



كلية طب وايل كورنيل في قطر Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Member of Qatar Foundation

Press Release

Future Doctors Receive First Stethoscope

Doha – 29 August, 2015: The hopes and ambitions of 47 young people were summed up as Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) held its annual White Coat Ceremony.

The event marks the moment when the 47 students who this year have been accepted onto the college's medical program don the white coat of the physician for the first time – marking the induction of the students into the world of medicine and healing.

The future doctors – 28 per cent of whom are Qatari – accepted the white coat and stethoscope in front of their proud parents and family members in a ceremony at Hamad Bin Khalifa University's Student Center. If successful in their studies they will graduate in 2019.

Dr. Javaid Sheikh, Dean of WCMC-Q, said the White Coat Ceremony was of great significance. Dr. Sheikh said: "The white coat is a universal symbol of science and the art of healing. The coat is a public sign that the wearer has dedicated their life to medicine and is committed to excellence in science and learning. It is a sign that they are compassionate and care for their fellow man. The white coat may, in reality, be just a piece of material but its meaning and significance are so much more."

The ceremony marked the completion of WCMC-Q's four-day orientation program in which the students met their classmates and faculty, learned about the standards of professional conduct expected of them and received training on standard medical safety procedures. WCMC-Q alumna Dr. Mashaal Abdulrahman Al-Khelaifi, who now works as a pediatric anesthesiologist at Hamad Medical Corporation, delivered the keynote speech.

She stressed the importance of listening to patients, of taking the time to conduct a thorough examination and the patient's need to be able to trust their doctor. She also told the students of the strong bonds of friendship they would make while at WCMC-Q.

Communications Division
WCMC-Q
Education City
P.O. Box 24144
Doha, Qatar

Nesreen Al-Refai
Chief Communications Officer
Phone: +974 4492 8650
Fax: +974 4492 8444
nma2005@qatar-med.cornell.edu

Richard Harris
Editor
Phone: +974 4492 8660
Fax: +974 4492 8444
rih2004@qatar-med.cornell.edu



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Dr. Al-Khelaifi said: "You will develop such camaraderie with the people who are sitting around you, and this bond will help you through many difficult times to come during the course of the next few years.

You will spend more time with them than your own families. You will laugh together, you will cry together, and you will celebrate your successes together. I speak from experience, and I can tell you that I have not only gained an excellent medical education from this school, but I have also gained brothers and sisters who will always have a special place in my heart."

One of those donning the white coat for the first time was Yaser Janahi, who completed two years of the pre-medical curriculum at WCMC-Q. He said it was a proud moment for him.

Yaser said: "I feel like I've finally made it and, insha'Allah, I will succeed. I feel that this is something that Qatar has given me, that they brought me to this college and sponsored me and I feel it's time for me to return that favor."

- Ends -

About Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar is a partnership between Cornell University and Qatar Foundation. It offers pre-medical and medical courses leading to the Cornell University M.D. degree with teaching by Cornell and Weill Cornell faculty and by physicians at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Aspetar Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital who hold Weill Cornell appointments. Through its biomedical research program, WCMC-Q is building a sustainable research community in Qatar while advancing basic science and clinical research. Through its medical college, WCMC-Q seeks to provide the finest education possible for medical students, to improve health care both now and for future generations, and to provide high quality health care to the Qatari population.

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Chief Communications Officer
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Editor
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For more info, please contact:

Hanan Lakkis
Media Relations Manager
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar
Mobile: +974 55536564
Direct Line: +974 44928661
hyl2004@qatar-med.cornell.edu

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