

## Contents

<b>Message from Executive Dean</b> University of Nicosia Medical School	<b>3</b>
<b>Message from Principal</b> St George's, University of London	<b>4</b>
<b>Message from Rector</b> University of Nicosia	<b>5</b>
<b>Honorary Degree</b> Professor Peter Kopelman	<b>6</b>
<b>Honorary Degree</b> Professor Zeev Rotstein	<b>7</b>
<b>University of Nicosia Medical School 2017 Presentation Ceremony</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>MBBS Graduands</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare and Biomedical Education Graduands</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine Graduands</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Congratulations and Welcome to Your Alumni Association!</b>	<b>12</b>



## Message from Executive Dean University of Nicosia Medical School

### A Graduation and a Commencement

Today marks an important transition in your lives as newly-qualified doctors, and the completion of another successful landmark year in the life of your Medical School. Together, we celebrate your success and your transition from your academic studies to professional service.

In keeping with the rich history and cosmopolitan character of Cyprus, you have received an innovative and world-class education, and have gained important international experiences in the delivery of healthcare in Cyprus, Israel and the USA, which we hope will inform and guide your future career. Your graduation with the MBBS degree of St George's, University of London marks the commencement of an exciting career in delivering competent and compassionate care, in undertaking research, and in finding new methods to extend and improve the lives of your patients around the world.

We live in tumultuous times, marked by intolerance, strife and the rise of nationalism. As you enter the profession of medicine, your communities will look to you for positive leadership and guidance. Over the past four years, you have studied in an environment that promotes tolerance and diversity. After all, more than fifty nationalities and all major religions are represented in our student body. We hope that this collaborative learning environment has promoted the development of trust and lifelong friendships, and that these experiences will enable you to act as messengers for peace and to heal not only individuals, but whole communities, where this is needed.

During your time with us, you have had the privilege of being supported by two universities.



As graduates now, both institutions and their affiliated partners take a keen interest in your future career and achievements, and so we encourage you to stay in close contact with us. It is our hope that you have grown to love the communities that embraced you in Nicosia, Limassol, Tel Aviv, Ponce and Chicago, and that you will continue to visit us in the years to come.

This year we also celebrate the success of our Post Graduate Diploma (PgDip) graduands in Family Medicine. We hope that your tenure as students in the Department of Primary Care and Population Health will enable you to become leaders in family medicine and to be active in patient care, education, research, health policy and service.

On behalf of the Faculty and Staff, our warm congratulations to you on your achievement, and to your families and friends who have supported you through the many challenges of being a student.

**Professor Andreas Charalambous**  
**Executive Dean**  
**University of Nicosia Medical School**

## Message from Principal St George's, University of London

To begin!

My sincere congratulations on behalf of St George's, University of London. We all share the delight and pride in your graduation.

Medicine remains one of the most varied and satisfying careers. You will be joining a profession that plays a central role in improving the human condition and meeting the ever-changing challenges to global health. Our understanding of disease continues to grow, leading to new advances in treatments and policies for prevention. And, as people live longer, we must adapt our care to support them to lead healthy and fulfilling lives into old age.

Your time at the University of Nicosia will have prepared you well for any challenges ahead. Through your education and training on the St George's MBBS programme, you will have gained up-to-date knowledge of medical sciences, practical clinical skills and a thorough understanding of medical ethics and law.

However, in the career you have chosen, your learning has only just begun. Every week as a doctor, your patients and colleagues will offer you new insights and experiences – my own patients continue to teach and provide valuable feedback to me to this day

The qualification to practise as a doctor is a privilege that lasts a lifetime. It opens doors to a vast array of careers. You may choose to practise in a hospital or in the community, to advance medical sciences research in the laboratory, or to set health policy. Whichever route you pursue, you will be required to lead by example and to



demonstrate that the safety and compassion for those we care for is an absolute priority.

