

Chief of world clinical schooling at UIC receives Ellis Island Medal of Honor

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Ara Tekian, professor and affiliate dean of world schooling on the College of Illinois at Chicago Faculty of Medication, will obtain the Ellis Island Medal of Honor at a rite in New York.

The award is given to those that “have made it their project to proportion with the ones much less lucky their wisdom, braveness and compassion, whilst keeping up the traditions in their ethnic heritage as they uphold the beliefs and spirit of The us,” in line with the Nationwide Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, the gang that provides the award. Previous recipients come with six U.S. presidents, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Frank Sinatra, Elie Wiesel and Rosa Parks. The 2017 awardees come with astronaut Buzz Aldrin, heart specialist Annapoorna Kini and CNN anchor Fareed Zakaria. The awards will probably be offered Would possibly 13 at a dinner reception on Ellis Island.

Tekian was once born in Beirut, Lebanon. He gained his PhD in neuroscience from the American College in Beirut 1981 and earned a grasp’s in well being professions schooling at UIC in 1983.

“This was once an overly distinctive stage on the time, and UIC was once some of the most effective universities on the earth to provide it,” Tekian stated.

He returned to the Center East that yr and turned into the founding director of the clinical schooling division at King Saud College Faculty of Medication in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He later consulted for the International Well being Group and the

Ministries of Well being and Training to make certain that clinical faculties within the Center East had been adequately making ready their scholars to offer care of their respective international locations.

In 1990, with the civil battle nonetheless ongoing in his local Lebanon, Tekian left the Center East and moved to the U.S.

Tekian joined UIC in 1992 as a visiting assistant professor of clinical schooling and was once instrumental in development UIC's world techniques. Since then he has consulted in additional than 45 international locations and helped identify greater than a dozen clinical schooling departments or facilities.

"After I moved to the U.S., I knew that I sought after to do the whole lot I may to lend a hand the Lebanese and Armenian communities that I joined right here in The us," he stated. "In case you have a shared historical past with folks, and when you find yourself an immigrant your self, you might have an overly sturdy want to lend a hand your folks."

For Tekian, that want took the type of helping Armenian and Lebanese scholars in the hunt for to additional their clinical schooling on this nation. To them and their households, he turned into referred to as "the Touch Particular person." His intensive contacts at universities within the U.S., the Center East and Europe helped him direct scholars to tutorial alternatives in graduate and post-graduate paintings. He established the UIC Faculty of Medication's world clinical schooling program in 2009.

"Dr. Tekian put UIC at the map in relation to clinical schooling," stated Dr. Robert Barish, vice chancellor for well being affairs at UIC. "He is among the major explanation why we're referred to as innovators in clinical schooling all over the world."

Tekian has been broadly concerned within the Armenian and Lebanese communities in Chicago and right through the U.S. and holds many management roles. He has been lively within the Armenian Basic Benevolent Union Chicago Bankruptcy for the previous 20 years and served as chair of its Saturday College from 1994 to 2005. He has additionally served as president of the regional bankruptcy of the alumni affiliation of the American College of Beirut from 1997 to 2001, and president of its North American bankruptcy from 2002 to 2004. Tekian served as president of the department of schooling within the professions of the American Tutorial Analysis Affiliation from 2009 to 2012.

He's recently some of the 100 Pillars of the American College of Armenia, having donated generously to fund pupil scholarships. He raised loads of hundreds of greenbacks to reinforce Armenian and Lebanese communities getting better from failures, together with the 1988 earthquake in Armenia.

Different awards come with the 2012 Affiliation for the Find out about of Scientific Training Gold Medal Award, some of the prestigious awards in clinical schooling. In 2014, he gained an entire life success award from the Armenian American Scientific Society, and in 2015 he was once named College of the Yr via the UIC division of clinical schooling.

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