

# UCQ: Enriching health through excellence

*"I think there are only a few male nurses here in Qatar and they are from the older generation. So I said to myself, 'why don't I take the lead, study nursing and encourage the males of my generation here in Qatar to enter nursing?' I think it's a noble job and I really believe in that."*

**Nasser Al Marri,  
UCQ Nursing Student**

**M**ale and female nurses of all generations care deeply and passionately about their nation and about their fellow human beings. They are the 'heart' of healthcare and the connecting point to all other health professionals and disciplines. As highly educated professionals, the new generation of nurses thrives in complex high tech, high touch environments.

Nurses are called to a noble profession that enables them to follow their instincts and put others first. Patient 'care' is what nursing is all about.

At the same time, nursing is a profession requiring considerable academic achievement and a commitment to higher education. Completing a university degree in nursing requires dedication to acquiring new knowledge and determination to master challenging academic work.

And Qatar needs nurses — thousands of nurses — to support and link together the numerous other health professions. Nurses are needed at all levels and all aspects of nursing, and in particular Qatar needs nurses that are Qatari nationals, both as caregivers for Qatari people and as nursing leaders within the national healthcare system.

The University of Calgary — Qatar (UCQ) holds the privileged role of delivering university-level nursing education in the state of Qatar.

UCQ is the only international



The presence of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser at UCQ's 2012 convocation ceremony was an extreme honour, and a milestone for the nursing profession.

branch campus of the University of Calgary, a university with over 31,000 students and 1800 faculty. University of Calgary is the alma mater of the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, and ranks among the top seven research institutes in Canada. Its Faculty of Nursing is renowned for excellence in nursing education and is the reason University of Calgary was invited to establish campus in Qatar.

UCQ is committed to its vision of enriching the health and wellness of the people of Qatar through nursing education through three primary drivers — academic excellence, research initiative and community engagement.

UCQ's mission benefits greatly from the generous and on-going support of Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Sidra Research Institute, and Qatar National Research Foundation (QNRF).

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

*"With my knowledge, competence and education, I feel I can make a significant contribution to healthcare in Qatar. I hope to contribute to the 2030 Vision of The Emir and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. I want to be a nurse because our country has given us so much, so we need to give something back. The number of Qatari nurses is very few."*

**Aisha Al-Khayarin, UCQ Bachelor of Nursing Graduate 2012**

A Bachelor of Nursing is the core program offered at UCQ. This is the same internationally renowned and recognized program available in Canada at the University of Calgary.

At UCQ there are two streams of this highly-regarded Bachelor degree: one designed for students applying directly from high school, and the other for working

nurses who already hold a recognized diploma in nursing who wish to enhance their skill level through pursuit of a Bachelor of Nursing Degree. In partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, UCQ offers a Master of Nursing in Oncology as well as a Diploma program.

Internationally certified Canadian nursing professors and educators committed to their profession and to the success of their students make up the faculty at UCQ. All nursing programs blend theoretical, interprofessional and clinical practice. UCQ's high-tech Clinical Simulation Centre (CSC), a unique educational feature at UCQ that is often in demand for use by other healthcare educational facilities.

The CSC employs life-like, computer-based manikins in realistic settings in order to recreate diverse patient scenarios nursing students would not



*"University of Calgary — Qatar is a proud supporter of the 2030 vision of The Emir H H Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser and a committed partner in Qatar's ongoing development in healthcare and education."*

**Dr. Kim Critchley,  
University of Calgary — Qatar  
Dean and CEO.**

otherwise be able to access. In addition, formal hands-on experience is gained through collaborative training partnerships with Hamad Medical Corporation, and through student exchanges between Calgary and Qatar, thus providing educational opportunities for students to learn within the healthcare systems in Qatar and Canada.

## RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS) envisions building Qatar's knowledge-based society with the result that "Qatar will be an international centre for research and development, excellence and innovation."

A pillar of healthcare in Qatar, UCQ leads the way in global, collaborative and interdisciplinary research initiatives. Since 2010,

UCQ has received 3.7 USD in research funding.

Nursing students, graduates, and faculty are actively engaged in research training and activities that contribute not only to QNRS's vision, and to the international goals of the University of Calgary, but also to the health and wellness of the people of Qatar. Faculty and students regularly present results of their research at conferences in the Middle East and throughout the world.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

UCQ faculty and students are committed to identifying key health issues and providing solutions that will benefit the people of Qatar. Nowhere is this commitment manifest more emphatically than in UCQ's participation with the Academic Health System (AHS) initiated by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The central purpose of the AHS is to draw together key participants in healthcare education, delivery, and research.

UCQ also interacts with the broader healthcare community by bringing international healthcare experts to campus and inviting the Qatar healthcare educators and professionals to attend the talks and benefit from the shared knowledge. New and often collaborative research initiatives are frequent outcomes.

UCQ's commitment to community engagement extends as well to the Qatar public with initiatives such as the campus-wide student and faculty work on prenatal and breastfeeding education, bike helmet safety, fund raising events for cancer research, smoking cessation awareness partnerships, celebrations of International Nurses Week, Qatar National Day, and GCC Nurses Day, and promotion of a baby-friendly healthy campus.

