



Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar



PRESS RELEASE

**Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar Graduates
17 New Physicians into the International Medical Community**

Doha, May 6, 2009 – Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar today announces the graduation of its second class of physicians and the awarding of the Cornell MD degree to 17 students.

The graduates, 13 women and four men, represent 10 different nationalities. These include Qatar, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Tunisia and the United States. They will move on to the next stage of their medical and scientific careers, going to residency training or research programs in the United States and Qatar.

Speakers at today's event are Javaid Sheikh, MD, MBA, interim dean of WCMC-Q; Antonio Gotto, Jr., MD, DPhil, dean of the Weill Cornell Medical College, David Skorton, MD, president of Cornell University, and Imran Farooq, MD, a member of the Class of 2009 and Student Commencement Speaker.

Dr. Sheikh said: "As we celebrate the graduation of our second class, we welcome the opportunity to reflect on the growth of these men and woman as individuals, as physicians and on the growth of our institution as we implement our triple mission of education, research and patient care. Their progress and ours is testimony to the dedication and hard work of all employees here and our partners.

"We are indebted to the leadership of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah and Qatar Foundation for their vision and commitment to our program which is producing graduates of the highest quality. We also pay tribute to our colleagues in Weill Cornell Medical College in New York and Cornell University for their key roles.

"The success of the Class of 09 is also evidence of the strength of the relationship we have built with Hamad Medical Corporation, our partners in medical education, clinical training and research. There are currently 130 Cornell appointed faculty in HMC working with us to educate our students and they are instrumental in their development.

Office of Public Affairs
WCMC-Q
Education City
P.O. Box 24144
Doha, Qatar

Michael Vertigans
Director
Phone: +974 492 8650
Fax: +974 492 8444
Email: miv2008@qatar-med.cornell.edu

Kristina Goodnough
Associate Editor/Writer
Phone: +974 492 8660
Fax: +974 492 8657
Email: krg2007@qatar-med.cornell.edu

contd./-

So much so that we are delighted to include representatives of HMC in our ceremonial this evening as a mark of their contribution.”

Imran Farooq, MD, WCMC-Q Class of 2009 graduate and Student Commencement Speaker said: “Today is one of the highlights of our lives. This class will be bonded forever by our experiences and the relationships we have forged during our time here. Our appreciation goes to our faculty, our parents and all those staff and partners of WCMC-Q who have made our education possible. We look forward to joining the international medical community and are proud to have received our degrees in this country with its unique commitment to, and investment in, education, scientific research and healthcare.”

“We are tremendously proud of our WCMC-Q graduates and their commitment to science and medicine,” said Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., dean of Weill Cornell Medical College. “I am confident they will make their contribution to the health and well being of patients here in Qatar and around the world for the benefit of mankind.”

Cornell University President, David Skorton, added: “I am delighted to come to Qatar again to award the Cornell MD degree to members of the second class graduating from WCMC-Q. The educational mission of the college is in full swing and each year we are witnessing new doctors emerging in the country. For the University, this will always be a notable landmark in our annual calendar as it is for the students and their parents. I wish them well on their journey.”

The graduating students will also attend the general commencement of Weill Cornell Medical College students at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 2. Cornell is the first American University to offer its MD degree outside the United States.

Ends

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

Office of Public Affairs
WCMC-Q
Education City
P.O. Box 24144
Doha, Qatar

Michael Vertigans
Director
Phone: +974 492 8650
Fax: +974 492 8444
Email: miv2008@qatar-med.cornell.edu

Kristina Goodnough
Associate Editor/Writer
Phone: +974 492 8660
Fax: +974 492 8657
Email: krg2007@qatar-med.cornell.edu

contd./-

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

About Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development

Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, and chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al Missned, Qatar Foundation is a private, non-profit organization committed to the principle that a nation's greatest natural resource is its people.

The headquarters of Qatar Foundation are located within its flagship project, Education City, a fourteen million square-meter campus which hosts numerous progressive learning institutions and centers of research, including branch campuses of five of the world's leading universities, plus a cutting-edge research and development center. Qatar Foundation also works to enhance the quality of life in Qatar by investing in community health and development. For more information please visit: <http://www.qf.org.qa/>

Office of Public Affairs
WCMC-Q
Education City
P.O. Box 24144
Doha, Qatar

Michael Vertigans
Director
Phone: +974 492 8650
Fax: +974 492 8444
Email: miv2008@qatar-med.cornell.edu

Kristina Goodnough
Associate Editor/Writer
Phone: +974 492 8660
Fax: +974 492 8657
Email: krig2007@qatar-med.cornell.edu