



**Weill Cornell
Medicine-Qatar**

The High School Medical Conference

January 21, 2023





Table of Contents



Conference Overview	5
Goals & Objectives	6
Program	10
High School Research Competition	11
Competing Teams	13
Professional Development Workshops	16
Medicine Unlimited Fair	21
Acknowledgements	22

The High School **Medical Conference**





Conference Overview

The High School Medical Conference (HSMC) is an initiative organized by the Office of Student Outreach and Educational Development at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar to bring together key educational players and future medical leaders in Qatar and beyond. The conference is intended to become an annual gathering of highly motivated students aspiring to become the next generation of medical leaders.

Although the main focus of the conference is to raise awareness of the excellent careers that medicine has to offer, the event also supports the study of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), which together provide a strong foundation for the national economy.

Goals & Objectives

Raise awareness of careers in medicine and strengthen current interest in science and medicine by:

- Reinforcing science/medical activity within an academic setting.
- Stimulating new interest in science in local high schools.
- Raising parents' awareness of planning for future higher education.

Develop partnerships with local schools by:

- Providing professional development opportunities for high school teachers.
- Liaising with high school teachers on methods of learning scientific subjects.
- Fostering innovative ideas in teaching and learning.
- Providing a forum for social interaction among students in high schools in Qatar.

Enhance college readiness by:

- Offering students the opportunity to explore topics of scientific interest through research, poster presentations and oral presentations.
- Creating a platform for innovative public speaking and critical thinking.
- Providing a forum for high school students to showcase their talents and skills.

The High School **Medical Conference**



The High School **Medical** Conference





The High School Medical Conference includes:

1. High School Research Competition

Participating students submit a research project based on topics provided by the conference committee. The top teams will present their work during the conference and compete for valuable prizes.

2. Medicine Unlimited

A community outreach event that provides prospective students and their parents with an opportunity to participate in simulations and demonstrations that reveal the workings of genes, molecules and the human body. Through hands-on activities and stalls setup in the academic hallways of the college, students get firsthand experiences that showcase the buzzing academic and student life at the medical college.

3. Professional Development Workshops

Professional development workshops for teachers and students are offered by our specialized faculty members.

Program

High School Medical Conference (HSMC) Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar

9:30am – 10:30am	Registration	South Hall Main Entrance
10:30am – 10:40am	Welcome Remarks	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)
10:45am – 11:45am	Poster Presentations	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)
11:45am – 12:00pm	Coffee Break	Foyer (LH2, LH3, LH4)
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Professional Development Workshops	Seminar Rooms (A152, A158) and Lecture Halls (LH3, LH4)
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Lunch Break	Faculty Lounge
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Medicine Unlimited Registration	South Hall Main Entrance
2:00pm – 2:15pm	Opening Remarks	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)
2:15pm – 4:00pm	Medicine Unlimited Fair	North Hall and South Hall
4:15pm – 4:45pm	Research Competition Finalist Presentations	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)
4:45pm – 5:15pm	Test Your Information Quiz	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)
5:15pm – 5:30pm	Announcement of Research Competition Winners & Closing Remarks	Lecture Halls (LH2, LH3, LH4)

High School Research Competition

Overview

The research competition, part of the High School Medical Conference, aims to encourage high school students to explore the field of medicine and use proper scientific research, with the help of experienced faculty members and teaching specialists at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar. A total of 61 teams from both private and independent high schools in Qatar have submitted proposals, researching the themes provided below and proposing solutions. Twenty-seven teams made it to the research competition and showcased their work at the poster presentations on October 22, 2022. Competition judges selected the top teams to present at the High School Medical Conference, taking place on January 21, 2023 at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar. The top three winning teams will be announced during the closing ceremony of the conference.



Research Competition Topics

The themes for the 2023 research competition are tied to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and their applications in Qatar.

Each school team selected a topic under the following overarching themes:

- Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.
- Ensuring access to water and sanitation for all.
- Making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Schools of Finalist Teams:

- GEMS Wellington School - Qatar
- Islamic Educational College – Jordan
- Jubilee School - Jordan
- Park House English School in Doha
- Pearling Season International School of Doha
- Qatar International School
- Qatar Academy for Science and Technology

Competing Teams

Team 19

School Name: GEMS Wellington School - Qatar

Topic: Potable Water Extraction by Desalination Using Reverse Osmosis

Team Leader: Christian Ihegboro

Team Members: Antony Biju, Augusto Francisco Arvista, Ayush Rohinton Bharucha, Yousef Rani Altoum, Zarif Intisar Rahman

Team 23

School Name: Park House English School in Doha

Topic: Measures Conducted by Qatar During COVID-19 Pandemic to Mitigate the Impact on Mental Health

Team Leader: Aaisha Rabbani

Team Members: Abdulla Al Assad, Sharon Reggie Bernard, Maria Busygina, Emilia Kis, JeongHo Park

Team 24

School Name: Pearlring Season International School of Doha

Topic: Those Who Protect But Are Unprotected

Team Leader: Kim Adams Wanjiro

Team Members: Esraa Ahmed, Harish Udayakumar, Nabil Shaat, Hamad Abdulrahman, Abdelaziz Alnewilah

Team 28

School Name: Pearlning Season International School of Doha

Topic: Sustainable Farming Using Direct Air Capture Technology: Solutions to Reduce Carbon Emissions in Qatar

