



Oceania University of Medicine

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"Every-ologist"

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Beginnings – 2002 (22 years)

- Medical Education history – Medical Schools - FSM (Diploma – up to 1983, MBBS 1984 – Masters 2001), Papua New Guinea, Otago, Auckland, Australia.
- Political Instability in Fiji – no students, no doctors for 8-10 years
- Samoa Government looked for options for medical education
- Act of Samoa Parliament 2002 – Minister of Health & Minister of OUM
- Government Partnership with USA philanthropist* to start OUM
- Test Pilot (Dr Satu) & Growing pains (2002 – 2010)
- Train students in Samoa, Am Samoa, USA, Canada, Australia, NZ, HK

* Mrs Taffy Gould – Investor, funder



Beginnings – 2002 (22 years)

- Medical Curriculum – USA & Australia (Sydney, Monash)
- Overseas students pay – local students on scholarship awards
- First Hybrid medical education program in the world, online & face-to-face, basic science teaching & clinical teachings
- "Computer Doctors" – abused by medical fraternity around the world
- Anatomy and cadaver dissection = standard; create computer models and programs
- First 2 years – Basic Science, On-line live classes (illuminate, moodle)
- Last 2 years – Hands on teaching - hospital & clinic based (OUM)
- 4-4.5 years, graduate entry – science degree (GPA 3/4), MD



Progress since 2002 (22 years)

- Accreditation by PAASCU with WFME since 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025
- Registered with Samoa Qualification Authority (SQA)
- International Academic Staff & Faculty >100 (MDs, PhDs, Fellows – FRACP, FRACS, etc), staff around the world, hiring more staff (Australia, NZ, USA, other places)
- Administrative Staff – local and international >20
- Main OUM Office – Apia, Samoa (VC; Dean - Dr George Tuitama)
- Australia Office – Brisbane (Australia Dean – Professor Paddy Dewan)
- USA Office (Dean – Dr Khrystal Boone MD)
- Expanding to Philippines, Singapore, India



OUM COMMUNITY





Medical Students & Medical Workforce

- Minimum number of doctors WHO 1: 1,000 (Samoa 140 doctors, need 60)
- Total number of current students in OUM = 333 (around the world)
- Graduated 236 medical doctors for the world, since 2002 – fulfil dream!
- **Australia - 222 students**, clinical students in hospitals and clinics in Australia, taught and supervised by Australian doctors using OUM curriculum, pass AMC (Australia Medical Council) exams to work in Australia, AMC exams pass rate >95%
- OUM Final Exam – Theory on line; OSCE – Brisbane (Australian Examiners) for students from Australia, NZ, Samoa, Am Samoa
- Graduated **131 Australian medical doctors for the Australian** medical workforce & working in Australia – some have reached the Fellow level.



**BRISBANE
CONFERENCE
& GRADUATION**





Medical Students & Medical Workforce

- Total number of current students in OUM = **333** (around the world)
- **New Zealand - 18 students**, clinical students in hospitals and clinics in New Zealand, taught and supervised by New Zealand doctors using OUM curriculum, pass NZ Rex Exams to work in New Zealand
- NZ Rex exams pass rate >95%
- Graduated **17 New Zealand medical doctors for the New Zealand** medical workforce & working in New Zealand
- Smaller program in New Zealand due to the limitation in Clinical Rotation site availability. OUM is looking for sites to train NZ doctors.
- 2023 – 1,500 students sat for 400 spots in Otago & Auckland



Medical Students & Medical Workforce

- Total number of current students in OUM = **333** (around the world)
- **USA - 65 students**, clinical students in hospitals and clinics in USA are taught and supervised by US doctors using OUM curriculum, pass USLME 1 (US Licensing Medical Exam) after first 2 years; USLME 2 after last 2 years of clinical rotations
- USLME 1 & USLME 2 pass rate >90%
- Graduated **45 American medical doctors for the US** medical workforce & working in US, with MD with Board Certification
- OUM success in USA – All graduates – 100% Intern Matching
- Limitations – other medical universities, student loans
- Canada – **7 students** (new)



**DALLAS
MEET-UP &
GRADUATION**





Medical Students & Medical Workforce

- Total number of current students in OUM = **333** (around the world)
- **Samoa -19 students**, clinical students in hospitals/clinics in Samoa are taught and supervised by Samoa doctors using OUM curriculum
- OUM Final Exam – Theory online; OSCE – Brisbane (Australian Examiners) for students from Australia, NZ, Samoa, Am Samoa
- Beauty for Samoa students – pre-clinical basic science - get taught by overseas teachers in USA, Australia, New Zealand and others.
- Samoa **students entering OUM from 2002 – 2018 = 52** Samoa students
- Graduated **41 (79%) medical doctors for the Samoa** medical workforce, and all are working in Samoa (compare to NZ, Australia scholarship)
- Post-grad - O&G, Anaesthesia, Mental Health/Psychiatry, Radiology, etc



GCMA CONFERENCE

- Emergency Services.
- Acute Primary Care Unit.
- Ambulances Services
- Medical Records.
- Paediatric Clinic.





Medical Students & Medical Workforce

- Total number of current students in OUM = 333 (around the world)
- American Samoa – 2 students
- Graduated 2 medical doctors for the American Samoa medical workforce
- Final exam – Online theory exam, and OSCE in Australia
- If desire to work USA – do the USLME 1 & USLME 2.
- Hong Kong – 1 student
- Pre-Clinical (2 years) – online
- Clinical Training (2 years) – Samoa, Hong Kong



More Information - cost

- Cost USA - USD\$45,000 per year x 4 years
- Cost Australia - AUS\$45,000 x 4 years
- Cost New Zealand – NZD\$45,000 x 4 years
- Cost Samoa & American Samoa – tuition scholarship award (not including living allowance), for Samoa & Am Samoa citizens, bonded for 5 years
- Cost Samoa ST\$45,000 x 4 years (overseas student in Samoa)
- Benefits Samoa – scholarship ST\$12.2 million; students ST\$5 million
- Other activities – Research, International Conference (GCMA)
- Partners – Yale, Brown, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Washington State; Auckland, Otago; Queensland, Australia CSIRO; Tahiti ILM; SROS



What can OUM do for you?

- Train your medical workforce – train people in your countries
- First 2 years – Online live education, Basic Science, part-time, from home, students do not have to leave home.
- Last 2 years – fulltime, Clinical education, hands on teaching, hospital and clinic based. Students may need to leave home.
- Clinical sites & staff – Samoa, Am Samoa, Fiji, twin, electives
- International and local Medical Exams – online theory, OSCE in Aust
- Post-graduate – not yet.
- How to enrol & information – <https://oum.edu.ws>
- Contact Prof Satu - vc@oum.edu.ws



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Fa'afetai!
Thank You!