I wish you all the very best in your future. As students, your hard work and commitment led you to the success we recognise today at your graduation. From here you become alumni, retaining a lifelong connection to St George's and the University of Nicosia. I know you will continue to make us proud. Please do keep in touch.

Professor Jenny Higham  
**Principal**  
St George's, University of London

## Message from Rector University of Nicosia

### Very Proud of You!

Today's date marks an important milestone in your life. The academic award bestowed on you is an endorsement of your intellectual capabilities and a reward for your hard work during your studies at the Medical School. The University community, your family, your friends, your loved ones, and all those who supported you during your studies, are all very proud of your achievement. Warm congratulations on your success.

The knowledge, skills and competences you have gained and the qualification you have earned, provide you with a solid basis for succeeding in your career in medicine and for pursuing further studies. As a doctor, you will be required to embody the skills of a scholar, a scientist, a practitioner and a professional. I am confident that the University's stimulating multicultural environment, the innovative and patient-centred curriculum, as well as the numerous outreach activities, have helped to broaden your horizons, have led to a greater understanding and appreciation of different cultures, and have brought an ability to view and perceive things from diverse perspectives.

Don't forget that we are living in a globalised knowledge-based society. Technology has broken all kinds of geographical and time barriers and has transformed the way we live, work and socialise. Changes happen at an accelerated pace and knowledge is no longer the sole core asset for professional success, as it becomes outdated and transplanted at regular intervals. You should be very proud of the academic degree you have earned. At the same time, you should bear in mind that in such a fast-changing environment, you will need to embrace active self-directed learning and life-long learning, as a means of maximising your degree's potential. Also remember what you have learnt through problem-based learning: knowledge is not something that



is passively transmitted but is created through continuous inquiry, dispute and research.

Your profession and the intense competition that you will face in our materialistic-driven society, will present you with many ethical dilemmas. The challenge to succeed in a competitive and, oftentimes, antagonistic environment, while retaining professional and personal integrity and adhering to core ethical values, is a tough but essential proposition. I urge you not to forsake defending your principles and beliefs. Indeed, I encourage you to actively contribute to society, to help your patients and fellow citizens in need, to protect the environment, to engage in philanthropic activities, and to promote culture and civilisation.

Congratulations again, and my warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for personal and professional prosperity, health and happiness.

Professor Philippos Pouyioutas  
**Rector**  
**University of Nicosia**



## Honorary Degree

### Professor Peter Kopelman

Professor Peter Kopelman was Principal of St George's, University of London from 2008 until 2015. As Principal he was instrumental in establishing the University of Nicosia Medical School in 2011, whose first offering was the St George's graduate-entry four-year Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree. During his tenure, the University of Nicosia Medical School and St George's signed a long-term partnership agreement and extended the relationship by offering, as concurrent awards from both institutions, a Postgraduate Diploma and Masters in Family Medicine.

Prior to his appointment to St George's in 2008, Professor Kopelman was Vice-Principal, Queen Mary, University of London and Deputy Warden of Barts & The London School of Medicine and Dentistry (2001-6), and Dean of the Faculty of Health, University of East Anglia (2006-8).

Professor Kopelman is active in health policy, education and research. He has been chair or deputy chair of several national university committees that include Universities UK's health education research policy group, UK Health Education Advisory Committee, University and Colleges Employer Association Clinical Academic Staff Advisory Group, and London Higher. He was formerly a Trustee of the University of London. He is a member of NHS national policy and workforce committees, and has chaired the Clinical Examining Board of the Royal Colleges of Physicians (UK) and the NHR Academic Careers Panel. He is currently chair of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Faculty Board and Health Education England's Oversight for medical associate practitioners.



Professor Kopelman has a long-standing interest in diabetes care, nutrition and obesity with a major research interest in obesity. He was a member of the UK Department of Health and Food Standards Agency Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (2001-10), DH Expert Panel on Obesity (2008-10) and was Science Adviser to the Office of Science and Innovations Foresight Obesity Project (2005-9). He has published extensively on obesity, edited textbooks on the condition, and chaired a number of Working Parties on obesity and nutrition for the Royal College of Physicians of London. He is past President of the European Association for the Study of Obesity. His contribution to higher education and medicine is recognised by the University of London through the award of an honorary Doctor of Science (Medicine).

