students to the campus, the administration, faculty, staff, and to each other. With the collaborative efforts of the student orientation leaders, student ambassadors and Medical Student Executive Council in Qatar, the students engaged in interactive sessions to develop pride in their new WCM-Q community as well as understand their academic requirements. Students also participated in different activities and icebreakers such as a murder mystery and Arabian Night that focused on teamwork, cooperation, cultural awareness and communication skills.

To increase students’ awareness of the WCM-Q community, they participated in service activities during the program. These included hosting the custodial staff and security guards for lunch where the students served the food and presented their guests with gifts as a token of appreciation. For the past four years, students have also collected, sorted, and packed donations from the college for donation to Qatar charities. Afterward, WCM-Q students joined students at other branch campuses in Education City to host and participate in sessions and workshops to prepare them for participation in the greater education community at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU).

Similarly, the Divisions of Medical Education and Student Affairs hosted a four-day orientation for incoming medical students. The members of the Class of 2019 participated in a series of programs and activities to introduce them to the medical curriculum, medical training, professionalism, the teacher-learner environment and other topics.

Students also engaged in a community service activity in which they visited the Qatar Foundation for Elderly People Care (Ihsan). They met some elders of the Qatar community and listened to their experiences with patient care and their thoughts about the doctor-patient relationship. The visit helped students begin to connect with their chosen profession and develop a deeper understanding of their role in treating patients, and not just their diseases.

At the end of the week, the 47 students of the medical curriculum received their first stethoscopes and white coats during the Opening Exercises ceremony. More than 500 guests attended the event and celebrated the new students of the Class of 2019. WCM-Q alumna Dr. Mashael Al-Khelaifi, who now works as a pediatric surgeon at Hamad Medical Corporation, delivered the keynote speech.

Student Clubs and Activities

According to their interests, WCM-Q students gather, establish and lead different specialized clubs and organizations ranging from sports clubs to charitable and humanitarian clubs. These clubs are very active and participate in different events and activities within WCM-Q and Education City. Currently, WCM-Q has 29 officially recognized clubs and organizations, including: Student Research Association, Reach Out to Asia, Debate Club, Music Club, Pediatric Interest
Yaser Janahi receives his white coat from Dr. Javaid Sheikh, dean of WCM-Q.

The Medical Student Executive Council (MSEC-Q) is the student governing body of the college. Comprising members of the college’s leadership and four representatives from each of the seven classes, from foundation to the fourth year of the Medical Program, they are vital for supporting and advocating for student interests. They work closely with Student Affairs and other divisions to implement ideas students have regarding services, food, space and curriculum. To foster transparency and communication between students and the administration, MSEC-Q hosted the annual Dean’s Town Hall with Dr. Javid Sheikh, dean of WCM-Q in February 2016. Students look forward to the annual event, where they voice concerns, ask questions, and learn more about the college’s strategic long-term plans.

MSEC-Q also hosts a number of annual events to celebrate the culture and diversity of the WCM-Q community such as International Night, Coffeehouse, Club Fest, Basant and the Med Gala. International Night showcases the students’ different nationalities and cultures represented by food, costumes, songs and dances. Coffeehouse is an annual talent show that is considered the largest event in Education City and brings in 400-500 spectators to the campus, celebrating the immense and diverse talents of students, faculty, and staff. Coffeehouse received the HBKU Takreem Award as the best event in Education City for the year 2015-16.

Another WCM-Q organization that received a Takreem Award as the Best Service Organization for 2015 is the ROTA/WCM-Q Adult Literacy Program. In cooperation with ROTA (Reach Out to Asia), the students started the program five years ago to provide English language and computer lessons to the custodian staff on campus. The program enhances essential staff skills and also promotes better communication between students and support staff.

One of the most active WCM-Q clubs is the Debate Club. The members of the team have traveled to Germany, Philippines, Botswana, Austria, Malaysia, Athens, and even Cornell and WCM in New York to debate against their colleagues. The Debate Club has has also won the Qatar University Debate League several times, including the 2015/2016 contest.

