




2018-2019 / RCSI BAHRAIN
ANNUAL REPORT



RCSI

Leading the world
to better health

A photograph of a modern building with a curved facade. The building features several horizontal bands of dark blue-tinted windows. To the right, a tall, narrow, light-colored tower rises, decorated with intricate, repeating geometric and organic patterns. In the foreground, a set of wide, light-colored stone steps leads up towards the building. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Built on centuries of
discipline in independent
education, discovery and
responsibility for human
health



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS



From left, Chief Operating Officer, Mr Stephen Harrison-Mirfield, President, Professor Sameer Otoom, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Head of School of Medicine, Professor Joe McMennamin

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

RCSI Bahrain has strengthened its position and reputation as a regional leader in healthcare education with further endorsements by Bahrain's Higher Education Council and the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority.

Shaikh Mohammed Scholarship

In March, RCSI Bahrain celebrated the launch of a new medicine scholarship in honour of His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health. The scholarship is a tribute to Shaikh Mohammed's contributions to the advancement of healthcare and health education in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Since being appointed as the first Commander of the Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services (BDF) in 1978, His Excellency has worked tirelessly to promote healthcare excellence and education, including in his roles as Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health and President of the Bahrain Diabetes Society. As part of RCSI Bahrain's latest five-year Strategic Plan, the University is focusing on three strategic pillars of Teaching and Learning; Research; and Community Engagement and Service, with His Excellency continuing to be an advocate and champion of a series of initiatives and activities across all three pillars. The scholarship will be awarded annually to an outstanding Bahraini candidate who has been accepted into the undergraduate medicine programme.

Incoming Heads of Schools

The University is delighted to announce the appointment of Professor Alf Nicholson, Professor Frank Crossan and Professor Stephen Atkin as the new Head of School of Medicine; Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery and Head of School of Postgraduate Studies and Research respectively. Professor Nicholson will move to RCSI Bahrain from RCSI in Dublin, where he has been Professor of Paediatrics and Head of Department since 2007. Professor Crossan joins RCSI Bahrain from Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU), where he previously held the post of Dean of School of Health and Professor of Nursing and International Development. Professor Atkin meanwhile, will join as Head of

Postgraduate Studies and Research School, having previously held a number of international positions. The incoming Heads of School will take over their respective positions from Professor Joe McMenamin (Medicine), Professor Seamus Cowman (Nursing and Midwifery) and Professor Davinder Sandhu (Postgraduate Studies and Research), who each made such significant contributions to RCSI Bahrain over the last number of years.

Student receives NUI award

Medicine graduate, Dr Maryam Naser, received second prize in the 2018 National University of Ireland (NUI) Dr Henry Hutchinson Stewart Medical Scholarships and Prizes in Psychiatry. This prestigious award is based on examination results in the respective faculties and schools of the constituent universities of NUI, which include the RCSI campuses in Dublin, Bahrain and Malaysia.

HEC and BQA awards

RCSI Bahrain has strengthened its position and reputation as a regional leader in healthcare education with further endorsements by Bahrain's Higher Education Council (HEC) and the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA). The HEC Institutional Accreditation Certificate was presented to RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom, by the Minister of Education and Chairman of the HEC, His Excellency Dr Majed bin Ali Al-Noaimi, during a formal ceremony at the Ministry of Education in Isa Town in May. The accreditation will last for an initial period of four years – the maximum period awarded – and supports the vision of the national development strategy, Economic Vision 2030, in developing Bahrain as a regional hub for quality higher education. In addition, RCSI Bahrain has received testimony from the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority

(BQA) that the University meets all the requirements for quality assurance, valid for a period of five years. The certificate was presented to Professor Otoom by BQA Chief Executive Officer, Her Excellency, Dr Jawaher Shaheen Al Mudhahki, in the presence of fellow BQA delegates and senior RCSI Bahrain officials, during a special meeting on campus.

Facilities review

The University has sought the expertise of American multinational engineering company, AECOM, to review the campus layout, with a view to improve and expand its current facilities.

Over 50 students, academic and operational staff attended a series of six workshops in April to review the existing facilities and discuss future requirements and suggestions.

The focused areas included teaching and learning space, examination and events space, student learning experience, the Clinical Simulation Centre and academic offices, with a pre-concept design presented to the senior management team in July to establish the next steps.

RCSI Bahrain prides itself on the quality of the facilities and resources it offers and is constantly seeking to improve its purpose-built campus.

Licensing and students examinations

In this year's United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 exams, RCSI Bahrain received an impressive 89% pass rate, the highest

ever pass rate since the inception of the University, compared to last year's 73%.

The UK PLAB 1 received an 83% pass rate and the NHRA BMLE examination an 81% pass rate.

Significant work has been undertaken to create resources to support students with their choice of possible internship and postgraduate training pathways both locally and internationally.

Tenth Conferring Ceremony marked

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain, RCSI Bahrain celebrated its tenth annual Conferring Ceremony in June.

The event witnessed the graduation of the biggest-ever medicine cohort of 134, along with 85 graduates from undergraduate and postgraduate nursing, bringing its total number of alumni to over 2,000.

It was a particularly special day for medicine valedictorian, Dr Maryam Naser, who won the Degree Award Gold Medal, the Medicine Overall Gold Medal, as well as the James Finucane Prize in Medicine and the Niall O'Higgins Prize in Surgery.

Dr Nabila Mann-Isah was presented with the John Murphy Prize in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

In the School of Nursing and Midwifery honours, the BSc Nursing Gold Medal was awarded to Dana Ahmed Alabbadi and the MSc Nursing Gold Medal was presented to Stephanie Joanne Mantley.

The Rufeida Alaslamia Prize in Nursing was awarded to Maha AbdulRaof AlBalooshi.



His Highness Shaikh Salman Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa – Advisor to His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
10th Conferring Ceremony, RCSI Bahrain – 26th June 2019

Executive Committee



Professor Davinder Sandhu
Head of School of Postgraduate Studies & Research



Dr Jean Hughes
Associate Director for Academic Affairs



Professor Seamus Cowman
Head of School of Nursing & Midwifery



Dr Kathryn Strachan
Head of Quality Enhancement



Ms Lesley Byrne
Associate Director for Marketing, Student Recruitment and Admissions (COO nominee)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Board of Governors



Mr Kenneth Mealy
President
RCSI



Professor Ronan O'Connell
Vice President
RCSI



Professor Cathal Kelly
Chief Executive Officer/ Registrar
RCSI



Professor Hannah McGee
Dean
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
RCSI



Mr David Moore
Chairman
RCSI Academic Council



Major General Professor
Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa
Director
Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical
Services



Mr Mahmood Al Kooheji
Chief Executive Officer
Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company



Professor Sameer Otoom
President
RCSI Bahrain



Mr Stephen Harrison-Mirfield
Chief Operating Officer
RCSI Bahrain

A YEAR IN PICTURES

September

Over 200 new undergraduate students were welcomed on campus during Orientation Week



January

RCSI Bahrain hosts annual Health Week featuring the popular Colour Run



November

39 student nationalities represented at International Night



October

RCSI Bahrain hosts third International Research Conference



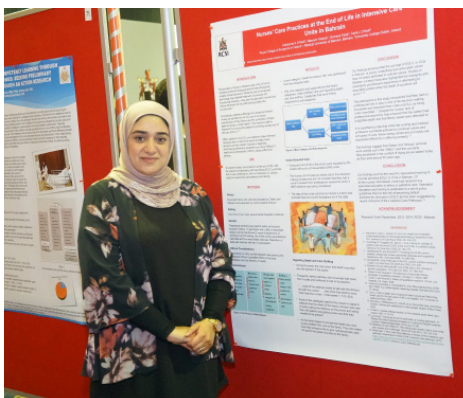
February

Award winners honoured during annual Staff Lunch



December

Students and staff gather to celebrate the festive season





May
Staff and students turn out for International Nurses Day celebrations at RCSI Bahrain



March
RCSI Bahrain launches the Dr Shaikh Mohammed Al Khalifa Scholarship in Medicine



July / August
RCSI Bahrain launches Campus Sustainability project



June
RCSI Bahrain hosts its tenth Conferring Ceremony

April
Staff and students gather for the Foundation Year tree planting ceremony as part of RCSI Bahrain Green Week





Over 40 participants
attended RCSI Bahrain's
third Research
Methodology and
Scientific Professionalism
Course in January.



