

PRESS RELEASE

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UCY CELEBRATED FALL 2017 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

President of the Republic: UCY has a firmly established position among the high-standing universities of Europe

The University of Cyprus (UCY) celebrated the 2016-2017 Fall Semester Graduation Ceremony on Friday, February 10th 2017, taking place at UCY Sports Center. During the Ceremony 251 postgraduate degrees were conferred (222 Master and 29 Doctoral degrees), with the new graduates having joined proudly the 16.193 alumni, who have graduated from UCY, since the University opened its doors in 1989.

In attendance of the joyous celebrations were: President of the Republic, H.E. Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, Minister of Education and Culture, Prof. Costas Kadis, Chairman of UCY Council, Mr. Manthos Mavrommatis, UCY Rector, Prof. Constantinos Christofides, Dean of UCY Graduate School, Prof. Charis Theocharis, senior government officials, university senior management representatives, graduates with their families and friends, and members of the press. The event hosted speeches by officials and outstanding graduates, aiming to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of both the graduates and the academic institution.

Extending his best wishes to all graduates in the new phase of their lives, H.E. Mr. Anastasiades also congratulated the University community for the significant achievements in the institution's 26-year life span. As he said among others, *'today, UCY has a firmly established position among the high-standing universities of Europe'*.

Congratulating all graduates on this major milestone, the Rector in his speech titled *"The 'other' Cyprus of Diaspora"* said: *"Each and every year at commencement, I'm reminded of the impact UCY has on community members and the region it serves. I am moved and impressed by the increasing number of graduates' accomplishments every year. Progressive minds need a campus to inspire them to excel and innovate. Based on our strategic roadmap, 80% of the UCY Campus will be completed by 2020. Cypriot and Greek Diasporas constitute a significant part of Cyprus wealth. They are our natural allies, bridges to knowledge, expertise, resources and markets for our country. So, we should work together and draw on the value of our 'diaspora capital', so as to create the new Cyprus of excellence in research, education, innovation and entrepreneurship."*

"We appreciate all the opportunities UCY has given us and we are certainly proud of being valuable members of the UCY family" said one of the outstanding graduates after receiving an award.

End of Announcement