



RCSI GLOBAL TALENT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 – JUNE 2017

Welcome to the first edition of the RCSI Global Talent Community Newsletter!

You have been exclusively invited to join this exciting Community as a valued professional in the field of academia and healthcare, and we hope you will contribute to the interesting conversations and articles available to you.

In addition to the exciting news and developments that we will update regularly on the Community, you will also receive this newsletter each quarter.

So, let's get started with what's been happening across all of the RCSI campuses!

Sections:

[RCSI Dublin](#)

[RCSI Bahrain](#)

[Perdana University - RCSI](#)

[RCSI-IOL Dubai](#)

[Penang Medical College](#)

Staff Spotlight

RCSI Dublin

Class of 2017 Conferring Ceremony



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The week commenced on Tuesday 6th June with the Unveiling of the Capsule Wall. The Time Capsule unveiling was the first event to take place in No 26 York Street, RCSI's new state of art academic building.

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8th Honorary Doctorate Award



One of the highlights of the June graduations has been the awarding of Honorary Doctorates - this year's award going to Dr Bennet Omalu.

The aim of these awards is to honour people who have made an outstanding contribution to society. A secondary aim is to inspire our new Graduates, through the example of the lives and contributions of the Honorary Degree recipients.

Dr Omalu was awarded the Honorary Doctorate for his contribution to understanding traumatic brain injury. Through his work as a forensic pathologist, Dr Omalu found that the repeated concussive blows suffered by American football players was leading to the development of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE).

This discovery, which inspired the book and the Will Smith film 'Concussion', has resulted in critical understanding of traumatic brain injury and how repetitive and innocuous impacts to the head can result in permanent brain damage and dementia. To watch Dr Omalu's address to the class of 2017, click [HERE](#).

President's Teaching Award



The RCSI President's Teaching Awards were established in 2009 to recognise excellence in undergraduate teaching within RCSI. The recipients are chosen by RCSI students by means of on-line anonymous voting.

Initially the awards were presented to academic staff from the School of Medicine and subsequently presented every alternative year to academic staff from the Schools of Physiotherapy & Pharmacy.

This year it was the turn of the School of Medicine. Congratulations to the following who were awarded framed certificates by the RCSI President, Professor John Hyland at the School of Medicine Conferring Dinner: Professor Marc Devocelle (*pictured with President, Professor John Hyland*), Dr Cathal Kearney, Professor Mary Leader, Dr Enda Hannan and Dr Tom Farrell.

Farewell to Mercer Library



After more than three decades, Mercer Library closed its doors (and the gate!) for the last time at 11pm on Monday, 12th June.

The first and second floors of the Mercer are being transitioned to a new city centre space for Graduate Entry Medicine students (GEMs) and the RCSI Heritage Collections will remain on the third floor of the Mercer Building.

However, the closure of Mercer Library comes in excited anticipation of the opening of the new library and education centre in No. 26 York Street later this summer!

For more information on RCSI's new state of the art academic building, click [HERE](#) to watch this video brought to you by Mr. Michael McGrail, RCSI Director of Corporate Strategy.



RCSI Bahrain

RCSI Bahrain celebrates eighth conferring ceremony



RCSI Bahrain celebrated the graduation of more than 200 future healthcare professionals during the annual Conferring Ceremony, held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The morning's School of Medicine ceremony was attended by His Highness Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister, on behalf of His Royal Highness Prime Minister, Prince Khalifa bin

Salman Al Khalifa, and witnessed the graduation of more than 100 doctors for the first time in the university's history.

The afternoon's School of Nursing and Midwifery ceremony honoured the graduation of over 100 nurses and was attended by Her Excellency, Minister of Health, Faeqa Al Saleh.

RCSI Bahrain's eighth annual Conferring Ceremony welcomed over 1,200 guests, including staff, stakeholders, special guests, dignitaries, government officials, students' families and senior representatives of RCSI in Dublin.

RCSI Bahrain promoting nursing careers



RCSI Bahrain played host to a special event aimed at introducing its cohort of nursing students to future career opportunities.

Organised by the School of Nursing and Midwifery, in collaboration with the Careers and Alumni Office, the annual Nursing Careers Day attracted more than 100 senior nursing students and alumni.

Attendees were welcomed to the event by RCSI Bahrain's Vice President for Academic Affairs, Professor Joe McMenamin, before the programme got underway with a presentation on 'Expanding and Extending your Nursing Career' by Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Seamus Cowman. The event also provided an opportunity to showcase the top ten research projects conducted by the senior nursing students as part of their final year assessments.

The projects focused on clinical topics of the students' choice and aim to prepare for evidence-based nursing practice in patient care.

