



PRESS RELEASE

**Doctors of the future thank WCMC-Q**

Doha, 6 June, 2007: High school students aspiring to be the doctors of the future got to meet the leaders of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) at a ceremony at Al Bayan Educational Complex for Girls.

The ceremony, titled ‘Doctors of the Future’ recognized the achievement of seventeen students who will be pursuing medicine as a career including nine who have already been accepted into WCMC-Q and others who have applications pending.

The students presented each other with white coats and stethoscopes to mark their achievement and thanked their mentors – faculty from Al Bayan School and WCMC-Q – for their valuable guidance and support. Among them were Dean of WCMC-Q Dr. Daniel R. Alonso, Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs Dr. Maya Hammoud and Associate Dean of Pre-medical Education Dr. David Robertshaw.

Al Bayan student Laila Ghassan said she would be proud to study medicine at WCMC-Q because it was considered one of the best medical schools in the region.

“Since I was a small girl I have wanted to be a doctor. It is a dream of mine,” Laila commented. “But aside from that, our society and our country have given us so much, and we need to give back. Qatar needs more doctors, so it is time to step up.”

Dr. Hammoud added: “By reaching out to the schools in this way we are helping to develop interest in science, bio-medical science and careers as physicians. Long-term this will help boost Qatar’s drive to establish a knowledge-based economy investing in education and healthcare.”

**Ends**

*Caption: Dean of WCMC-Q, Dr. Daniel R. Alonso, and Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs at WCMC-Q, Dr. Maya Hammoud, meet students from Al Bayan Educational Complex for Girls at a ‘Doctors of the Future’ ceremony.*

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

**Established in partnership with Qatar Foundation, WCMC-Q** is part of the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, the first American institution to offer its M.D. degree overseas. WCMC-Q offers a complete and integrated educational program, comprising the two-year Pre-medical Program, followed by the four-year Medical Program, with teaching by Cornell faculty. There are separate admission processes for each Program, guided by the standards of admission in use at Cornell University in Ithaca, and its Medical College in New York City.

Website: [www.qatar-med.cornell.edu](http://www.qatar-med.cornell.edu)

**Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development** is a private, nonprofit, chartered organization founded in 1995 aiming to develop and utilize human potential through a network of centers and campuses. In 1997 the Foundation set out on a strategic plan to create an Education City that is composed of a number of research centers, branch campuses of world-class educational institutions and a Science Park that acts as an incubator for research, responds to the immediate needs of industry and anticipates future necessities for development. In October 2003, Education City was officially inaugurated and it is now home to branches of some of the world's leading universities and research centers.

Website: [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa)

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