



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Students complete WCMC-Q Foundation Year Program**

**Doha, April 30, 2009** – As Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) prepares to graduate its second class of doctors on May 6, 2009, another group of young, aspiring students have just completed their Foundation year program.

Nineteen students were presented with certificates for their achievement at a reception with family, friends and guests.

The one year Foundation Program, introduced in 2007, has the goal of taking mainly Qatari students with good academic achievement and preparing them for entry into the WCMC-Q two-year pre-medical program.

The program helps students develop the skills, habits, critical thinking, and knowledge application necessary for the study of science and medicine developing an appropriate academic background for their intended degree.

Dr. Imad Makki, Assistant Dean for Research Administration and Director of the Foundation Program at WCMC-Q said, “This Ceremony symbolizes the completion of one rigorous preparatory year where our students have to work really hard to acquire the basic skills such as, time management, critical thinking, problem solving techniques; and achieve the requirements needed to get into the pre-medical program. It is an important event for all involved, but mainly for WCMC-Q, since it represents another milestone for us as we continue to work hard to recruit and support Qatari students who are interested in medicine as a professional career.”

This year sixteen of the students completing the Foundation Year Program are Qatari. Last year 15 students from the Foundation program – 11 who were Qatari – went on to begin the pre-medical program.

The Foundation program is part of WCMC-Q’s comprehensive community outreach program to the Qatari community involving ongoing school visits, return visits by

contd./-

schools to the college, opportunities to engage in research, and partnerships with other educational institutions that have been forged by the college.

*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 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)

### **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](mailto:miv2008@qatar-med.cornell.edu)

**Phaedra Al Majid**  
Media Relations Specialist  
Phone: +974 492 8659  
Fax: +974 492 8444  
Email: [pa.te2@med.cornell.edu](mailto:pa.te2@med.cornell.edu)