Perdana University – RCSI

Welcome on-board, Prof Michael Larvin



It is a great pleasure to welcome Professor Larvin to PU-RCSI. His invaluable experience in medical education will ensure the continued success of the PU-RCSI programme. Professor Larvin moves to PU-RCSI from his position as Head of the Graduate Entry Medical School at the University of Limerick, Ireland, a post that he has held since 2012.

Professor Larvin worked initially in radio broadcasting before studying at Guy's Hospital, London, graduating first in Psychology and then Medicine; he completed training as a Pancreatic Surgeon at the University of Leeds, UK, and in Sweden, Germany and the USA. In 1993 he was appointed as Consultant Surgeon to the Guy's & Lewisham Hospital Trust and Clinical Senior Lecturer at the United Medical & Dental Schools of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London.

In 1996 he was appointed as Consultant Surgeon and Senior Clinical Lecturer at Leeds General Infirmary, and Assistant Director of the Leeds Institute of Minimally Invasive Therapy. In 2002 he was elected President of the Pancreatic Society of Great Britain & Ireland and became Professor of Surgery at the University of Nottingham, helping to build a satellite Graduate Entry Medical School at the Royal Derby Hospital.

Professor Larvin has advised on the design and development of healthcare educational facilities in Libya, Egypt, Iran, Kosovo, the UAE and Luxembourg. He was welcomed as an *ad eundem* Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 2013. Professor Larvin remains an active clinical researcher, has maintained his interest in multi-professional team training, and served as a ministerial nominee on the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland from 2012-2015.

We also thank the outgoing Dean, Professor David Adams, for his services and dedication to the PU-RCSI programme during his tenure. Visit the [Staff Spotlight](#) below where we talk to Prof Adams about his time as Dean at PU-RCSI.

PU-RCSI Student Gives Back to Sabahans



Yayasan Sukarelawan Siswa (YSS) / Students Volunteer Foundation is a students' volunteer hub under the entity of the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE).

Student volunteers are selected at education institutions across Malaysia for specific short missions to serve communities in need.

One of our PU-RCSI students, Rachel Mahasen, was selected to participate in the YSS-International Students Volunteer Mission to Sabah and she devoted her time, energy and efforts to the people of Sabah from 5th to 23rd July 2017.

Great job, Rachel!

PU-RCSI Students Share Their Most Memorable Moments Doing Community Health Fieldwork



Students of PU-RCS just completed a component of their module where they have to complete an attachment at community health clinics.

The students were sent to small towns so they could witness how healthcare is delivered outside the hustle and bustle of the city.



What the students had to say:

"The community fieldwork posting was such a unique adventure – the combination of onsite and fieldwork experience for two weeks has made me aware of the challenges that face future doctors"

"Conducting research at the site postings allowed me to get a better grasp of how actual research is done and this is something I'll definitely be doing in the future"

"Being exposed to the realities of public health has fostered in me a desire to pursue public health as my career in the future"

PU-RCSI Student Wins Award at International Conference on Clinical Microbiology 2017



One of our students, Ali Nasar, represented PU-RCSI at the International Conference on Clinical Microbiology at AVANI Atrium Bangkok, Thailand, from 3rd July to 4th July.

Many eminent researchers, students and delegates took part in the conference to be part of discussions and to contribute to future innovations in the field of Clinical Microbiology.

This year's annual congress highlights the theme "To magnify the knowledge in the field of clinical microbiology" which reflects the innovative progress in Clinical Microbiology research. The conference also encourages the participation of young student researchers with the Poster Award Competition and Young Research Forum at the conference venue.

Ali and his supervisors presented a poster entitled "Isolation and Characterisation of MRSA In Faecal Samples of Primates From an Urban Ecotourism Site" which won the Best Poster Award.

"I want to show my gratitude to my supervisors Dr. Erin, Dr. Kamalan and Dr. Sharmini for giving me this opportunity, to share the research and knowledge among researchers that came from all over the world. Thank you!" Ali said.

Congratulations, Ali!

RCSI-IOL Dubai

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The next quarterly edition of the RCSI Global Talent Community will be available in December.

For upcoming events and innovation news please see the [RCSI website](#) and [Staff Portal](#)

RCSI International Talent Team

RCSI International Careers is a function within the RCSI Human Resources Department that is working to enable and drive growth across its international campuses in Bahrain, Dubai, and Malaysia (Perdana and Penang).

The International Careers team are responsible for finding, attracting and retaining the best people ('talent') for academic and professional leadership roles with RCSI on our overseas medical universities, healthcare centres and programmes in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.



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