02

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

RCSI Bahrain continues to build research collaboration between different countries and inspires students to get involved with research.

Third International Research Conference

Under the patronage of the Supreme Council of Health Chairman, His Excellency, Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, RCSI Bahrain played host to its third annual International Research Conference in October.

Run in collaboration with the University of Bahrain (UoB), the event featured a packed programme of oral and poster presentations.

Over 100 research abstracts were presented during the conference, with international representation from Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Egypt, Ireland, India, the UK and North America.

The abstracts covered topics from molecular subtypes of breast cancer in Bahrain, to thoracic complications of bariatric surgery, in addition to an epidemiological study of multiple sclerosis in the region.

Among the attendees were RCSI Bahrain students and faculty, healthcare professionals, special guests and senior officials from the Higher Education Council (HEC).

The multi-faceted aims of the conference were to showcase new knowledge to help patients, build further research collaboration between different countries and to inspire students to get involved with research.

Collaboration with NTUNHS

The School of Nursing and Midwifery at RCSI Bahrain and National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences (NTUNHS) are looking into collaborating in several areas including a student exchange programme as well as a faculty exchange



UoB President, Professor Riyad Hamzah with RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom



AGU and RCSI Bahrain Presidents with other officials

programme and research in the field of nursing. The arrangement was agreed during a visit of the University's Head of School Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Seamus Cowman, to Taipei.

Research Summer School

This year, over 100 students applied for 17 advertised projects for this year's RCSI Bahrain Research Summer School. Academic staff, clinical tutors, private hospital partners and alumni were invited to participate as Principle Investigators (PIs).

Project topics included medical image processing for 3D printing, assessing health literacy in primary care patients and an investigation into the effect of scalar electromagnetic forces on rodent behaviour. The research was conducted on campus as well as at different sites locally including the Royal Bahrain Hospital, Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), Al Khaleej Polyclinic, Bahrain Defence Force Hospital (BDF), Hamad Town Health Centre, Arabian Gulf University (AGU) and in the Vancouver Virology Centre in Canada. As for international research opportunities, RCSI Bahrain secured two research summer school posts with the prestigious Keenan Research Summer School at St Michael's Hospital in Canada, led by a dedicated supervisor in St Michael's Hospital.

Three Research Summer School posts were also secured at McMaster University Emergency Medicine Research Group Experience (EMeRGE) for the first time, focusing on offering hands-on experience in the field of emergency medicine research. A further four posts were secured with Keele University in the UK, two within the Institute of Science and

Technology and two in the Institute of Primary Care and Health Sciences, led by a dedicated supervisor from Keele.

Two students were also selected to attend the Penn State University exchange programme in the USA, an opportunity provided by the university's Global Health Initiative, which also brought a Penn State student to RCSI Bahrain to collaborate in a research project with two of our own students in July.

THEP workshop on campus

In November, Academic Lead on the new RCSI curriculum – THEP (Transforming Healthcare Education Project) – Dr John Jenkins, conducted a workshop for the University's School of Medicine academic Staff. The workshop involved discussions about the new medicine curriculum, which is being designed in two phases.

The first phase involves the reorganisation of the current curriculum and the second phase, discussed at the International Education Forum (IEF) in June, involves the design and implementation of a new medicine curriculum.

Nursing curriculum review

The University's nursing curriculum was reviewed in April by stakeholders and faculty members who deliver the programme.

This is the first major review since the commencement of the nursing programme in 2006 and the curriculum, along with a Business Case, was submitted to the RCSI Accreditation and Qualifications Committee (A&QC) in

Dublin.

A panel visit is due to take place during the next academic year as part of the revalidation process.

DVA hosts inaugural conference

The student-run Diabetes Vanguard Alliance held its inaugural conference in November, entitled 'Self-care and Management of type 1 diabetes Across the Lifespan,' which included workshops, interactive presentations and lectures on wellness and healthy living with type 1 diabetes.

The event was aimed at senior medicine and nursing students, and focused on a holistic approach to the self-care management of Type I diabetes.

With the help of leading experts from around Bahrain, organisers delivered a series of didactic lectures and hands-on workshops covering topics such as carb-counting, insulin injections, site rotation and nutrition.

Among the guest speakers were Bahrain Diabetes Society Vice President, Dr Mariam Ebrahim Al Hajeri; King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH) Adult Endocrinologist and Diabetologist, Dr Dalal Alromaihi, and Salmaniya Medical Complex Adult Endocrinologist and Diabetologist, Dr Hussain Taha.

Nursing research strategy with KHUH

RCSI Bahrain and King Hamad University Hospital

(KHUH) have teamed up to enhance best practice in nursing through the promotion of enquiry and evidence-based approaches to patient care.

A number of research projects have been agreed upon and completed, as part of the collaborative nursing research strategy.

Established in 2015, the KHUH-RCSI Bahrain Nursing Research Council has also conducted a nursing research priorities study, which engaged all clinical nursing staff at the hospital from which ten priorities were determined and are now the focus of the research and scholarship collaboration between the University's faculty and clinical staff at KHUH.

Among the projects already completed include a study of the correlation between medication and falls with older adults in addition to a study on needlestick injuries.

Research methodology course

In January, RCSI Bahrain concluded its third Research Methodology and Scientific Professionalism Course on campus.

Organised by RCSI Bahrain's School of Postgraduate Studies and Research, the course is aimed at supporting the professional development of students across a variety of healthcare programmes and featured a series of workshops and discussions, led by senior academics from a multitude of disciplines.

Among the topics covered were the statistics of research; good clinical practice; good laboratory practice; development of drugs; research proposals; research



Diabetes Vanguard Alliance



CCAD students with RCSI Bahrain School of Nursing and Midwifery faculty members

ethics approval; presentation skills and methods of publishing papers and pitfalls to avoid. The programme attracted an attendance of over 40 participants mostly made up of RCSI Bahrain students and interns.

First joint conference with AGU

RCSI Bahrain and Arabian Gulf University (AGU) hosted their first ever joint research conference in April, entitled 'Driving Health Research in Bahrain'. In attendance were the Presidents of AGU and RCSI Bahrain, His Excellency Dr Khalid Al Ohaly and Professor Sameer Otoom respectively. The keynote addresses were delivered by Professor of Health Policy and Systems and Chairman of the Health Policy and Management department at the American University of Beirut, Professor Fadi El Jardali, on the subject of using evidence to inform and share health policy and practice, and its benefits and risks for decision makers. Additionally, Professor of Child Health at University College London and former Chair of the UK General Medical Council, Professor Sir Terence Stephenson spoke about doctors of the future and medical education in the years to come. 16 faculty and student platform presentations were made during the conference, covering topics from climate-related sick leave in Bahrain, pharmacological

interventions for non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and the knowledge of healthcare students on waterpipe tobacco smoking, in addition to four workshops and sixty poster presentations.

First graduating cohort from CCAD

RCSI Bahrain also celebrated the graduation of ten nurses from the first cohort of the MSc in Nursing. The group commenced the programme in 2017 when RCSI Bahrain entered an Academic partnership with Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi (CCAD) for the duration of two years. The success of the students is a testimony to the merit of partnerships between leading international academic and world class multispecialty clinical hospitals in the region.



A group photo from the Research Methodology and Scientific Professionalism course



Class of 2012 medicine graduate, Dr Omar Saleh, presenting on his experience navigating the Australian postgraduate training system.

Graduation and beyond!