Recognition of Academic Achievement

The dean, faculty and staff of WCM-Q celebrate undergraduate students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average at a dinner in honor of their accomplishments. The dinner was held on October 22, 2015 at HBKU Student Center, where the dean congratulated six foundation students who earned a GPA of 3.75 and above and 24 pre-medical students who made it onto the Dean’s List for the 2015 spring semester.
Maryem A Manaa and Ikram Al Lawati take the Hippocratic Oath at Graduation 2016.
Counseling and Academic Advising

Committed to creating a nurturing environment to optimize student learning, the Academic Counselling Team offer students academic, personal and career support. They provide vital workshops, seminars, and individual counselling with students to foster the development of study skills and effective time-management. The counsellors also assist students with registration for standardized exams (MCAT and USMLE), develop their medical school interviewing skills, and provide guidance in preparing personal statements and resumes. They also administer the peer-tutoring program, conduct structured academic advising committee meetings, and coordinate psychological, psychiatric, and other referrals as needed.

Financial Aid and Scholarship

WCM-Q selects students on merit only, and the Committees on Admissions screens, evaluates, and accepts students without knowledge of their ability to pay. Students who require financial assistance apply directly to HBKU’s financial aid program. Depending upon their citizenship, several avenues of financial assistance are available to WCM-Q students. Qatari students may be sponsored by Sidra, or by the Qatari government through the Higher Education Institute (currently Ministry of Education and Higher Education). Sponsored students are usually provided with tuition assistance as well as a stipend to cover their books, supplies, and other costs. HMC, the Ministry of Administrative Development, and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs have also recently developed a sponsorship program specifically for Qatari nationals who are studying at WCM-Q. Non-Qatari students can also apply for Sidra sponsorship, but most are self-funded or apply to Qatar Foundation (QF) for financial assistance through an interest-free loan program established by QF. In addition, QF may offer a number of merit scholarships per year for medical students. The Division of Student Affairs helps nominate outstanding students who then may be invited by QF to apply for scholarship consideration.

Graduation and Convocation

The annual senior honors convocation recognizes the academic achievements of graduating students. Awards were given based on outstanding performance in courses and clerkships as well as in research and community service. At the graduation ceremony on May 4, 2016, 33 students took the Hippocratic Oath and received their diplomas. Of the 21 students who sought US residency training positions, 19 students matched into programs in internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery, psychiatry and pathology. The rest will either pursue residency at Hamad Medical Corporation in specialties such as internal medicine and pediatrics, or pursue research or other additional training. Thirteen representative graduates of the Class of 2016 graduated side by side with their peers from the New York campus in Carnegie Hall on May 25. Later that night, a dinner was held at the Almayass Restaurant to honor the graduates and their families.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ClubFest

On September 14, 2015, MSEC held the 4th annual Club Fest to encourage and recruit new and current students to engage in extracurricular activities. The club members interacted with the participants through games, activities, challenges, posters and media. They promoted their clubs and organizations, shared their vision, goals and accomplishments during the year and publicized their goals for the coming year. The event was well attended by students, staff and faculty and resulted in the registration of six additional new student clubs.

Health and Wellness

The Health and Wellness team provides a safe, confidential, and culturally sensitive environment for students to address academic, emotional and social concerns, as well as to gain the skills and insights necessary to overcome adversity and thrive in their life and learning. A wide range of services is offered including individual counseling, diagnostic and learning assessments, self-help resources, student advocacy, referrals to care, student support services, training workshops, and activity based interventions. Providing a holistic approach, our health and wellness team conducts mindfulness sessions every week open to the WCM-Q community. Various inclusive activities are conducted at least twice a month to initiate health awareness, reflection and discussions. In addition, the team also promotes health and wellness by participating and collaborating with various members of the community in and outside of Education City. For example, WCM-Q participated in the national Step-Into-Health Program, a yearlong physical exercise health initiative. The team also presented mindfulness training sessions locally as well as at an international student affairs conference. Further, the team is involved in the creation and implementation of policies regarding mental health care, disability services and crisis services to better support and advocate for student successes.
LeaderShape

LeaderShape is a week-long program that students participate in to further develop their leadership skills, work in small and large teams, and to develop a better understanding of group dynamics. This program was held during the 2015 summer break at the HBKU Residence Halls and was coordinated through Hamad Bin Khalifa University. During the week, WCM-Q students worked side by side with leaders and peers from each of the branch campuses in Education City.

International Service Learning and Community Service

Students at WCM-Q are passionate about giving back to the community. With so many of the countries in the region experiencing the effects of war, natural disaster and other hardships, students actively pursued opportunities to develop awareness and provide assistance. For example, they raised money to aid the people of Syria and to purchase surgical kits for their fellow students in Tanzania.