# UCQ: Enriching health through excellence

*"I think there are only a few male nurses here in Qatar and they are from the older generation. So I said to myself, 'why don't I take the lead, study nursing and encourage the males of my generation here in Qatar to enter nursing?' I think it's a noble job and I really believe in that."*

**Nasser Al Marri,  
UCQ Nursing Student**

**M**ale and female nurses of all generations care deeply and passionately about their nation and about their fellow human beings. They are the 'heart' of healthcare and the connecting point to all other health professionals and disciplines. As highly educated professionals, the new generation of nurses thrives in complex high tech, high touch environments.

Nurses are called to a noble profession that enables them to follow their instincts and put others first. Patient 'care' is what nursing is all about.

At the same time, nursing is a profession requiring considerable academic achievement and a commitment to higher education. Completing a university degree in nursing requires dedication to acquiring new knowledge and determination to master challenging academic work.

And Qatar needs nurses — thousands of nurses — to support and link together the numerous other health professions. Nurses are needed at all levels and all aspects of nursing, and in particular Qatar needs nurses that are Qatari nationals, both as caregivers for Qatari people and as nursing leaders within the national healthcare system.

The University of Calgary — Qatar (UCQ) holds the privileged role of delivering university-level nursing education in the state of Qatar.

UCQ is the only international



The presence of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser at UCQ's 2012 convocation ceremony was an extreme honour, and a milestone for the nursing profession.

branch campus of the University of Calgary, a university with over 31,000 students and 1800 faculty. University of Calgary is the alma mater of the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, and ranks among the top seven research institutes in Canada. Its Faculty of Nursing is renowned for excellence in nursing education and is the reason University of Calgary was invited to establish campus in Qatar.

UCQ is committed to its vision of enriching the health and wellness of the people of Qatar through nursing education through three primary drivers — academic excellence, research initiative and community engagement.

UCQ's mission benefits greatly from the generous and on-going support of Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Sidra Research Institute, and Qatar National Research Foundation (QNRF).

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

*"With my knowledge, competence and education, I feel I can make a significant contribution to healthcare in Qatar. I hope to contribute to the 2030 Vision of The Emir and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. I want to be a nurse because our country has given us so much, so we need to give something back. The number of Qatari nurses is very few."*

**Aisha Al-Khayarin, UCQ Bachelor of Nursing Graduate 2012**

A Bachelor of Nursing is the core program offered at UCQ. This is the same internationally renowned and recognized program available in Canada at the University of Calgary.

At UCQ there are two streams of this highly-regarded Bachelor degree: one designed for students applying directly from high school, and the other for working

nurses who already hold a recognized diploma in nursing who wish to enhance their skill level through pursuit of a Bachelor of Nursing Degree. In partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, UCQ offers a Master of Nursing in Oncology as well as a Diploma program.

Internationally certified Canadian nursing professors and educators committed to their profession and to the success of their students make up the faculty at UCQ. All nursing programs blend theoretical, interprofessional and clinical practice. UCQ's high-tech Clinical Simulation Centre (CSC), a unique educational feature at UCQ that is often in demand for use by other healthcare educational facilities.

The CSC employs life-like, computer-based manikins in realistic settings in order to recreate diverse patient scenarios nursing students would not



*"University of Calgary — Qatar is a proud supporter of the 2030 vision of The Emir H H Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser and a committed partner in Qatar's ongoing development in healthcare and education."*

**Dr. Kim Critchley,  
University of Calgary — Qatar  
Dean and CEO.**

otherwise be able to access. In addition, formal hands-on experience is gained through collaborative training partnerships with Hamad Medical Corporation, and through student exchanges between Calgary and Qatar, thus providing educational opportunities for students to learn within the healthcare systems in Qatar and Canada.

## RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS) envisions building Qatar's knowledge-based society with the result that "Qatar will be an international centre for research and development, excellence and innovation."

A pillar of healthcare in Qatar, UCQ leads the way in global, collaborative and interdisciplinary research initiatives. Since 2010,

UCQ has received 3.7 USD in research funding.

Nursing students, graduates, and faculty are actively engaged in research training and activities that contribute not only to QNRS's vision, and to the international goals of the University of Calgary, but also to the health and wellness of the people of Qatar. Faculty and students regularly present results of their research at conferences in the Middle East and throughout the world.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

UCQ faculty and students are committed to identifying key health issues and providing solutions that will benefit the people of Qatar. Nowhere is this commitment manifest more emphatically than in UCQ's participation with the Academic Health System (AHS) initiated by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The central purpose of the AHS is to draw together key participants in healthcare education, delivery, and research.

UCQ also interacts with the broader healthcare community by bringing international healthcare experts to campus and inviting the Qatar healthcare educators and professionals to attend the talks and benefit from the shared knowledge. New and often collaborative research initiatives are frequent outcomes.

UCQ's commitment to community engagement extends as well to the Qatar public with initiatives such as the campus-wide student and faculty work on prenatal and breastfeeding education, bike helmet safety, fund raising events for cancer research, smoking cessation awareness partnerships, celebrations of International Nurses Week, Qatar National Day, and GCC Nurses Day, and promotion of a baby-friendly healthy campus.