- Finding the first job and building experience. Avoid long Gaps.
- Worked hard to pass my exams then waited for Australian Registration.
- The most challenging moments are of change. Graduation and finding employment.



03

EMPLOYABILITY,
GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP AND
QUALITY
ENHANCEMENT

EMPLOYABILITY, GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT



Class of 2010 graduates, Eman AlJahmi and Asma AlNajjar at the Inspiring Excellence portraits unveiling ceremony

RCSI Bahrain aims to continually enhance the level of career pathway support offered to medicine, nursing and postgraduate students, in addition to providing further prospects for clinical and research opportunities globally.

Career events on campus

This academic year was another busy year for the Careers and Alumni office, with a series of events aimed at supporting students in their future career pathways.

In October, with 2012 medicine graduate, Dr Omar Saleh, presenting his experience navigating the Australian postgraduate training system, in addition to offering one-on-one sessions with students interested in working in Australia.

Following this, Consultant Surgeon, and class of 2011 medicine graduate, Dr Nader El Sourani, returned to the campus to share his experience on postgraduate medical training in Germany, where he is currently based.

Dr El Sourani spoke about the process for applying to Germany for both EU and non-EU students. The Careers and Alumni office also hosted a Clinical Elective Night and Research Elective Night - where current students who had completed clinical and research electives in North America presented about their experiences and the application process,

organised in conjunction with Director of the Medical Commencement Programme and Science lecturer, Dr Edwina Brennan.

In February, class of 2016 medicine graduate and current University of Saskatchewan Family Medicine resident, Dr Hari Hullur, led a week-long clinical skills training course, comprised of in-class teaching and culminating in a mock OSCE exam, aimed to help students taking their Canadian or US clinical skills board exams prepare effectively. Dr Hullur also presented a session on the pathways to Canadian residency training.

2014 medicine graduate, Dr Manal Ahmad and class of 2016 graduate, Dr Zainab Ali were also on campus to give a presentation on internships and postgraduate training in the UK. This was followed up by another UK workshop in April with class of 2018 graduates, Dr Tooba Khan and Dr Raheel Siddiqui, focused specifically on UK board examinations and the application process for non-EU/non-British nationals.

Also in April, the Careers and Alumni office, in

conjunction with the North American Medical Students Association (NAMSA), hosted an on-site Clinical Epidemiology Review Course delivered by Emergency Medicine physicians from McMaster University, Canada.

The two-day event was an introductory level course on clinical epidemiology designed for all healthcare professionals seeking to better understand health research and practice evidence-based medicine.

The course was attended by over 60 people, including RCSI Bahrain students from all years, RCSI Bahrain alumni and external clinical staff from the hospitals and Ministry of Health.

Three US residency focused events followed, including a one-to-one workshop on Neurology training in the US with class of 2012 graduate, Dr Mona Al Banna, a US Residency talk with class of 2015 graduate, Dr Yusuf AlAlwan and a USMLE exam preparation talk given by current SC1 and SC2 students who had taken and passed the exams.

A 'Bahrain Internships talk' with Dr Ali Marzuk, Dr Mohamed Toorani and Dr Fatema Alameen, all class of 2018 medicine graduates, also took place where the graduates discussed their internship years at KHUH, SMC and BDF to students applying for internships the following year

Promoting nursing careers

The annual Nursing Careers Day took place at RCSI Bahrain in January.

Organised by the School of Nursing and Midwifery, in collaboration with the Careers and Alumni Office, the event was attended by more than 80 nursing students and guests.

Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery,

Professor Seamus Cowman, presented on 'Developing your Nursing Career' and the keynote address was delivered by Chief Nursing Information Officer at Dubai Healthcare Authority and Chair of the United Arab Emirates Nursing and Midwifery Council Scientific Research Committee, Professor Jane Griffiths, on the theme of 'What Nursing Can Do for You and What You Can Do for Nursing.' Nursing Profession Registrar for the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA), Nooreya Mohamed, presented on the NHRA Nursing Licensing Examination, while Senior Nursing Lecturers, Professor Maura Pidgeon, Dr May McCreadie and Dr Maryam Alaradi, spoke about postgraduate options, international opportunities and Fulbright Graduate Scholarships respectively. Nursing graduate, Eman AlJahmi, also presented her personal experiences as part of the Inspiring Excellence series, before a Tamkeen workshop focusing on CV writing, job hunting and interview preparation.

NCLEX-RN session on campus

In January, the University hosted an event for nursing students focusing on the National Council Licensure Examination for RN (NCLEX-RN) and US Pathway for nurses.

Both Senior lecturer in Nursing and Nursing Lecturer, Dr Hussain Nasaif and Dr Maryam Al Aradi, presented an overview on various subjects pertaining to the process of obtaining an RN license in the US including the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), Commission on Graduate Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS), tips for the exams and resources available at RCSI Bahrain.

The session also gave students an opportunity to have their questions addressed by nursing academics



Officials at the Positive Promotion of Nursing campaign

who are licensed in the US.

Positive Promotion of Nursing

Under the patronage of His Excellency, Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, RCSI Bahrain launched a nationwide campaign on Positive Promotion of Nursing (PPON) in June. Key stakeholders in Bahrain attended the event, including nurses, doctors and officials from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. As part of the launch, Director of the BSc in Nursing Programme, Dr Eman Tawash, gave a presentation entitled 'Promoting Nursing as a Career Choice in Bahrain: Implementation and Evaluation of a Stakeholder Model for Best Practice'. Health Workforce Development and Nursing Consultant, Dr Fariba AlDarazi, provided the guests with information in relation to nursing shortages from a World Health Organisation perspective. As part of the campaign, a group of current nursing students, alumni, career counsellors, teachers and nursing and medical professionals will be appointed as ambassadors. The ambassadors will visit local schools and communities and educate them on the life of a nurse, the value of the career and opportunities available for nurses, a part of the University's Mobile Engagement team.

Tamkeen nursing support

RCSI Bahrain has teamed up with Bahrain's Labour Fund, Tamkeen, to support the training of up to 400

Bahraini nurses over the coming years.

As part of the agreement, Tamkeen has committed to providing partial funding for Bahraini nationals to be educated through RCSI Bahrain's undergraduate nursing programme.

For its part, RCSI Bahrain will also source employment for the students in question, in conjunction with the Private Hospitals in the Kingdom.

The main aim of the new collaboration is to expand the number of Bahraini trained and employed nurses and empowering them to prosper and contribute towards the national economy.

Electives highlights

This year, the University selected three students to complete their clinical electives at Johns Hopkins University.

A further ten to Lahey Hospital and Medical Center as part of the University's efforts in working closely with external partners to ensure that students have access to high quality clinical and research elective opportunities outside of the academic year.

Additionally, as part of new and expanded research elective opportunities, students were offered positions at McMaster University, the Keenan Research Institute and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, all in Canada.

The University is looking into providing clinical elective opportunities in Kenya following on from the clinical elective opportunity offered to nine students in Malindi, Kenya last August with Medics Abroad, where they undertook a two-week clinical experience at the Malindi Subcounty Hospital.



Officials at the annual Nursing Careers Day event



Intern awards winners with Professor Joe McMenamin

Inspiring Excellence

During the annual Alumni Dinner event in November, RCSI Bahrain launched the Inspiring Excellence initiative, which aims to inspire current students and visitors to the university.

The project features portrait photographs of distinguished graduates from a variety of disciplines at various stages on their career path.

Alumni of RCSI Bahrain's first graduating cohort of 2010 were named as the inaugural recipients of RCSI Bahrain Alumni Inspiring Excellence Portraits, which are now displayed in the University's Atrium.

The portraits were unveiled by RCSI President, Mr Kenneth Mealy and RCSI Bahrain's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Head of School of Medicine, Professor Joe McMenamin.