WCM-Q and Weill Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania have established a strong collaborative relationship, which is enhanced by multiple student exchange and service learning experiences throughout the year.

In August of 2015, seven pre-medical students traveled to Tanzania to take part in a service learning trip. Participants volunteered at an orphanage, interacting with the children as well as painting a guesthouse. They also visited Weill Bugando Medical Center to shadow doctors and observe the kinds of healthcare and treatments available, and shadowed physicians in local primary health care centers. They were also involved in a street youth education activity where they provided educational lessons applicable to 10 to 12-year-old boys living on the street.
To create mutual learning experiences between WCM-Q and the Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) and to create a valuable foundation for future work together, WCM-Q undertook a new initiative in September 2015 to host five students and one faculty member from CUHAS for one week. During their stay, the team had the opportunity to learn about and participate in the WCM-Q curriculum, observe clinical encounters with WCM-Q students on core clinical rotations, learn about and experience varying educational methods including problem-based learning, simulation, and objective structured clinical observation (OSCE) exams, and get to know faculty, staff, and students at WCM-Q and in Education City.

In April 2016, six first-year medical students traveled to Tanzania during their academic spring break. They participated in home visits to learn about the environmental factors impacting health issues, established temporary clinics and worked under the supervision of local physicians to conduct general medical exams, and participated in community outreach. Through this experience, students became more aware of the challenges faced by these communities and continued to develop their clinical skills alongside their counterparts from CUHAS.

Alumni Development

As of May 2016, we have 256 WCM-Q alumni. Alumni regularly engage with the college through visits, speaking with students, and participating in formal college events, such as residency training symposia, orientation programs and the Dean’s Honors List Dinners. For example, Dr. Noora Al-Shahwani, a pediatric surgery resident at HMC addressed the audience during the Dean’s Honors List Dinner on February 19. Dr. Amila Husic, who completed a general surgery residency and a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery, returned to speak and
participate in this year’s residency program director symposium held from February 28 to March 3, 2015. In addition, during the WCM-Q Opening Exercises held on August 27, Dr. Mashael AlKhelaifi, a pediatrics anesthesiologist at HMC delivered the keynote speech.

To bring the alumni together, we host an annual dinner for alumni residing in Doha as well as an annual dinner event in New York for alumni in the USA. We regularly develop and update our alumni directory in order to enhance communication with our alumni and to provide the most up-to-date information for our students, faculty and staff.

With pride and in celebration of the success of our alums, some of their achievements throughout the year include:

- Dr. Maryam R. Shafaee, Class of 2009, was the recipient of the Conquer Cancer Foundation’s ASCO merit award in breast cancer for her research on “Aromatase inhibitors and the risk of contralateral breast cancer in BRCA mutation carriers”, which she presented during the Breast Cancer Symposium held in San Francisco in September 2015.
- Dr. Shady Nakhla, Class of 2012, was appointed assistant chief of service for Johns Hopkins internal medicine residency in 2016-17.
- Dr. Salman Al Jerdi, Class of 2012, won the 2015 Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award at the University of Vermont Medical Center.
- Dr. Zaid Tafesh, Class of 2013, was named resident of the month at NYP in August 2015.
- In June 2016, Dr. Ayman Al Jurdi, Class of 2015, was named Intern of the Year on NewYork Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center’s internal medicine residency program.
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
Eight thousand men, women and children took part in the Color Run 2016.
Office of Communications

Communications Division experienced a busy 2015-2016, expanding upon the success of the Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First (YHF) campaign, while continuing with its core work of promoting WCM-Q through the issue of 63 press releases to the local and international media from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The division also continued to support other divisions with marketing, publishing and event management advice and in addition was responsible for the full rebranding of the college following the name change from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar to Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar.

Shopping for healthy food with Sahtak Awalan

Communications Division launched Your Healthy Choice following the signing of an MoU between Sahtak Awalan, the Ministry of Public Health and Al Meera Consumer Goods Company.

The initiative is designed to help shoppers at Al Meera’s supermarkets ensure they buy healthy, nutritious foods for their families. The five supermarkets initially involved in the project have Your Healthy Choice branding throughout the stores and information about the health benefits of a variety of foods including fruit and vegetables, dairy products, and meat and fish.

