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NEWS RELEASE

Ross University School of Medicine Receives Regulatory Approvals to Relocate its Campus Temporarily on a Ship Off St. Kitts

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MIRAMAR, Fla.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Two weeks after Ross University School of Medicine (RUSM) began its 2017 fall semester in Dominica, Hurricane Maria hit. RUSM activated a multifaceted academic continuity plan that included the successful evacuation of more than 1,300 members of it campus community in one week and the resumption of its medical sciences course of instruction on a ship in the following four weeks. The Dominica Medical Board and the US Department of Education recently approved the University resuming the Fall 2017 semester on the vessel.

"There were several factors considered when determining the best option for academic continuity," says William F. Owen, Jr., MD, FACP, RUSM's Dean and Chancellor. "The most important factor was ensuring that we maintain the quality and rigor of our programs of medical instruction at RUSM." According to the dean, other considerations included keeping the students' testing milestones on track, minimizing disruption to the students' timeline for medical school, keeping the RUSM community in a single location, and balancing schoolwork and recreation for its students.

The medical sciences course of instruction began Monday, Oct. 23 on a uniquely fitted cruise liner docked off the coast of St. Kitts in the West Indies. The temporary arrangement enabled RUSM students to resume their course of instruction as quickly as possible. The ship contains needed instruction, studying, dining, and recreation spaces including a recently constructed 18,000 sq. ft. academic suite. Lodging is available aboard the ship, as well.

In addition to RUSM satisfying its own criteria for the resumption of its medical course of instruction, the university had to ensure it continued to meet the rigorous standards set by the Dominica Medical Board as well as the US Department of Education to remain eligible to participate in the US Federal Direct Student Loan Program. The United States Department of Education, through its National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA), has determined that the accreditation standards of the Dominica Medical Board are comparable with those used to evaluate programs leading to the MD degree in the United States accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Both accrediting bodies have approved RUSM's temporary arrangement to provide medical instruction on a modified cruise ship.

“We are pleased to have retained the important regulatory approvals,” says Dean Owen. “Our students can rest assured knowing we are offering the same high quality educational standards that attracted them to RUSM.”

About Ross University School of Medicine

Ross University School of Medicine is a member of Adtalem Global Education (NYSE: ATGE), a global education provider headquartered in the United States. The organization's purpose is to empower students to achieve their goals, find success and make inspiring contributions to our global community. Founded in 1978, RUSM is committed to educating a diverse group of skilled physicians to serve as leaders in the U.S. healthcare system. With more than 13,000 alumni, RUSM is an important contributor to healthcare in North America. Students complete their foundational studies in Dominica, West Indies, before completing their clinical training in one of RUSM’s affiliated teaching hospitals throughout the United States. RUSM is accredited by the Dominica Medical Board and the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and Other Health Professions (CAAM-HP). For more information, please visit www.medical.rossu.edu.

About Adtalem Global Education

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