The first recipient was Consultant Gastroenterologist in Archbold Medical Center in Georgia, USA, Dr Aymen Bukannan, while the second portrait belonged to Assistant Nurse Manager at King Hamad University Hospital's Hyperbaric and Wound Care department, Ms Eman AlJahmi and the third portrait belonged to Registered Nurse at the Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services' General Intensive Care Unit, Ms Asma AlNajjar.

Intern awards presented

During the annual School of Medicine dinner in April, the RCSI Bahrain Intern Award was presented to 2018 graduates, Dr Hasan Altaf from Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) and Dr Ali Marzuk from King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH).

This is the first time in the history of the University that the award has been made to two outstanding candidates.

The Intern Award is presented to an RCSI Bahrain intern who has demonstrated excellence in professionalism, communication skills and collaboration as evidenced by the outcome of Multisource Feedback (MSF) evaluation.

Internship committee

Officials from RCSI Bahrain, King Hamad University Hospital, Bahrain Defence Force Hospital, the Bahrain Ministry of Health and the Bahrain Medical Society met in April for the first Internship Committee meeting.

During the meeting, it was decided that a framework will be drafted in line with the Irish Medicine Council (IMC) internship guidelines and requirements which incorporates the IMC's eight domains of Good Professional Practice; Patient Safety and Quality of Patient Care; Relating to Patients; Communication and Interpersonal Skills; Collaboration and Teamwork; Management; Scholarship; Professionalism and Clinical Skills. These eight domains will be considered as a whole when deciding the type of support that will be offered to the interns.

Senior Lecturer in Family Medicine, Dr Ghufraan Jassim, was appointed as Director of the Programme.

Employability overview

In 2018, 15 graduates received residency placements in the US, and five matched into residency training in Canada, across all specialties.

A further seven graduates were offered a position in the UK Foundation Year programme.

Looking at North America in particular, nearly 12% of medicine graduates are currently training and working at prestigious institutions in the United States and Canada at places such as Henry Ford Hospital, University of Texas Health Science Centre at Houston, University of Miami Jackson Memorial Hospital, Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Centre, University of Massachusetts, McMaster University, University of Saskatchewan, University of Ottawa and University of Toronto.



RCSI Bahrain delegation
at the eighth annual RCSI
International Education Forum
(IEF) 2019 in Dublin





04

TRANSNATIONAL
EDUCATION

TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION

With a medical curriculum aligned across three continents and degrees recognised around the world, RCSI Bahrain takes great pride in providing high quality transnational education to a student body of 39 nationalities.

Postgraduate professional examinations

In November, RCSI Bahrain consolidated its position as a hub of international education, when it hosted a series of RCSI postgraduate professional examinations. 120 dentists from Bahrain and the Middle East took the Membership of the Faculty of Dentistry (MFD) examinations, many having undertaken a two-day MFD International Intensive Revision Course, which also took place on campus.

The revision course featured focused lectures, tutorials and seminars, along with simulated clinical exams, vivas and observed stations, and provided a valuable opportunity for prospective candidates to receive high quality teaching from a group of senior academics from RCSI in Dublin.

The examinations provided the candidates the opportunity to undertake the RCSI examinations locally, while being examined by international

examiners, including the same senior RCSI Faculty who conduct these examinations in Ireland.

The MFD exams were followed by RCSI Bahrain's hosting of the Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons (MRCS) Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), attended by 80 junior surgeons, as part of a collaboration that has seen a substantial growth in participating numbers over recent years. The MRCS exams aim to assess participants' knowledge and skills in the areas of anatomy, surgical pathology, applied surgical care, critical care, communication skills, history taking and clinical and procedural skills.

Professionalism conference

RCSI Bahrain played host to a special conference in



Officials during the Professionalism in Healthcare conference

October, focusing on 'Professionalism in Healthcare', under the patronage of His Excellency, Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa. The event was organised in collaboration with the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA), the Bahrain Medical Society and the Bahrain Private Hospitals Society, and featured a series of presentations and workshops.

The keynote presentation on 'Healthcare Professionalism in the 21st Century' was delivered by Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, a member of the UK's House of Lords, Professor of Palliative Medicine and past President of the Royal Society of Medicine. NHRA Chief Executive Officer, Her Excellency Dr Maryam Al Jalahma meanwhile, presented the NHRA regulations of professional standards in Bahrain. Among the other topics in focus by local medical experts and members of Bahrain Medical Society were the three elements of medical professionalism; healthcare professional etiquette and the meaning of 'patient-centred'.

Further workshop sessions addressing patient safety; difficult conversations; improved communications and professional judgement, also took place.

Students attend Dublin research conference

A group of nursing and medicine students attended the 38th annual International Nursing and Midwifery Research and Education Conference at RCSI in Dublin in February.

The theme for 2019 was 'The Future of Nursing and Midwifery Practice, Education and Research.'

N4 student, Yusra Nadwi, gave a poster presentation on the correlation between medication and falls with older adults.

She stated that the RCSI Research Summer School inspired her to attend the conference following acceptance of her abstract.

Yusra was accompanied by her colleagues, N3 students, Abdulrahman Alghurbani and Hawra Saeed, and SC1 student, Omar AlWahoush, in addition to class of 2018 nursing graduate, Dana Almahmood.

Student Mobility Programme

Ten medicine students returned to the campus in January, having spent the first semester of the academic year in Dublin, as part of the RCSI Student Mobility Programme.

Five students from Dublin came to RCSI Bahrain in September, with the aim of experiencing a different culture and enhancing their professional development as global healthcare practitioners.

Managed by the Centre for Student Success, the student mobility programme aims to develop intercultural awareness among participants, and that certainly appeared to be the case for IC student, Mohammed Wazir.

"Upon arrival into Dublin I fell in love with the place, its people, its culture, the whole lot," he explained.

"Walking through the University buildings felt like walking through a museum and it is here that you can truly appreciate RCSI's prestigious history," he went on.

RCSI delegates meet at IEF in Dublin

A delegation from RCSI Bahrain travelled to Dublin in June for the eighth annual RCSI International Education Forum (IEF).


Among the attendees were colleagues from RCSI campuses in Bahrain, Dublin and Malaysia, who came together to discuss innovations and challenges within shared programmes.

This year's event focused on the theme of 'Transforming Healthcare Education Project (THEP)'. (See Knowledge and Experience section for more information)

