



RUMC

Alumni*

RUMC ALUMNI | RCSI & UCD MALAYSIA CAMPUS ALUMNI E-NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2, NOV-DEC 2019

inside this issue

CAMPUS NEWS

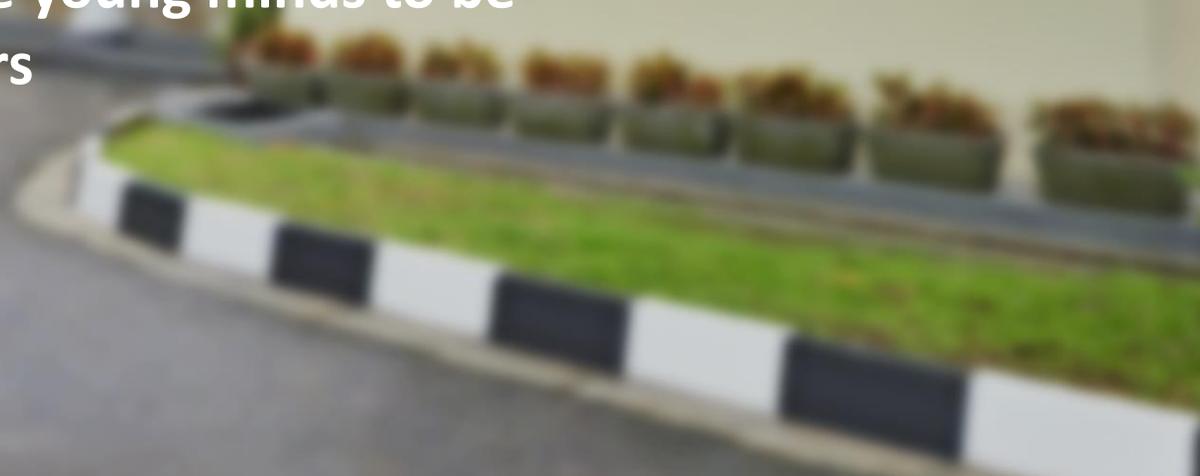
Message from our CEO
MInTFM launched to meet
nation's need

ALUMNI STORIES

Dr Oloruntunmike &
Dr Nadia Ishak

CONTRIBUTION SPOTLIGHT

Inspire young minds to be
doctors



Publication Information

PUBLISHER
prof. david whitford

EDITORIAL & CONTENT
raji sogamaur
zawani razali

ALUMNI RELATIONS
masitah shahabudin

PUBLISHED BY
RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus
Penang Medical College Sdn. Bhd.
4, Jalan Sepoy Lines,
10450 Georgetown,
Penang, Malaysia.

Contents

CAMPUS NEWS

- Message from our CEO
- MInTFM launched to meet nation need

ALUMNI STORIES

- Dr Oluruntunmike Adetona
- Dr Nadia Hanom Ishak

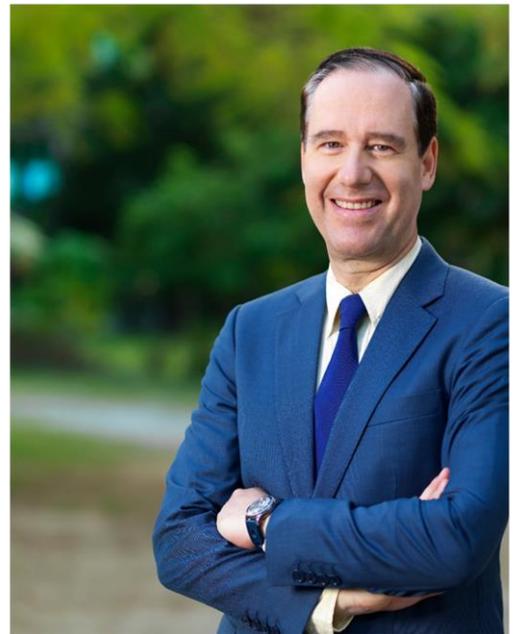
WHERE ARE THEY?

CONTRIBUTION SPOTLIGHT

EVENTS

PROGRAMMES

RUMC CAREERS



Professor David Whitford

Message from our CEO

It has been said that the best medical school is the one that you attended. There is certainly a good degree of truth in this, as nearly all doctors look back fondly at their student days in medical school. Alumni of RUMC (formerly PMC) have the added benefit of looking back fondly at two great experiences – in both Dublin and Penang. I hope that this newsletter will bring back some of those fond memories for you (without provoking the stress of the exam periods!).

