

PRESS RELEASE

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UCY MEDICAL SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW FACULTY Seven Visiting Professors bring extensive medical expertise to the University of Cyprus



Seven new faculty members, all international experts with extensive experience in research and teaching — including the Interim (Acting) Dean, Professor Nicholas Pavlidis — have joined recently the University of Cyprus Medical School. The new semester has begun with the steadily growing academic team prepared to contribute to the realization of the School's vision, as it continues to build momentum for its academic, research and clinical programmes.

As the Acting Dean has stated: *"The School, established in 2013, may still be in its infancy, but it is growing fast, determined to fulfil its aspirations. Our vision is to achieve excellence in medical research and education and to introduce academic clinical practice to Cyprus. Our key objectives are a) to create an ideal educational environment so as to develop outstanding physicians, b) to attract high-caliber faculty and c) to enhance the quality of healthcare services through development of innovative basic and clinical research. Today, the Medical School faculty comprises of 20 members (Teaching and Research Staff, Visiting Professors, Special Teaching Staff, Adjunct Professors, Special Scientists) and a significant number of collaborators that contribute substantially to the School's work."*

During his recent visit, in the context of the evaluation of the School's medical study programmes, King's College London Professor John Rees, as member of the International Evaluation Committee emphasized: *"The recruitment of highly trained medical professionals is very significant for the Medical School's development. UCY is committed to be doing so, announcing, at an international level, vacancy notices for faculty positions in all specialties of medicine. The faculty members have been chosen on merit following strictly scientific criteria."*



Professor Nicholas Pavlidis: Interim (Acting) Dean of UCY Medical School

Meet the new visiting professors who recently joined the UCY Medical School:

- **Professor Nicholas Pavlidis:** Interim (Acting) Dean of UCY Medical School. Emeritus Professor of University of Ioannina, Member of the Scientific Committee of European School of Oncology and Coordinator of Educational Masterclasses (Central Europe, Euro-Asia, Balkans, Middle East and Latin America). Member (former Chairman) of the ESMO/ASCO Global Curriculum Task Force for the specialty of Medical Oncology in Europe. Editor In-Chief of *"Cancer Treatment Reviews* [Elsevier], (Impact Factor: 8.0).
- **Professor Achparaki Athanasia:** Anesthesiologist, Professor of Histology and Embryology in the Medical School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH). Director of the Laboratory of Histology and Embryology and elected member of the General Assembly of the Medical Department of the University. Member of the Editorial Board of *"Scientific Annals"* of the AUTH Medical Department. Member of the supervising Committee on electron microscopy and member of the Public Relations Committee of AUTH. Participation in research programs of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the European Society of Endodontology, participation in the European COST and BIOMED programs and the German Scientific Foundation. Main research area is on Neuroscience and more specifically on the study of the effects of substances on the ultrastructure of various organs.
- **Professor Miltos Lazarides:** Professor of Vascular Surgery. Head of the Department of Vascular Surgery, Democritus University of Thrace (2006-2016), FEBVS. Member of the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) of Democritus University (2008-2016). Board member of Institute of Vascular Diseases (IVD). Board member of Vascular Access Society (2003-2009).
- **Professor Constantinos G. Missouriis:** Associate Professor of Cardiology. Consultant Physician at Frimley Health NHS Trust, the Imperial School of Medicine London and the Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Trust London. Developed a state of the art CCU coronary angiography, coronary artery angioplasty, pacemaker, ICD and biventric Implantation (cardiac catheterisation laboratory & cardiac investigations unit in East Berkshire). Published important academic research while working in the following internationally renowned units for research into cardiac and cardiovascular diseases, the Blood Pressure Unit, and the department of Cardiological Sciences St George's Hospital Medical School, London, and the Imperial School of Medicine, London.

- **Professor George Panos:** worked as Associate Professor in Internal Medicine & Infectious Diseases at University of Patras Medical School. Senior Registrar at Department of Infection and Tropical Medicine of Birmingham Heartlands Hospital (U.K.). HIV & GUM Directorate, St. Stephen's Centre, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital (U.K.). Head of HIV Unit at 2nd Internal Medicine Clinic of 1st IKA 'Penteli' General Hospital (Greece). Editorial Panel, Infectious Diseases International Journal 'GERMS'. Member of National Committee for the study and implementation of measures to reduce Nosocomial Infections from Resistant Microorganisms in Greek Hospitals.
- **Assistant Professor Evangelos Rizos:** Faculty member/Consultant at Internal Medicine Department of University Hospital of Ioannina. Expertise on lipid and metabolic diseases, including diabetes. Graduated from the School of Medicine, University of Athens. Completed PhD on the role of PAF-acetylhydrolase in serum. Trained at the University Hospital of Ioannina specializing in Internal Medicine, and at the Hospital of Nikaia in Athens. Served as Honorary Clinical Research Fellow in the Molecular Pathology - Clinical Biochemistry Department of the Royal Free Hospital in London, and as a National Expert on Secondment for the Scientific Advice and Orphan Drugs Sector in the EMA in London. Principal or co-investigator in 12 randomized clinical trials. Published 44 papers in international peer-review journals.
- **Lecturer Andreas Chatzittofis:** Consultant in Psychiatry. Graduated from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Medical School (2008). Postgraduate training and residency in Psychiatry at the Karolinska University Hospital in (Sweden). Obtained PhD at the Department of Clinical Neuroscience at the Karolinska Institute. Involved in teaching Psychiatry to medical students at the Karolinska Institute. Currently affiliated to the Center for Psychiatry at the Department of Clinical Neuroscience at the Karolinska Institute. Research interests on biological background of psychiatric disorders with emphasis on mood disorders, suicide, sexual disorders, psychoneuroendocrinology. Published original research articles in world renowned medical journals.

Established in 2013, UCY Medical School strives to develop outstanding physicians, who will promote high quality healthcare services in Cyprus and the broader region.

It aims to provide rigorous medical programmes for students and to conduct high-quality research, while attracting world-class faculty members, as well as exceptional medicine students, currently mainly from Cyprus and Greece, in the future from the broader region and Europe.

Since having welcomed the first students of medicine, the school counts 117 students, out of who 28 have begun the three-year clinical training at the public hospitals in October 2016.

For further information regarding the UCY Medical School please refer to the link below:
<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/medical/en/>

End of Announcement