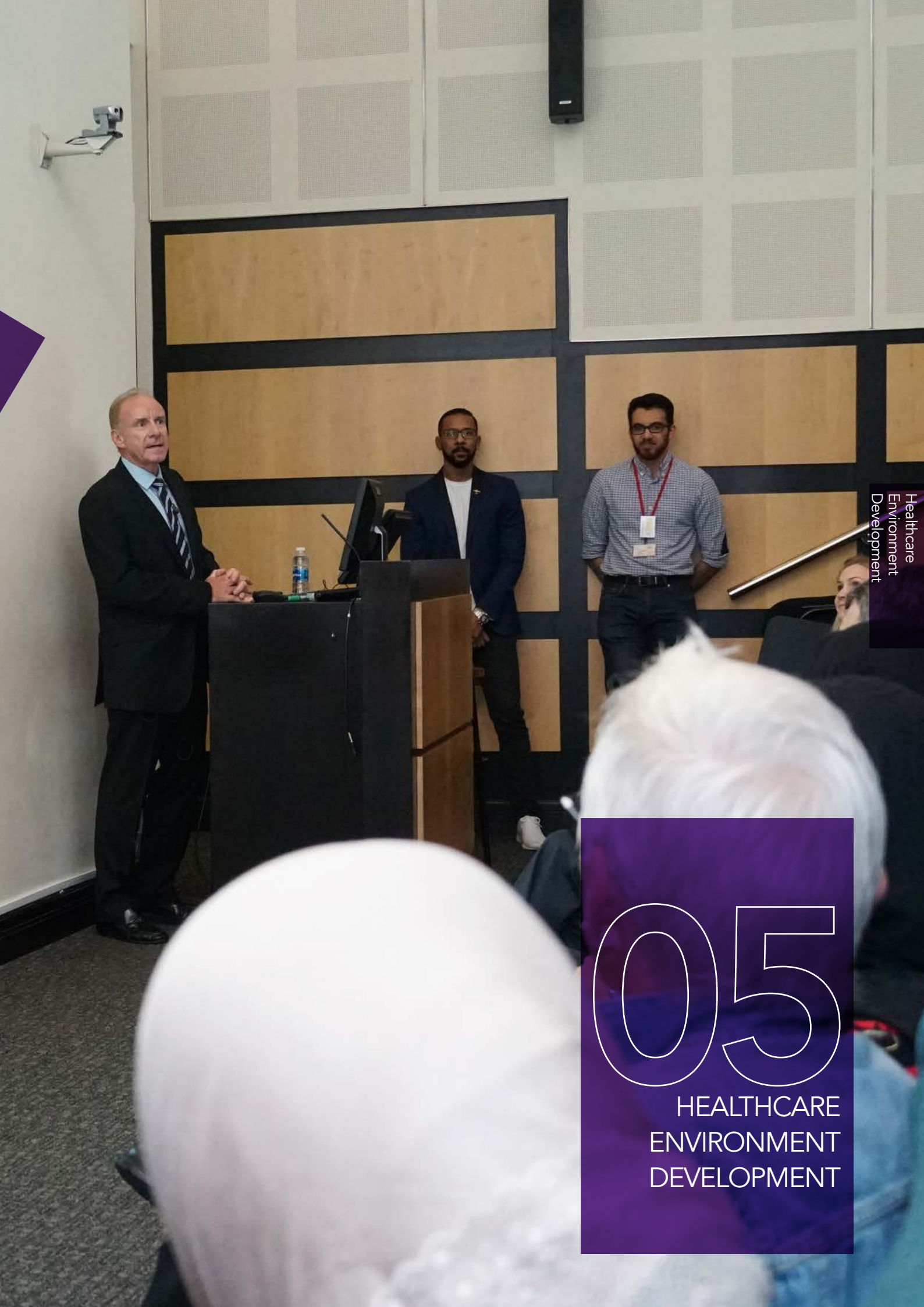
The week-long event featured presentations, keynote speeches and interactive workshops, along with a demonstration of the latest virtual reality technology.



Students at the 38th annual International Nursing and Midwifery Research and Education Conference in Dublin



A group of alumni and current students from RCSI Bahrain produced a research study on the knowledge and attitudes of men in Bahrain towards prostate cancer.



05

HEALTHCARE
ENVIRONMENT
DEVELOPMENT

HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT

As part of the University's ongoing Future Doctors and Future Nurses programme, RCSI Bahrain aims to introduce future healthcare leaders to the academic and social life of medical and nursing students.

'Future Doctors' goes international

RCSI Bahrain Future Doctors events continued with events in Bahrain, the UAE, Jordan and, for the first time, Kuwait.

Now in its fourth year, the programme aims to introduce attendees to the life of a medical student and the life of a doctor by engaging them in a host of academic and social activities.

Alongside open discussions, Q&A sessions, interactive workshops with clinical practitioners, this year's event also saw the introduction of specialist alumni sessions, featuring medicine graduates from around the region. The Future Nurses programme also went from strength-to-strength this year, with the latest edition attracting high school students and parents to the campus in April.

After introductions and presentations by senior academic staff and nursing alumni, participants took part in a series of interactive sessions on clinical skills, CPR training with RCSI Bahrain's Mobile Diabetes Unit. A campus tour was also provided, along with a question-and-answer session on the application process.

To supplement the Future Doctors and Future Nurses programmes, the Student Recruitment and Admissions

teams this year launched a series of Open Evenings for students who had already noted their interest in studying at RCSI Bahrain.

Prostate cancer research

A group of alumni and current students from RCSI Bahrain have produced a research study on the knowledge and attitudes of men in Bahrain towards prostate cancer.

The primary aim of the study, led by faculty from the University's School of Nursing and Midwifery, including Head of School, Professor Seamus Cowman, was to ascertain the knowledge and attitudes of men living in Bahrain towards prostate cancer.

Nursing graduate, Fahad Altailsan, medicine graduate, Dr James Cowman and SC2 student, Ahmed Almumin teamed up for the study, which showed an alarming 60% of men had never had a prostate screening check-up, while 53% did not consider prostate cancer to be a major issue in Bahrain.

With more than half the participants not recognising the signs and symptoms of prostate issues, the study concluded that there is a need for a comprehensive health awareness programme on prostate cancer in



Officials at the ENT Masterclass

Bahrain.

The study was conducted over a number of weeks at a series of popular gathering places, such as mosques and cafes, among Arab men in the most at risk category - ie aged 50 years and over.

Anatamage table installed

A virtual dissection table, the anatamage, was installed in the University during the first semester as a technology-enhanced solution for teaching anatomy. The anatamage mimics a traditional dissection table but utilises a large screen to project an image of a digitally rendered cadaver instead of an embalmed body.

Students can choose from five digitised bodies and remove body layers revealing anatomy in an interactive way without the need for time-consuming dissection. Students can also digitally dissect, colour, label, rotate and observe a full-sized body from any plane of view. Additionally, the anatamage software has medical imaging, histology and other learning resources. The anatamage is a teaching initiative which has been designed to integrate with the current multifactorial teaching approach to anatomy (anatomical models, ultrasound, online resources) implemented both didactically and through self-directed learning.

Parental leave extended

Earlier this year RCSI Bahrain announced that the University's Maternity and Paternity Leave policies have been amended, with the maternity leave extended to sixty working days and paternity leave extended to one

week paid leave starting from June.

RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom, stated that the purpose of the amendments is to extend the support staff receive from the University by providing more time for parents to bond with their new-borns.

Breast feeding awareness video planned

Led by the University's nursing staff and in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and healthcare providers in Bahrain, plans for a video aiming to enhance public attitude, knowledge and beliefs on exclusive breastfeeding is currently underway.

The video will target the Arab population specifically individuals within the local community including mothers, spouses and families with the aim of achieving greater community outreach.

Vaccination awareness study

A joint project has been established between the Ministry of Health, AGU and RCSI Bahrain to conduct a first national study on the evaluation of knowledge, attitude and practice of health professionals toward vaccination.

The study will involve general practitioners, paediatrics, nurses and other allied health professionals in Bahrain.

The outcome of this project will be important to identify topics that may be targeted by specific and cost-effective interventions.



Future Doctors in Jordan

ENT Masterclass

The Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Department at King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH), supported by RCSI Bahrain, hosted an ENT Masterclass in February.

Attended by Major General Dr Shaikh Salman Bin Ateyatalla Al Khalifa CEO of KHUH, the Masterclass was delivered by a faculty of national and international repute.

The novel concept aims to provide high quality training in Otorhinolaryngology, free at the point of delivery to all trainees in ENT and allied fields.

The Masterclass expert practitioners flew to Bahrain to deliver a one-day heavily weighted educational programme.

RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom, attended the morning of the course and gave excellent feedback to the Bahrain ENT Masterclass coordinator, Head of Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at KHUH, Dr Hiba Al-Reefy.

A large, diverse group of people, including men, women, and children, are captured in a moment of joyous celebration. They are dressed in traditional Middle Eastern clothing, such as colorful dresses, headscarves, and headbands. Many individuals have their arms raised in the air, and their faces are lit up with smiles and laughter. The scene is set at night, with a dark background and a prominent red light source that casts a warm, vibrant glow over the entire group. The overall atmosphere is one of festive energy and cultural pride.

Sounds and smells
from around the
globe circulated
the RCSI Bahrain
campus as it played
host to its annual
International Night
event.



Student Life
and Experience

06

STUDENT LIFE AND
EXPERIENCE



Students take a wellbeing walk around campus as part of Mental Health Week

STUDENT LIFE AND EXPERIENCE

With the aim of promoting healthy lifestyles among the RCSI Bahrain community and the University's overall objective of advancing human health, RCSI Bahrain proudly hosted the National Universities Tournament on its campus.