*This degree was awarded in May 2016 and is being accepted in person by Professor Kopelman this year.*

## Honorary Degree

### Professor Zeev Rotstein

Professor Rotstein, a Board certified cardiologist and expert in health care management, was appointed Director General of Hadassah Medical Organisation in Israel last year.

Before his appointment to Hadassah, Professor Rotstein worked at the Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer, Israel for almost 37 years. He served as Director of Sheba's Acute Care Hospital, as a Senior Cardiologist in Sheba's Heart Institute, and as Director General for 12 years, from 2004 to 2016. As Director General of Sheba Medical Center, Professor Rotstein was instrumental in the founding of the first medical school in Cyprus and establishing the collaboration between the University of Nicosia Medical School, Sheba Medical Center and St George's, University of London for delivering the first medical degree in Cyprus, the St George's MBBS Graduate Entry programme.

Professor Rotstein trained in Medicine at the Sackler School of Medicine, in Tel Aviv University, and has held fellowships at the New York Department of Health, Tufts University, and Johns Hopkins Medical Center School of Hygiene and Public Health. He is also a clinical faculty member in the Graduate School of Epidemiology, Preventive & Occupational Medicine in the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University.

Professor Rotstein is credited with almost 100 original publications, abstracts and case studies in scientific and professional journals. In addition to being a specialist in health policy, Professor Rotstein plays a vital role in the education of physicians and other health professionals, and in developing medical institutions around the world.



Professor Rotstein has received numerous honours and awards in recognition of his creativity, persistence and significant contribution to public health in Israel, to medical research and to medical education.





## University of Nicosia Medical School 2017 Presentation Ceremony

Strovolos Municipal Theatre, Nicosia, Cyprus  
Friday 5 May 2017

16.30 All graduands and guests are requested to be seated in the Theatre Hall

17.00 The audience is requested to stand as the Academic Procession enters the Theatre

Address by Professor Andreas Charalambous, Executive Dean, Medical School

Address by Professor Philippos Pouyioutas, Rector, University of Nicosia

Address by Professor Jenny Higham, Principal, St George's, University of London

The MBBS Graduands will be presented by Dr Adonis Ioannides, MBBS Course Director

Professor Peter Kopelman will be awarded the Degree of Doctor of Science (Medicine) *honoris causa*. Introduction by Dr Joseph Joseph, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine

The Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare and Biomedical Education Graduands will be presented by Professor Peter McCrorie, Chair, Department of Medical Education

The Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine Graduands will be presented by Dr Ourania Kolokotroni, MSc in Family Medicine Programme Director

Professor Zeev Rotstein will be awarded the Degree of Doctor of Science (Medicine) *honoris causa*. Introduction by Dr Panos Economou, Chair, Department of Surgery

Message of Congratulations from the Faculty and Keynote Speech by Professor David Haslam, Professor of General Practice and Chairman of NICE, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence in the UK

The Hippocratic Oath will be recited by graduands of the MBBS programme led by Professor Jenny Higham

The audience is requested to stand as the Academic Procession leaves the Theatre

A graduation reception will be held in the gardens of the Municipal Building immediately after the ceremony