In spite of increasing years since attending university, I still look forwards to receiving news of my alma mater. I look forward even more to attending reunions and meeting up with friends and colleagues. It offers the opportunity to catch up on news, re-establish friendships, but also relax and reflect on those enjoyable student years. We are planning a RUMC/PMC reunion in late March 2020. It will coincide with the RUMC Board meeting in Penang, when senior representatives of RCSI and UCD will be visiting. Keep the last weekend in March 2020 free to join us!

One of the highlights of the last few months for me was the launch of the Family Medicine training programme for Malaysia. As a GP myself, it has given me great pleasure to design a programme based on the Irish College of General Practitioner training in Ireland. 35 trainees started in hospital postings in October and the plan is to see this grow until it begins to meet the need for trained Family Medicine Specialists in Malaysia. Applications for the July 2020 start open in January and we would love to see more PMC alumni join the programme. See inside for more news on this programme.

We are always looking for alumni to volunteer to give careers talks to our students; to talk to schools about studying medicine and study at RUMC; and to mentor students down career pathways. If you are willing to help in any of these ways, we would love to hear from you. Please let us know at alumni@rcsiucd.edu.my



MInTFM launched to meet nation's need

In 2018, The Ministry of Health Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with RUMC to establish a new pathway for Family Medicine training for doctors in Malaysia. Currently, there are over **700** family medicine specialists in Malaysia however the country still needs at least **8,000** more family medicine specialists (FMS) to meet the target ratio of **1 FMS : 4,000 population**



The MInTFM programme was officially launched on Monday, 21 October 2019 by Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah and Her Excellency Ms Hilary Reilly, Ambassador of Ireland to Malaysia alongside Professor David Whitford, President, CEO & Registrar of RUMC; Mr Fintan Foy, CEO of ICGP; Dr Tom O' Callaghan, CEO of iheed; and Professor Michael Keane, Chairman of RUMC.

This new Programme is known as the Malaysia Ireland Training Programme for Family Medicine (MInTFM) and it's primary aim is to contribute to the demand for trained Family Medicine specialists in Malaysia. The programme allows these doctors to serve and contribute towards the improvement of family medicine in Malaysia. It gives them access to the expertise and knowledge of the Irish Training programme, which has been developed over the past 30 years.

The MInTFM programme is a collaboration between RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus(RUMC), Irish College of General Practitioners (ICGP) and iheed. As such we will be implementing the ICGP curriculum for Family Medicine contextualized to Malaysia.

Family Physicians will be graduated as members of the Irish College of General Practitioners. The collaborative nature of the programme is a reflection of the long-standing relationship between Ireland and Malaysia and the commitment to improving both nation's shared future.



Programme commenced early October 2019. The first cohort is undergoing clinical practice in Penang and Kuala Lumpur

For more information on the programme, please email mintfm@rcsiucd.edu.my



Dr. Oloruntunmike Adetona – Class of 2019

“One of my all time favourite quotes, by William Arthur Ward – If you can dream it, you can become it. I would tell any aspiring doctor out there to believe in themselves.”

A high school teacher once told my Mother “I don’t think she can study Medicine, she’s just not smart enough”. For everyone who had said I couldn’t do something, they had always been proved wrong.

Get up, work hard, be persistent, surround yourself with positive-minded people and help people along the way who are also struggling and most of all, trust God.

I have always dreamed of becoming a doctor for as long as I can remember. When I was younger, I remember when my Dad would come home with a box of chocolates, and I would so fondly use that box as my First aid kit (after my siblings and I were done with the chocolates of course!). I would make plasters, out of cotton balls and paper tape, for my kit.

So Medicine has always been dear to my heart. But numerous experiences, I would say, have strengthened that decision.

For example, seeing how weak and frail patients can become, from terminal illness, and also the state of the Nigerian healthcare system, where people die from various preventable causes. We have moved about in wards, amongst life, death and those in between. I think we know now more than ever that life does not last forever. It’s short, precious, and it ends.

“I believe all of the experience did shape me into the woman that I am today. I am definitely more resilient, enduring and compassionate, which are the qualities that would make for a well-rounded and competent doctor. It has also made me more culturally exposed, and well-equipped to practice Medicine in any culture or part of the world I am in.”

An excerpt of interview by Dr Oloruntunmike Adetona, one of RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus (RUMC)’s dean list students.

She was awarded MMA(Penang Branch) Prizes for 1st place in Paediatrics and Psychiatry.

Dr Tunmike is currently awaiting for housemanship.

ALUMNI STORIES

Dr Nadia Hanom Ishak – Class of 2007

A little bit about yourself?

I am currently a Consultant Anaesthetist subspecialising in cardiothoracic anaesthesia & critical care. Recently completed a 2-year Fellowship in Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia & Critical Care at the Oxford Heart Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital (Oxford University Hospital, NHS Trust).