Health Week a huge success

RCSI Bahrain hosted its fourth annual Health Week in February, a full week's programme aimed at promoting healthy lifestyle among the RCSI Bahrain community. Activities included a 'Bahrain Skyscraper' climbing challenge, which saw participants attempt to climb a 25ft wall as many times as possible in a 10 minute slot, to replicate the height of some of the Kingdom's most prominent buildings including the Financial Harbour and the World Trade Centre.

The proceeds were donated to the Salmaniya Medical Complex.

Also on the schedule was a sunrise cycling tour around Bahrain, a week-long rowing challenge, a carnival, a dodgeball competition and the ever-so-popular RCSI Bahrain annual colour run.

Health Week also coincided with the annual Bahrain National Sports Day, aiming to promote sport and health-enhancing physical activities.

Alongside exercise classes in Taekwondo, CrossFit, core training and strength training at the University's dedicated sports and recreation facility, the HUB, staff also gathered for a special walk around the campus.

Mental Health Awareness

The RCSI Bahrain community also came together in February to raise awareness and break down the barriers of stigma surrounding mental health issues. Organised by the Student Health and Wellbeing Unit, in collaboration with the Mental Health Society, the Health Awareness Week featured a full programme

of events and a series of themes around how to promote good mental health.

The schedule kicked off with a meditation class, a karaoke evening to help sing away the blues, a wellbeing walk around the University campus, a photobooth, as well as a week-long creative writing competition under the theme of 'positive vibes'.

National Universities Tournament

This year, RCSI Bahrain played host to the National Universities Tournament in both the football and basketball games while Bahrain Polytechnic hosted the volleyball matches.

RCSI Bahrain's women basketball team has once again had an impressive season finishing as runners-up with University of Bahrain (UoB) claiming the gold medal.

The final match, held at the Zain arena, was attended by Bahrain Basketball Association President, Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Salman Al Khalifa in addition to Head of the Sports Federation of Universities, Dr Shaikh Saqer bin Salman Al Khalifa, and University officials including President, Professor Sameer Otoom and Chief Operating Officer, Stephen Harrison-Mirfield. With the aim of promoting healthy lifestyles among the RCSI Bahrain community, taking the leading role of hosting the football and basketball games falls in line with the university's overall objective of advancing human health in Bahrain.

Merge of Student Services and the Hub

This year has seen a change of structure in the

Student Services and Events and Sports and Recreation Centre and the HUB.

The two departments were merged to create the new Student Services, Events and Sports & Recreation Department following an internal quality review conducted in 2017-18.

The change has led to the expansion of the student services and sports and recreation teams, creating synergies and utilising the experience of the staff members where most needed with aims of enhancing the student experience and ensure that relevant support is provided to them.

Clubs and Societies highlights

This year, there were a total of 31 clubs and societies, including nine newly introduced clubs with a total of 91 events and 101 weekly sessions including a variety of academic, social, fundraisers and sports events.

Also newly introduced this year was a new star-rating system which aims to increase engagement with the clubs and societies by awarding stars based on five factors; social engagement, creativity, collaboration with other clubs, community outreach and organising competitions.

International Nurses Day marked

Around 300 nursing students turned out for the annual International Nurses Day (IND) celebrations at the HUB. Led and organised by nursing students, this year's programme featured a series of video, role play and interactive presentations by nursing students and alumni.

Launched by the Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Seamus Cowman, the day also featured a celebratory cake-cutting and an afternoon of games, activities, and giveaways.

This year's IND theme was 'Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health for All.'

Highlights from the CSS

The Centre for Student Success (CSS) continued to

deliver programmes, activities and events designed to support students' academic, personal and professional development.

For senior medical students, the CSS worked closely with alumni to provide Graduate Peer Assisted Learning (G-PAL) sessions with a record number of 39 G-PAL tutors providing sessions on campus and in the clinical environment.

The CSS also launched the Language Buddy programme this year for non-Arabic speaking students to be matched at a pre-clinical or clinical level with an Arabic speaking 'Buddy' where they are taught useful language skills in Arabic and an insight into Arabic culture.

Seven students were selected and supported with a Travel Award to represent the University at the Model United Nations conference at the first-ever iteration of MUNROT which was held in the prestigious Erasmus University Rotterdam in February.

Among the many topics, the debates included the Pakistan-India conflict over Jammu and Kashmir, to battling the Zika virus outbreak in addition to the situation in Nicaragua.

Student events

After returning from summer break, students enjoyed a 'fiesta' themed homecoming in September where they also welcomed newcomers.

Later in February, more than 400 students, staff and guests descended on the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain hotel for the annual Winter Ball featuring a DJ, a magician, prize draws and a photobooth.

RCSI Bahrain also played host to its annual Talent Show where N4 student, Shayma Ajlan, was announced as the winner of the event for her rendition of Bruno Mars' hit 'If I Was Your Man'.

This year's event featured a range of different performances, including those by dancers, rappers, singers, guitarists and beatboxers.



Students at the MUNROT in Rotterdam, Netherlands



Organised by the University's Community Engagement department, staff and student volunteers took part in a Beach Clean, as part of RCSI Bahrain's Green Week in March.



MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



Developing
the Community

07

DEVELOPING THE
COMMUNITY

DEVELOPING THE COMMUNITY

RCSI Bahrain is working towards being recognised locally as a leading green campus where sustainability is embraced in its day to day business, with a goal of working towards improving the quality of campus life while being environmentally conservationist.

Students share ICE experience

A group of senior medicine and nursing students travelled to India and Tanzania, as part of the latest edition of the University's International Community Engagement (ICE) programme.

Medicine students Fatema Almadhoob, Salma Shehabi, Rawan Althahabi, Nalin Jaiswal and Manal Zainaldeen and nursing colleagues, Mohamed Alhasan, Noof Ali and Mooza Yaseen spoke about the opportunities they had in Gleneagles Global Health Hospital in Chennai, India, where they observed the hepatology, nephrology, bariatrics and gastroenterology wards. During their stay, the RCSI Bahrain students joined Senior Nursing Lecturer, Dr Maryam AlAradi in working with healthcare professionals at the 200-bed hospital, which offers expert care and advanced procedures in the field of multi-organ transplants.

Meanwhile, nursing representatives, Dana Alabbadi, Maha Albaloooshi and Malak Danar were joined by

Intermediate Cycle 3 student, Faateh Khan and Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Professor Steve Safrany, and shared their experiences from their week-long elective at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The trip saw the team spend time with the Paediatric Department, the Internal Medicine Department, the Emergency Medicine Department and the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute at Muhimbili, which attends to between 1,000 and 1,200 outpatients and 1,000 to 1,200 inpatients every week.

The programme is an opportunity for these future healthcare professionals to observe diseases and procedures that are less common within their own cultures, as well as a chance to grow both personally and professionally.

Diabetes Mobile Unit highlights

This year, the Mobile Unit continued to educate student children on Type II diabetes, visiting eight schools and bringing the total number of students educated to over 350.

More than 60 students and staff members took part in the initiative organised by the Community Outreach department.

The Mobile Unit also participated in many events including the annual Shurooq Camp organised by the Bahrain Diabetes Society and the World Diabetes Day at the Avenues Bahrain, which was under the patronage of the Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health and President of the Bahrain Diabetes Society, His Excellency, Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa.

The Mobile Unit was among participants at the Bahrain National Charter Day celebrations at the annual Ministry of Education carnival for Higher Education Institutions.

Staff and students manned the RCSI Bahrain booth and introduced visitors to the activities of the unit.



Donors at the Blood Donation Drive on campus



Hypertension Public Health Awareness event at Seef Mall, Muharrag

Staff Award winners honoured

Associate Professor of Family Medicine, Professor David Misselbrook and Sports Development and Student Services Specialist, Ahmed Al Mousawi, were named as the winners of the Academic and Administrative RCSI Bahrain annual Dean's Awards for 2018 respectively.