The information provided is in accordance with the Ministry of Public Health’s
Children on The Healthy Eating Show had to recreate a healthy dish.

Qatar Dietary Guidelines. The aim is to educate shoppers so they can make informed choices about what they eat, and encourage them to prepare healthy, balanced meals.

A health educator is available during weekends to advise customers not only about the healthiest foods to buy and give to their families, but also how best to maintain or lose weight. There are also booklets with nutritional information and dietary advice.

Following the initial launch, Your Healthy Choice was expanded to include other Al Meera supermarkets.

**Healthy eating lessons for the region’s children**

Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First teamed up with JeemTV to produce a healthy cooking competition for children entitled The Healthy Eating Show.

Children’s chef Ann Cooper from the United States, who supervises the school meals for almost 10,000 students, flew over to Qatar to act as host, chef and judge for the program. Chef Ann demonstrated the recipes for a number of healthy meals that are suitable for children to cook at home. The contestants on the show had to reproduce the meals in the studio before having their creations judged. The aim was to teach children about good nutrition and encourage them to eat healthy food, thereby preventing lifestyle-related diseases when older. The show was broadcast throughout the Gulf allowing the Sahtak Awalan campaign and its messages to reach tens of thousands of children.
Cookery demonstrations at the Yalla Natural roadshow taught children and adults that healthy meals can still taste great.

Sahtak Awalan wins prestigious award

The work that WCM-Q has done in the community with the Sahtak Awalan campaign was recognized at the prestigious Corporate Social Responsibility Summit held under the patronage of the Ministry of Economy and Commerce. For its work in trying to improve the health of the nation, WCM-Q was presented with the ‘Best Community Development Award’.

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Summit is Qatar’s premier CSR and sustainability event and is one of a series of international forums designed to promote dialogue among leading corporations, support sustainability and drive social and economic development throughout the Middle East and Africa.

Sahtak Awalan helps celebrate Qatar National Day

The Yalla Natural roadshow was taken to Darb Al Saai to help celebrate Qatar National Day and help educate everyone in Qatar about the best ways to stay healthy.

Yalla Natural, which is part of the Sahtak Awalan campaign, aims to encourage everyone to exercise and eat fresh home-cooked food rather than processed meals. Attractions that Yalla Natural brought included the ever-popular smoothie-making bicycles, cookery demonstrations, exercise classes and a planting station where children could plant fruit and vegetable seeds to take home and grow.
The Color Run returns to Qatar

WCM-Q brought the Color Run back to Qatar for the second time through the Sahtak Awalan campaign.

The event, which is dubbed the ‘Happiest 5k on the Planet’, sees people of all ages and fitness levels run, jog or walk around the course while having colored powder thrown at them.

The event has proved immensely popular, selling out each time. For the latest installment 8,000 men, women and children signed up, learning that exercise can be fun.

Ask the Expert

The Ask the Expert lecture series continued to be a draw for the public, allowing them to hear from an expert WCM-Q physician and then ask questions in an informal setting.

Held every two months as part of Sahtak Awalan, topics have included diabetes, road safety, and the role of sleep. The discussions aim to educate the public and help them take informed decisions to make positive changes in their lives.
Thousands of children across Qatar have learned to grow their own food and about the importance of eating fruit and vegetables through Project: Greenhouse.

Poster competition helps inspire children

Hundreds of children were inspired to research healthy lifestyles, and spread the word among their friends through the annual Sahtak Awalan Poster Competition. This year 33 schools from across Qatar and hundreds of children created around 400 health-related posters. Faculty and experts from WCM-Q and the Ministry of Health judged the 10 top posters from the nine winning schools. Of these the top three were Salah Eddeen Al Ayoubi Independent Preparatory School for Boys who came first, Al Shahaniya Preparatory Secondary School for Boys were in second place, and Osama Bin Zaid Independent School for Boys came third. The children who created the top 10 posters all received a bicycle as a prize.

The aim of the competition is to encourage young people to take responsibility for their own learning, to understand positive health behaviors and to spread that knowledge among their peers.

Back to basics with Yalla Natural

The Yalla Natural roadshow was once again asked to take part in Qatar International Food Festival and showed thousands of visitors that healthy food can still taste great.