## MBBS Graduands

Degree awarded by St George's, University of London

ABDURRAHMAN Najla Naeem  
ABOU JAOUDE Karen  
AL HILANI Michel  
AL KHARFAN Mohammed  
AYOUB Antoine Maurice  
AZAR Georges  
BACHER Maayan  
BALIAN Carmen  
CASTRO MOORE Ines Amelia  
CHALHOUB Xavier  
CHU DE KANG Christopher  
CHUN Jeanette Elizabeth Hae-Rin  
CHUNG Jacqueline Mary  
DAVIS Robert Allan  
DEYEVA Julia Igorevna  
DIAB Hassan  
DIMASSI Ahmad Bilal  
DULAI Jaskiran Kaur  
EL ATRACHE Rima  
FARAH Hani  
FARAJ Paul  
FEGHALI Marianne  
FITZGIBBON Jason Thomas  
FRYER Vincent Lucas David  
GHAZARIANS Naris Talish  
HADJIHARI Michael George  
HAMZE Hassan  
HIGGINS Catrin Anne  
HO Yaozong Shaun  
HOMAYED Mohamad  
ITANI Muhieddine  
JANGADA CORREIA Nicole Andrea  
JEON Hee Do  
JOSHI Seema H  
KATSIERIS Nikolaos  
KORNELSON Jaclyn Elaine  
LAMBRAKOS Angela  
LEE Minwook  
LIOTTA Elizabeth Savika  
LUM Whitney  
LUTHER Eric David  
MALAS Sadek  
MANNAGA Andrew  
MASTROIANNI Brooke  
MATITI Luso  
MAVROU Athina  
MCBURNEY Caroline Ann  
MOORADIAN Ariana Araxi  
MURTHY Eshwar Nagraj  
NANDURI Anish Sai  
NG Gilbert Hensley  
O'CONNELL Joshua Steven  
O'CONNOR Sean Timothy Francis  
OMONIYI Elizabeth Omojasola  
PATEL Mehul Kumar  
PETROPOULOS Harry  
PRASHER Priya  
RANASINGHE Ushan Ashley  
RIZKALLAH Georges  
SARGSYAN Narek  
SHEPPARD Adam Ryan  
SHIVJI Shazia  
STAVROPOULOS Amalia Vicky  
SURDIS Costantino Peter  
TEO Leon Loong  
TINARWO Takudzwa  
TORKU David Vincent  
TOUMBAS Loizos Panayioti  
TOURAY Amir Abass  
VANGALA Sai Krishna  
VARASTEH BADRI Amin  
VISVARATNAM Parrthiepan Ganeshalingam  
WITHERS Mitchell Ryan  
WOYTUCK Lyndon James  
YAHIA Reem  
YEOH Tien Ming  
YOUNISS Ahmad  
ZARIF Mustafa

## **Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare and Biomedical Education Graduands**

Degree awarded by St George's, University of London

VASSILIOU Evie

## **Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine Graduands**

Degree awarded by University of Nicosia

EFTHYMIOU Nektaria

IONESCU Cristina

## Congratulations and Welcome to Your Alumni Association!

Your graduation marks an important milestone in your life and career and reflects all your hard work, dedication and persistence. Well done on this outstanding achievement!

All faculty and staff at the Medical School are very proud of your accomplishments and celebrate with you on this memorable occasion. Now that you will all be embarking on the next chapter in your lives, we want to help you stay connected with the Medical School and your friends. The University of Nicosia Medical School Alumni Association has been set up to facilitate communication and to assure a lifelong affiliation with the Medical School.

As a member of the Alumni Association, you will receive an annual newsletter and enjoy library access as well as other benefits and services. By visiting our alumni website and Facebook page, you will get the latest updates on your fellow colleagues, the Medical School, events, networking opportunities or reunions.

You are an integral part of the Medical School's growing Alumni family, which is strong and well-connected. For this reason, we hope that you will continue to stay in touch with us by getting involved in the Alumni Association. And if you sign up via email by 31st May, you will be entered into a prize draw to win a €100 Amazon gift voucher.

Please feel free to get in contact with us anytime by emailing [alumni@med.unic.ac.cy](mailto:alumni@med.unic.ac.cy) or in person at the Student Service Centre at Medical School Block A.

Visit our website:

[www.nicosia.sgul.ac.cy/student-life/alumni](http://www.nicosia.sgul.ac.cy/student-life/alumni)

[www.facebook.com/unicmedalumni](http://www.facebook.com/unicmedalumni)