The winners were announced during the annual staff lunch in January, where they were presented with a commemorative award by RCSI Bahrain Vice President for Academic Affairs and Head of School of Medicine, Professor Joe McMenamin.

The event featured a speech from RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom, in which he highlighted many of the University's achievements over the last year and paid tribute to staff members for their contributions to these achievements.

Among the other awards presented on the day were the Inspirational Leader Award, to Admissions Manager, Andrea Dwyer, and the 'Rising Star' Award, to English Tutor, Marwa Alnajjar.

Nursing Lecturer, Dr Mariam Alaradi, received the Community Engagement Award, with Associate Professor of Physics, Professor Fryad Henari, taking home the Research Excellence Award.

The Quality Enhancement office received a rousing reception after winning the Team of the Year award, while further acknowledgment was made to long-serving staff members, Sumaya Faraj, Maryam Yaqoob, Roberta Jones, Dr Edwina Brennan, Dr Tim Doubell, Annie Raftery, Professor Martin Corbally, Fatima Al Daylami, Dr Kathryn Strachan, Yoga Hassan and

Professor Fiza Rashid-Doubell who all completed seven years at the University.

Sign language course on campus

Over 30 students took part in a two-part sign language course conducted by the Bahrain Deaf Society, in partnership with the University's Community Engagement department, in February.

The initiative aims to provide nursing and medicine students with the basic skills to be able to communicate with patients with hearing difficulties.

The course covered alphabets, numbers, family members, days and time in addition to medical terms etc.

Instructors from the Bahrain Deaf Society included Madhi Alnoaimi, Huda Almutawa and Zainab Aswad.

Teddy Bear Hospital

RCSI Bahrain played host to its inaugural Teddy Bear Hospital on campus in March.

Orphaned children from the Royal Charity Organisation were invited to the campus and each child brought their teddy bear to take with them to different stations to observe various procedures including vaccinations, triage, x-rays in addition to dentistry etc.

The children were also educated on ways to develop their own healthcare habits such as dental hygiene, the importance of staying active and general nutritional information.

Organised by the University's Paediatric Society,

in collaboration with the Community Engagement department, the initiative aims to reduce childhood anxiety associated with visiting the doctor.

Research on type 2 diabetes patients

A team from RCSI Bahrain conducted a research study to assess the levels of physical activity among people with type 2 Diabetes mellitus over a three-month period between February and April this year. The study focused on those aged between 30 and 60 years old with mild-to-moderate type 2 diabetes mellitus, and will require participants to wear a Fitbit activity tracker continuously, in order to monitor their physical activity and sleep patterns for the three month period.

Volunteers were also asked to complete a simple questionnaire at the beginning, middle and end of the period, and attended a face-to-face interview if invited, to discuss what helped or hindered attempts to exercise.

The study was led by Associate Professor in Physiology, Professor Fiza Rashid-Doubell, in collaboration with fellow members of the Health Professions Education research cluster group and in line with directives from the Ministry of Health.

Hypertension Awareness campaign

The University, in partnership with private healthcare provider, American Mission Hospital (AMH), hosted a Hypertension Public Health Awareness event in Seef Mall, Muharraq in April.

Over 20 staff and students from the University participated in the event along with 10 staff members from AMH.

Organised by the University's Community

Engagement department and its School of Nursing and Midwifery, the programme provided nursing and medicine students the opportunity to work as part of an inter-professional team alongside AMH nurses and doctors, including a cardiologist and a nutritionist, to help educate the public on hypertension, taking participants' history, providing them with their BMI and providing a free blood pressure and blood sugar check-up.

Over 300 individuals visited the event, with more than 50 being identified as having abnormal readings.

World Heart Day marked

In September, staff and students volunteered to take part in the 10th Annual Regional Health Awareness event, organised by City Centre, King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH) and Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Sulman Al Khalifa Cardiac Centre.

Over 1,100 people attended the event which aimed to raise awareness for women by offering cardio-health screening.

The programme included participant registration, taking history details, manual and machine blood pressure readings, height and weight measurements and BLS demonstration.

Curriculum related activities

Foundation Year and MCP students were kept busy this year with electives and modules as part of the curriculum.

36 students in Foundation Year opted to take part in the Community Outreach elective as part of the Professionalism in Health Sciences module where students are required to volunteer in RCSI Bahrain



Inaugural Teddy Bear Hospital

stakeholder charities, including elderly social clubs and schools for children with learning difficulties, for six weeks and submit a reflective paper on their experience.

Over 40 MCP students took part in the Community Outreach module which offers them the opportunity to work in a group to plan and implement a community project which must include volunteer work, raising awareness and fundraising activities in Bahrain.

There were a total of nine projects that supported causes including the environment and animal welfare.

Ramadan donation drive

The Community Engagement team, in collaboration with the Tree of Life Charity Society, put together a Ramadan Donation Drive, collecting donations at the University.

Donations include canned food, toiletries, clothes, toys, books and stationery supplies for school children.

Monetary donations were also collected and all proceeds were presented to the Tree of Life Charity Society by Community Outreach Manager, Victoria Ham, in May.

The society provides services including, social welfare, support to orphans and families in need, healthcare, education and other social services.

Campus sustainability project

RCSI Bahrain is working towards being recognised locally as a leading green campus as part of an ongoing campus sustainability project.

By embracing sustainability in its day to day business, the University is working towards improving the quality of campus life while ensuring environmental conservation.

Staff and students have been encouraged to participate in all six phases of the sustainability project which kicked-off with the launch of RCSI Bahrain Green Week in March.

Green Week commenced with the launch of new waste collection areas all around the campus and followed with a Top Bins football challenge as well as a Beach Clean, organised by the University's Community Engagement department.

Staff and students were also encouraged to wear green in support of the event and to bring their own coffee mugs and water bottles for a chance to win a free cup of coffee.

Local cleaning and waste disposal service provider, Gulf City Cleaning, was also available on campus providing information and tips on how to improve recycling habits at work and at home.


As an initiative towards a greener environment, trees were planted by Foundation Year students from 2017 – 2019 – funded by the generous students and staff of RCSI Bahrain.

The University has also launched a campaign entitled 'Turn it Off' in June, which encourages students and staff to ensure they are doing their part in conserving energy in various ways such as unplugging their equipment when not in use and turning off lights in empty rooms.

Other projects planned include a solar energy project, paperless operation and continually improving greenery around the campus.



Volunteers providing information and tips on how to improve recycling habits at work and home



Japanese Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, His Excellency Hideki Ito, visited the University campus in February to meet with senior officials, including RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom.



Focus on our
Partners

08

FOCUS ON OUR
PARTNERS



RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom and students with the Jordanian Crown Prince HRH Prince Hussein bin Abdullah II

FOCUS ON OUR PARTNERS

RCSI Bahrain is focused on research and development across the health and biomedical sciences and is currently working with KHUH to set up a research facility in the newly opened Bahrain Oncology Centre.

Humanitarian medical aid for refugees

The Bahrain and Jordanian Red Crescent Societies, the Bahrain Medical Society (BMS) and RCSI Bahrain have teamed up to organise a special mission to provide medical and nursing aid to refugee camps in Jordan. As part of the collaborative humanitarian initiative, senior medicine and nursing students will have the opportunity to attach to a clinical team at the Jordanian Red Crescent Hospital in Amman and to visit the associated refugee camp.

RCSI Bahrain and the Bahrain Red Crescent Society have maintained a long-standing relationship and previously signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support each other's initiatives.

Delegation meet the Jordanian Crown Prince

RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom and

members of the student body were honoured to attend a reception with Jordanian Crown Prince, His Royal Highness Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II during his visit to Bahrain in February.

The reception was held at the home of the Jordanian Ambassador, His Excellency, Rami Wreikat Al Adwan. RCSI Bahrain and Jordan have a long-standing relationship with over 50 Jordanian students currently enrolled in the University.