The Yalla Natural truck is fitted out with lots of different activities for all the family with children able to plant their own fruit and vegetable seeds to take home and grow, create their own delicious smoothie on one of the blender bikes or watch one of the regular cookery demonstrations.
Changing eating habits with Project Greenhouse

Tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, onions and a host of other fruits, vegetables and herbs were all grown by children learning about the benefits of eating healthily, the importance of sustainability and the need to build a healthy nation.

The young students all took part in Project Greenhouse, part of WCM-Q’s Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First campaign. As part of the initiative, which was first launched in December 2013, schools received a greenhouse, soil, seeds and growing instructions and were challenged to cultivate the best crop. All the schools’ greenhouses were visited and the winning children with the greenest fingers were named as the students of Moza Bint Mohammed Independent Elementary School for Girls. Al Khor Independent Preparatory School for Girls came second, and Al Shafallah Center third.

Project Greenhouse has allowed students to work independently and in small groups and has taught them a whole range of skills. Along with learning about healthy eating, sustainability and horticulture, the project feeds directly into classes about science, the environment and even mathematics; students at the winning school regularly measured their plants to record the growth.

Significantly, teachers have said that the children have really enjoyed the project, so they have been broadening their knowledge – as well as their diet - while having fun.

Expo Milano 2015

The work of WCM-Q and the Sahtak Awalan campaign was showcased to tens of thousands of people following an invite for the college to participate in the Qatar Pavilion at Expo Milano 2015.

The college was invited to take part because of its groundbreaking Sahtak Awalan health campaign, which has been promoting health issues, organic food and sustainability to young people and the wider Qatar community since 2012, as well as explaining how to prevent disorders like obesity and diabetes. The event allowed WCM-Q to highlight those same issues to a global audience: Expo Milano is one of the biggest of its kind in the world, with more than 140 participating countries and 20 million visitors over its six-month period.

What’s Up Doc

WCM-Q’s Office of Communications, through the Sahtak Awalan: Your Health First initiative, produced a series of 20 health videos entitled What’s Up, Doc?

Encompassing a range of health issues, from children’s health to diabetes, faculty members from WCM-Q offer their expert advice to the wider community, along with tips on ways to stay healthy.

The films have been viewed tens of thousands of times, and can be found on the Sahtak Awalan YouTube channel.
Dr. James Kaufman, president and CEO of the Laboratory Safety Institute, front left, and Thomas Doyle, WCM-Q director of environmental health, safety and security, with participants at the 6th annual Safety in the Laboratory course.

Environmental Health, Safety and Security

WCM-Q’s Division of Environmental Health, Safety and Security (EHSS) sponsored a number of courses in fiscal year 2015-16 in a continued effort of community outreach and development. These courses are targeted to help build research laboratory safety capacity in line with the national vision of Qatar and Qatar Foundation. This year’s training marks the 6th Annual Laboratory Safety Series which was held in collaboration with WCM-Q’s Division of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). CPD assisted EHSS in obtaining CME accreditation from the QCHP. The accreditation of the course significantly increased attendance which provided seven hours CME credit for attendees. The participants in the course were from many of the private and public healthcare facilities and laboratories in Qatar. A summary of the course is listed to the right.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Sponsored and Hosted by:</th>
<th>Number of Attendees/Participants</th>
<th>Institutions Represented</th>
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<td>Safety in the Laboratory</td>
<td>5/10/2016</td>
<td>WCM-Q</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>WCM-Q Research Division - Laboratory safety refresher training for research faculty, staff, and students.</td>
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EHSS also sponsored Basic Life Support (BLS)/Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and the First Aid Provider Course offered by Hamad International Training Center.
STATISTICS

Faculty and staff numbers, 2001-2015

Figures for faculty include all those on the WCM-Q payroll considered active within the 2015/2016 academic year. Figures for staff are as of September 1, 2015 and include those residing in New York. Academic non-faculty includes postdoctoral positions in the research program.

