



NYCPM
New York College of Podiatric Medicine

NEW YORK COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE WELCOMES CLASS OF 2015 WITH ANNUAL WHITE COAT CEREMONY

Ramanathan Raju, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Corporate Chief Operating Officer of New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, Delivers Keynote Address as First-Year Students Take Initial Step on Road to Becoming Doctors of Podiatric Medicine

Rock G. Positano, DPM, MSc, MPH, NYCPM Deputy Board Chairman, And Director of the Non-Surgical Foot & Ankle Service at Hospital for Special Surgery, Also Addresses Freshman Class during Ceremony

Four NYCPM Volunteers Honored for Their Leadership Roles In Providing Podiatric Care for Ground Zero Workers After 9/11



The NYCPM Class of 2015 at the White Coat Ceremony

(New York, NY) – On Tuesday, September 13, the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) welcomed the 110 students in the Class of 2015 at the College's annual White Coat Ceremony, in which the future Doctors of Podiatric Medicine symbolically don their white coats and together recite the Hippocratic Oath.

After brief opening remarks welcoming the Class of 2015, President Louis L. Levine called four members of the NYCPM family, Nancy Clark, DPM, David Gitlin, DPM, Kathleen Reilly-Fallon, DPM, and William H. Graham, VP of Information Technology and Operations, up to the stage. He praised them for having been instrumental in setting up and providing – with help from many other NYCPM volunteers as the weeks went by – podiatric care for the workers at Ground Zero after the 9/11 attacks. Mr. Levine then presented each with a copy of the recently-published Centennial History of NYCPM, and a certificate of appreciation from the College.

Stanley S. Mandel, NYCPM Board Chairman, and Rock G. Positano, DPM, MSc, MPH, Deputy Board Chairman, next offered greetings to the assembled College community and guests. They were followed by the

President-Elect of the New York State Podiatric Medical Association, Gary F. Stones, DPM, who offered greetings on behalf of the Association.

Ramanathan Raju, MD, Executive V.P. and Corporate Chief Operating Officer of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, delivered the keynote address. In his speech, Dr. Raju described the power of the white coat, and how patients looked to those wearing it for healing. He urged the new students to stay true to this mission of healing, advised them to never stop learning, and said they would be standing on the shoulders of a revolution in health care as they progressed in their careers.

Ramanathan Raju, MD, MBA, is currently Executive Vice President and Corporate Chief Operating Officer of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. On October 3rd, Dr. Raju will become CEO of the Cook County Health and Hospitals System in Chicago. Prior to joining New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation, Dr. Raju served as chief medical officer of Coney Island Hospital, and assumed the additional responsibilities of chief operating officer in 2005. He also served for many years at Lutheran Medical Center in several leadership roles, including Director of Medical Education, Director of General Surgery and Director of Trauma for Lutheran's Level I trauma center.

Trained in India, England and the United States, Dr. Raju has had a long and distinguished career as a board-certified surgeon, and has held faculty positions at a variety of institutions. He has MS and MD degrees from Madras Medical College, and earned an MBA from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Raju married a fellow resident he met at Madras, urologist Samantha Raju. They have two teenagers, both interested in science: daughter Aarthi and son Kartik. Following Dr. Raju's keynote speech, beaming family members watched as each member of the NYCPM Class of 2015 in turn strode across the stage and was helped into his or her white coat by members of the NYCPM Admissions Committee. When all the students had returned to their seats, Michael J. Trepal, DPM, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, spoke briefly. He then asked the students of the Class of 2015 to rise and recite the Hippocratic Oath with him.

Some Facts about the NYCPM Class of 2015

Forty-eight percent of the Class of 2015 is female, and fifty-two percent is male. The members of the Class of 2015 come from 23 states, as well as from India. The students' average age is 24.

About the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and Foot Center of New York

The New York College of Podiatric Medicine, established in 1911, is the first and largest of the nine U.S. schools of podiatric medicine. Its clinical affiliate – Foot Center of New York – is the world's largest foot health center, recording nearly 20,000 patient visits a year. NYCPM has graduated more than 25% of all practicing podiatrists in the nation, and is at the forefront of podiatric care in terms of education, public awareness, government legislation and professional advancement. Visit the College's website at www.nycpm.edu and the website of Foot Center of New York at <http://footcenterofny.org/> for more information.

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