RCSI honoured by BDF

RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom, and RCSI Professor and Chair of Surgery, and Head of School of Medicine in Dublin, Professor Arnold Hill received awards to acknowledge their respective roles in supporting Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services (BDF) Hospital, as well as the long-standing relationship between Bahrain and Ireland in

the training of Bahraini doctors.

Professor Ootoom attended the opening of the Bahrain Oncology Centre at King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH) in February.

Professor Ootoom also attended the official opening of the Crown Prince's Centre for Training and Medical Research, under the patronage of the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, His Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Ambassadors visit RCSI Bahrain campus

Malaysian Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Agus Salim Yusof, and Second Secretary of the Malaysian Embassy, Siti Fateha Khairudin, visited the campus in October to meet with senior officials.

The main purposes of the meeting were for the Ambassador to learn more about the University and to develop collaboration between the University and Malaysia, given RCSI's well established educational involvement in Malaysia with two campuses in the country; Perdana University and Penang Medical College.

Later in February, Japanese Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Hideki Ito, and Senior Advisor to SBI ALAPharma and President of SBI Pharma MENA – Bahrain office – Professor Riyadh Rehani, visited the University campus in February to meet with senior officials, including RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootoom.

The guests were shown a presentation on the University's Research Strategy in addition to RCSI Bahrain's links with SBI Pharma, a long-time collaborator with RCSI Bahrain. SBI Pharma is a branch of SBI ALAPharma, engaging in research and development of pharmaceuticals, health foods and cosmetics using 5-ALA and operating out of Bahrain. In March, the United States Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Justin Siberell, along with Public Affairs Officer, Karen Ehler and Educational Specialist, Samar Hasan, visited the University campus in Busaiteen to meet with senior officials, including RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootoom.

The delegation was shown a presentation on the University by Vice President for Academic Affairs and Head of School of Medicine, Professor Joe McMnamin, which also included information on relationships with Penn State University as part of the Global Health Initiative and the Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi (CCAD) on training of nurses, as well as local and international opportunities available to students through the RCSI Bahrain Research Summer School. Fadi Ghosn, Recognition, Careers and Alumni Manager, provided an overview of the University's collaborations with institutions in the United States for student electives, specifically with Johns Hopkins University, and the importance of these opportunities.

All delegations received a tour of the campus facilities during their visit.



Officials at the RCSI Bahrain booth during the annual Charter Day celebrations



RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom, receiving his award of recognition from His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa and Major General Professor Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa

National Charter Day celebrations

RCSI Bahrain celebrated the 18th anniversary of Bahrain's National Charter by attending the Ministry of Education's carnival for Higher Education Institutions in Isa Town.

Speaking on the occasion, RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness The Prime Minister, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister. Professor Ootom praised the vision of His Majesty King Hamad and said that the Charter reflects the King's desire to develop and enhance Bahrain for its own people, particularly with regard to education. In addition to RCSI Bahrain's participation at the carnival, the University's Mobile Diabetes Unit also took part in the Charter Day exhibition at the University of Bahrain.

Staff and students manned the RCSI Bahrain booth throughout the day and introduced visitors to the activities of the unit, which aims to educate primary school students about Type II diabetes.

IMDO conference participation

RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom, attended the second Internal Medicine, Diabetes and

Obesity (IMDO) conference in April.

Under the patronage of Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed Bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, the conference was organised by Al Noor Hospital and Education Plus and aimed at providing updated knowledge in the field of Diabetes and Obesity. Chairman of the conference and a member of the RCSI Bahrain Private Hospitals Board, Dr A Wahab MA Wahab, welcomed RCSI Bahrain's participation and thanked Professor Ootom for his attendance.

Investment in research centre

RCSI Bahrain has teamed up with King Hamad University Hospital (KHUH) to set up a research facility in the newly opened Bahrain Oncology Centre. The agreement with the hospital will include running joint medical research, with emphasis on oncology, and using dedicated and specifically allocated space. RCSI Bahrain will be responsible for equipping and furnishing the new facility, which will be occupied by researchers, faculty and students from the University. The agreement also involves joint research faculty appointments and supporting potential future Masters and PhD programmes.

Annual stakeholder day

In January, RCSI Bahrain hosted its annual Stakeholder Day.

Joining senior staff from RCSI Bahrain were representatives from the Royal Bahrain Hospital, Salmaniya Medical Complex, BQA, American Mission Hospital, Bahrain Defence Force Hospital, Royal Bahrain Hospital and Kuwait Cultural Office.

The discussion focused on areas including employability, skills, improvements and future plans. Following the discussions, a quality improvement plan was developed for implementation, including the development of the Internship Committee (See Employability, Global Leadership and Quality Enhancement section).

100 years of formal education in Bahrain

RCSI Bahrain was proud to be a sponsor and keynote speaker at the celebration of the '100 Years of Formal Education Forum' event in June, organised by the Ministry of Education, in association with UNICEF and supported by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Held under the patronage of Minister of Education and Chairman of the HEC, His Excellency Dr Majed

bin Ali Al-Noaimi, the event celebrated the many advancements of education in the Kingdom, which included the establishment of RCSI Bahrain in 2004. RCSI Bahrain Chief Operating Officer, Stephen Harrison-Mirfield, was invited as a guest speaker at the event where he discussed RCSI Bahrain's role in promoting Bahrain as a regional and international destination for students.

The School of Medicine at RCSI Bahrain attracts 55% of our students from overseas, compared to a national average of 14% and we were invited to discuss how RCSI Bahrain goes about attracting students from overseas and the importance of developing high calibre and work ready graduates. Other keynote speakers included Minister of Finance, Minister of Education, Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, CEO of the Economic Development Board (EDB), Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Woman etc.



US Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Justin Siberell with RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Otoom

RCSI Bahrain is committed to enhancing human health in Bahrain and beyond through endeavor, research and collaboration.





09

IMPACT ON
BAHRAIN

Impact on Bahrain

RCSI Bahrain has made significant contributions to the Bahrain economy as it has attracted staff and students from around the world, as well as investing over \$100m into its campus and facilities since it opened its doors.

As RCSI is dedicated solely to healthcare education, we are committed to enhancing human health in Bahrain and beyond through endeavor, research and collaboration.

Every year we contribute in excess of \$30m to the Bahraini economy through our continued attraction of international students and the ecosystem built around the University, which has resulted in the creation of over 750 jobs in Bahrain.

Through our mix of local and international faculty with experience from all over the world, we provide transnational education which attracts a multicultural student body blending characters and cultures from around the globe.

We have a diverse network of alumni made up of 46 nationalities, who are working across 26 countries, promoting an understanding of Bahrain and its culture.



Staff

- 162 full time staff
- 17 staff members are participating in 14 national committees
- 77% of our academic staff have been educated in Europe

39

Nationalities on campus



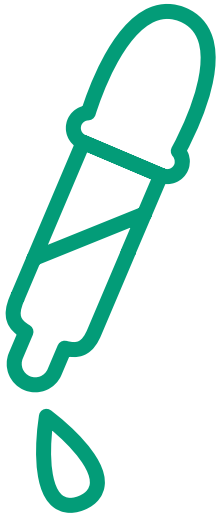
750 JOBS CREATED IN BAHRAIN*

*KPMG Report 2014-2015





2,038 RCSI BAHRAIN ALUMNI SINCE 2010



Research 311

Research publications have been produced by RCSI Bahrain

Students

- 63% of our graduates working in Bahrain
- 58% of our medicine students are from outside Bahrain
- Registered students
1,211 Undergraduate
28 Postgraduate

Investment

\$31.5m annual contribution to the Bahrain economy
\$100m invested in capital expenditure



Community Engagement

- 4,500** hours in local community engagement activities
- 475** students and staff participated in community engagement
- 4,700** children educated on diabetes prevention

RCSI Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Medical University of Bahrain
www.rcsibahrain.edu.bh