I am also a medical lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine (Anaesthesiology & Critical Care), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Sungai Buloh Campus.

I graduated from RCSI (affiliated programme with PMC, Malaysia) in 2002

your most memorable moments during your time as a medical student

I was also actively involved in social activities/events organised by the college; International Night, Gourmet Night, Halloween Parade etc.

The RUMC Experience

It has taught me perseverance, professionalism, strong work ethics and compassion.

Quirky bits about you

- I am happily married with one child
- I am an avid traveller since medical school days
- Active in jogging

Your advice to aspiring doctors

Medicine as a career is a lifelong journey. It will need perseverance, consistency and deep interest. An academic/non-academic and work-life balance is utmost important to sustain in this field during medical school and working life respectively.

Dr Nadia Hanom Ishak is the main author for 'Basic Anaesthesia Handbook', published in December 2015 by UiTM Press. This book is targeted for undergraduate medical students, houseman officers, medical officers and nurses in Ministry of Health and Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia. This book has been sold over 3000 copies in Malaysia

your fellow alumni

where are they?



Dr Liyana Dhamirah
Class of 2007,
Pre-Clinical: RCSI

Current Attachment:
UiTM,
Consultant Anaesthetist,
Medical Lecturer



Dr Ng Yin Ping
Class of 2006
Pre-Clinical: RCSI

Current Attachment:
Pantai Hospital Penang
Consultant Psychiatrist



Dr Tan Eng Keong
Class of 2007
Pre-Clinical: UCD

Current Attachment:
Carson Tahoe Medical Centre,
Nevada, Endocrinologist

Be in touch with your
alma mater and fellow alumni.
Email alumni@rcsiucd.edu.my
to update your contact details

Alumni Contribution Spotlight

Its time to return the favor. Be part of us!



Dr Irina Hanis Ishak
General Surgeon,
Hospital Kuala Lumpur



Dr Nadia Hanom Ishak
HOD Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia,
UiTM

Inspire Young Minds To Be Doctors!

Dr Irina Hanis Ishak (class of 2006) and Dr Nadia Hanom Ishak (class of 2006) recently contributed in Aspiring Doctor event held in RUMC. Various insights and experiences with RUMC and medical journey pathway was shared among the young minds aspiring to pursue medicine. They shared their reasons for giving back with fellow alumnus and encourages **YOU** to do the same. Dr Nadia said " I am indebted to my university because of the countless experience and opportunities gained through RUMC" Join your RUMC alumni family in lending a helping hand with our Aspiring Doctor event next year. Contact us via this email : alumni@rcsiucd.edu.my

events @ RUMC



Programmes @ RUMC



Malaysia-Ireland Training Programme for Family Medicine (MInTFM)

Malaysian doctors may pursue FMS training using the ICGP curriculum and assessment. Managed and delivered by RUMC, the programme will deliver a curriculum specifically adapted for the Malaysia context.

Commencement:
2020

For more information, visit
rcsiucd.edu.my/programme/mintfm
or email: mintfm@rcsiucd.edu.my

Medical Degree Programme

The University's flagship programme, the MB BCh BAO, awarded by the National University of Ireland. Receive the best of both worlds with our transnationally delivered medical degree. Offering high value tuition and exceptional quality in clinical training, RUMC continues to graduate high performing, industry-ready doctors.

Next Intake:
September 2020

MSc in Health Research

Health Research is an area brimming with possibilities to advance the quality of healthcare systems and services. This 2-year part-time postgraduate degree is aimed at medical, health, and social science graduates with interest in Health Research. Fully accredited by MQA and MoHE, awarded Level 9 on the NFQ Ireland, and is compliant with ECTS.

Next Intake:
February 2020

Foundation in Science

A unique Pre-University programme, offering students an early introduction to medical and clinical fields in a hospital setting. Upon conclusion of the programme with CGPA of 3.5-4.00, students are eligible to apply for the 5 Year Medical Degree Programme at RUMC.

Next intake:
May 2020

MSc in Public Health

Public health problems are increasingly global and require global solutions. This 1-year, full time postgraduate degree is aimed at those planning to pursue careers locally or internationally and contains modules and research projects focused particularly on public health issues. Fully accredited by MQA and MoHE, awarded Level 9 on the NFQ Ireland, and is compliant with ECTS.

Next Intake:
September 2020

The journey begins here
at RUMC

apply online
rcsiucd.edu.my

programme enquiries
enquiry@rcsiucd.edu.my
+604 – 217 1888

careers @ RUMC

positions available
Heads of Department

- Paediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Medicine

Senior Lecturers / Lecturers

- Surgery
- Medicine
- O&G

For application /
more information
hr@rcsiucd.edu.my
+604 – 217 1999