Total number of students, 2002-2015

Figures are as of September 2015, and reflect any attrition from incoming classes in subsequent years.
Profile of classes entering the Pre-Medical Program, 2002-2015

Total Enrollment and Applicants

Gender Profile

[Data and bar charts showing enrollment and applicants for each year from 2002 to 2015, as well as the gender profile for the same years.]
Profile of entering medical students, September 2015

Stats
Average college GPA       3.4
Average age (September 2015) 20

Citizenship of student body 2015

Algeria
Australia
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Canada
China
Ethiopia
Egypt
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Korea
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Pakistan
Palestinian Territory
Philippines
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
Slovenia
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Syrian Arab Republic
Tunisia
United Kingdom
United States
Yemen
Leadership Structure

Cornell University

Robert S. Harrison
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Hunter R. Rawlings III
Interim President

Weill Cornell Medicine

Jessica Bibliowicz
Chair, Board of Overseers

Robert Appel
Vice Chair

Robert A. Belfer
Vice Chair

Jeffrey Fell
Vice Chair

Barbara B. Friedman
Vice Chair

Sanford I. Weill
Chair Emeritus

Augustine M.K. Choi
Interim Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine
Interim Provost for Medical Affairs, Cornell University

Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar

Javaid I. Sheikh, M.D.
Dean, Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar

Robert Crone, M.D.
Vice Dean for Clinical & Faculty Affairs

Stephen F. Kenney
Chief Administrative Officer

Sunanda Holmes
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Associate University Counsel

Marco Ameduri, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Pre-medical Education

Thurayya Arayssi, M.D.
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development

Khaled Machaca, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research

Ravinder Mamtani, M.D., M.Sc.
Associate Dean for Admissions
Associate Dean for Global & Public Health

Stephen M. Scott, M.D.
Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Bakr Nour, M.D.
Senior Advisor to the Dean

Nesreen Al-Rifai
Chief Communications Officer

Mike AlMandili
Acting Director, Distributed eLibrary

Omar Baki
Director, Human Resources

John Doig
Director, Facilities Management

Thomas Doyle
Director, Environmental Health & Safety

Shahzad Jafri
Chief Information Officer

Sameer Kalash
Director, Finance and Business Services
WCM-Q Faculty Publications

(As of June 30, 2016. The list also includes some items published too late to appear in the previous year’s list.)

**Abdel-Aleem, Alice**


**Abi Khalil, Charbel**


**Abu-Raddad, Laith J.**


Al-Amin, Hassen

Arayssi, Thurayya


Atkin, Stephen L.


Jones HS, Gordon A, Magwenzi SG, Naseem K, Atkin SL, Courts FL. The dietary flavonol quercetin ameliorates angiotensin II-induced redox signaling imbalance in a human umbilical vein endothelial cell model of endothelial dysfunction via ablation


Bendriss, Rachid


Bovell, Douglas

Büsselberg, Dietrich


Cheema, Sohaila


Chouchane, Lotfi


Crone, Robert K.


Ding, Hong


Golkowska, Krystyna


Graumann, Johannes


Guiter, Gerardo


Haddad, Naim

Hunt, Steven C.


Kalogeropoulos, Nikolaos


Khidir, Amal


Kronfol, Z.

Ladjimi, Moncef


Machaca, Khaled


Mahfoud, Ziyad R.


Malek, Joel A.


Malik, Rayaz A.


Bentley-Lewis R, Aguilar D, Riddle MC, Claggett B, Diaz R, Dickstein K, Gerstein


Mamtani, Ravinder


Mazloum, Nayef A.

Mesaeli, Nasrin

Mian, Marcellina

Najafi-Shoushtari, S. Hani


Pallayova, Maria


Pungente, Michael D.


Rafii Tabrizi, Jeremie Arash


Sayed, Ellen N.

Scott, Stephen M.


Sharkey, Rodney

Sheikh, Javaid I.

Shykind, Benjamin M.
Abdus-Saboor I, Al Nufal MJ, Agha MV, Ruinart de Brimont M, Fleischmann A, Shykind BM. An expression refinement process ensures singular odorant receptor

Stadler, Dora J.


Suhre, Karsten


Brandmaier S, Xu T, Illig T, Suhre K, Adamski J, Wang-Sattler R. Response to comment on Xu et al. Effects of metformin on metabolite profiles and LDL cholesterol in


**Sultan, Ali**


**Taheri, Shahrad**


Leong WB, Jadhakhan F, Taheri S, Thomas GN, Adab P. The association between


Triggle, Chris R.


Triggle CR. The answer is not 42. Biochemical pharmacology. 2015 Nov 15;98(2):327-34.


Uthman, Basim M.
Verjee, Mohamu A.


Weber, Alan S.