Team Leader: Bushra Sadek

Team Members: Habiba Mukhtar, Ghena Alkhuzaei

Team 33

School Name: Jubilee School - Jordan

Topic: CWD: Charging While Driving

Team Leader: Sawsan Jamil Abu Jammaah

Team Members: Mais Hijaz

Team 40

School Name: Islamic Educational College – Jordan

Topic: Qatar’s Recycling Blueprint and Ways to Advance it

Team Leader: Rana Omar

Team Members: Myrna Yamin, Sadeen Salman, Ghena AL-Qaisieh, Jad AbuShanab

Team 43

School Name: Jubilee School

Topic: Detecting a Pattern in the Eye Movement of Children Diagnosed with Mild Autism Using an Eye Tracking System

Team Leader: Sawsan Jamil Abu Jammaah

Team Members: Salma Al-Shaghnobi

Team 52

School Name: Qatar International School

Topic: Combatting Growing Waste Generation: Barriers to Sustainability in Qatar

Team Leader: Cora Farrell

Team Members: Alreem Al-Aqaily, Minatullah Ammar Al-Ani, Jwana Ayman Radi, Nadia Fareisha Zainudin, Syeda Sana Zehra

Team 53

School Name: Qatar International School

Topic: Traffic Safety Analysis: A Road to a Safer Doha

Team Leader: Cora Farrell

Team Members: Abdullah Al-Naqeeb, Hamdaan Sameel Dar, Muhammad Izhar, Rayyan Rizwan, Dinuga De Silva

Team 55

School Name: Qatar Academy for Science and Technology

Topic: How Does Virtual Learning in Schools Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Affect Student Learning Measured by Their MAP Scores?

Team Leader: Maha Al-Mourtada

Team Members: Mahi Sharma, Shaikha Khalifa, Noor Al-Madeed, Nour Al-Qubbaj



Professional Development Workshops:

The professional development workshops for teachers, counselors and students are offered by our specialized faculty members and experienced staff. The aim is to provide schools in Qatar and the region with the opportunity to exchange ideas about innovative teaching and learning methods.

The teachers' workshops will be an opportunity to discuss how to best support and facilitate the learning process for high school students. Meanwhile, college-bound students will have the opportunity to participate in admissions-related workshops that demystify the admissions process and learn how to write a powerful personal statement.



Reading and Writing Expectations in Pre-Med

12:00am - 1:00pm

Seminar Room A152



Rachid Bendriss, EdD

Associate Dean for Foundation, Student Outreach, and Educational Development

Dr. Rachid Bendriss is a professor of English for Academic Purposes and Assistant Professor of Education in Medicine. He is also the Associate Dean for Foundation, Student Outreach, and Educational Development. Dr. Bendriss graduated from the University of Central Florida (UCF) with an MA in TESOL and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership. Prior to joining WCM-Q in 2010, he was a faculty member at Valencia College and UCF, where he also served as a Faculty Development Specialist at the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, and Assistant Director of the Center for Multilingual Multicultural Studies. Dr. Rachid Bendriss is an international education expert who received the prestigious US. State Department Fulbright Award of International Education, the distinguished Florida Association of International Education Award, and several Excellence in Teaching Awards.



Matthew Carey MA, MEd.

Teaching Specialist

Matthew Carey has been teaching in Qatar for over 15 years. He is the teaching assistant in the Foundation English for Academic Purposes courses and the Pre-medical Foundations of Medical Ethics course. His teaching and research interests focus primarily on helping students develop their reading and writing abilities in academic English.

Personal Statement Writing Tips

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lecture Hall 3



Adam H. Larson, EdD

Assistant Professor of English as a Second Language

Dr. Adam Larson is Assistant Professor of English as a Second Language at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar. In this role, he teaches the First-Year Writing Seminar, an intensive writing course that teaches academic writing through disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. Dr. Larson received a Doctorate in Education from King's College London, where his research involved the philosophy and sociology of education. He also holds degrees in International Studies, English, and Linguistics from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Illusions of Learning and How to Make the Learning Stick

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Seminar Room A158



Majda Sebah, PhD.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Majda Sebah is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Pre-medical Education Program at WCM-Q. She holds a PhD. in Chemistry from Queen Mary University of London, and a teaching qualification in science from Imperial College London, where she received a distinction in recognition of her expertise in science curriculum planning and outreach work in the UK. Dr. Sebah's research background is on phosphonic acid functionalised periodic hybrid materials. She also has a passion in science education, with a particular interest in scientific writing and communication. One of her research projects explores the shaping of higher education, assessing how students can learn from mistakes. Dr. Sebah served as the chemistry expert and panel member advising the Ministry of Education and Higher Education on curriculum reforms and was a member of the Scientific Committee for the International Junior Science Olympiads (Qatar, 2019) leading scientific discussions with over 184 prominent scientists from over 70 international countries.

Steps Towards a Complete Application

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lecture Hall 4



Claudia Mihaescu

Assistant Director, Admissions

With ten years of experience in the field, Ms. Mihaescu's main role is to support candidates in the application process as well as the Committee on Admissions in selecting the best qualified applicants for WCM-Q's medical program. She has a bachelor's degree in International Relations and European Studies (2009) from Babes-Bolyai University, Romania, a master's degree in Cultures and Societies (2009) from Paris-Est - Marne-la-Valee University, France, and a master's degree in Comparative European Political Studies (2010) from Babes-Bolyai University (joint degree program).

Medicine Unlimited Fair

A community outreach event that provides prospective students and their parents with an opportunity to participate in simulations and demonstrations that reveal the workings of genes, molecules and the human body. Through hands-on activities and stalls set up in the academic hallways of the college, students get firsthand experiences that showcase the buzzing academic and student life at the medical college.

Acknowledgements

The organizing committee of the conference acknowledges the efforts of all the volunteers, teaching specialists, judging committee, faculty, staff and medical students who supported the conference during the conceptualization and implementation of the program.





qatar-weill.cornell.edu