

**NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF  
PODIATRIC  
MEDICINE**

Office of the Board of Trustees

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August 22, 2007

It is my honor and privilege to welcome you on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine to today's International Academic Convocation and Testimonial Lunch. This is the first time we are holding an event to acknowledge international friends of the College who have made major professional and personal contributions to the international growth and acceptance of the profession of podiatric medicine. We are proud to honor them. I would like to cite several of their accomplishments.

Dr. François Allart was born in Montreal, Quebec. He received his Doctorate in Podiatric Medicine from NYCPM in 1993, and currently has a thriving podiatric practice in Quebec, where he also serves as a clinician at the foot clinics of Quebec's Trois-Rivières University (UQTR) and teaches podopediatrics and clinical pharmacology. Dr. Allart has helped further the cause of podiatry in Quebec in numerous ways. He has served as President, Vice-President, and in other leadership positions with the Quebec Order of Podiatric Medicine. He was instrumental in negotiating and then founding the program in podiatric medicine at UQTR, which is the first D.P.M. program in Canada, and the first French-speaking D.P.M. program in the world. He also negotiated all aspects of the structure of that program that relate to its resource-sharing with NYCPM, and he continues to be a liaison between NYCPM and UQTR.

Dr. Ricardo Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo was born in Madrid, Spain. He completed his studies for a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1985, and completed his Bachelor of Science in Podology in 1988. He has been an Assistant Professor at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid since 1988, and received the rank of Professor there in 1990. Every year beginning in 1988, Dr. Becerro de Bengoa pursued clinical programs of two or three months' duration at NYCPM, until in 1992 he began his studies toward the D.P.M. degree at NYCPM. He completed his degree in 1995, returning to Spain to practice and to teach at the Universidad Complutense. Notably, he is the only podologist in Spain and in Europe with the earned D.P.M. degree. In 1991, an agreement was signed between NYCPM President Louis Levine and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid for the training of Spanish podologists in pathology and foot surgery at NYCPM. Currently, the University, with the assistance of Dr. Becerro de Bengoa, continues to collaborate with NYCPM in offering at NYCPM courses and training in podiatric medicine and surgery to professionals from Spain and Europe in general.

Dr. Marta Losa Iglesias was born in the principality of Asturias, Spain. She began her academic journey at the University of Oviedo, where she earned her nursing degree in 1989. Three years later, she completed her podology degree at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, where she likewise completed her studies in Anthropology in the year 2000, receiving the degree of Ph.D. Dr. Losa Iglesias visited NYCPM for the first time in 1992, completing a one-month clinical training program under the tutelage of Prof. Anthony Hernandez. Dr. Losa Iglesias operates her own clinic for comprehensive foot care in Madrid, and has held positions of academic responsibility such as directing the Podology Department and also the Podology Area at the European University of Madrid from 2000 to 2006. She is currently a professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the Rey Juan Carlos Public University in Madrid.

Today's event is one at which all of us can tangibly demonstrate our pride and confidence in this institution and in the importance of podiatric medicine in the larger health care universe. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I offer you thanks. Please enjoy yourself today, knowing that your support for the College is vivid testimony to your belief in the shared goals and aspirations of our NYCPM community.

Sincerely,



Maj. Gen. William F. Ward, A.U.S. (Ret.)  
Chairman, NYCPM Board of Trustees

Founded 1911  
Affiliated with  
Foot Clinics of New York &  
New York - Presbyterian Health Care Network  
Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons



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August 22, 2007

I am delighted to welcome you to our first International Academic Convocation and Testimonial Lunch. Today we honor three distinguished individuals whose contributions to the community of podiatric medicine richly deserve to be acknowledged. The New York College of Podiatric Medicine is privileged to have worked with these three doctors for many years, and we are proud to continue to work with them in their enthusiastic and unwavering efforts on behalf of podiatric medical education, both in this country and abroad.

Since its founding over ninety-six years ago, NYCPM has been dedicated to providing a progressive program of podiatric medical education and clinical training to prepare aspiring doctors of podiatric medicine to become valued members of the nation's health care team. Through the efforts of the three individuals we are honoring here today, the College has been able to extend that mission internationally, to Spain and to Canada. Doctors Allart, Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo, and Losa Iglesias have worked tirelessly to bring the benefits of podiatry to their countries, through the training of individuals who study for a time with us, and then return home to complete their degrees in programs founded by – and, I might say, sustained by – these three individuals.

Our own student body is comprised of men and women devoted to education and health care, and exemplifies the best of the leading colleges and universities in America and abroad. Our graduates account for over 25 percent of the nation's practicing podiatrists. Doctors Allart, Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo, and Losa Iglesias have brought us outstanding students from their programs who have come to supplement what they are learning in their home countries with what they can learn from us. They have studied in our anatomy labs, as well as in our clinical and teaching affiliate, Foot Clinics of New York, under the supervision of our clinicians.

Congratulations and my deep appreciation to each honoree. I also thank all of you gathered here today. Your presence acknowledges the respect and friendship we feel for our three honorees and for everything they have done over the years to foster our ongoing partnership with them and with their own institutions.

Sincerely,



Louis L. Levine

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