Rotary District 9685 Vocational Excellence Awards 2019

Associate Professor Munjed Al Muderis

Orthopaedic Surgeon, Hip, Knee, Trauma and Osseointegration

How does one introduce a man with the courage to defy Saddam Hussein, fleeing for his life rather than obey orders to torture? A man who arrived in Australia by boat as a refugee, who then rose to the heights of his profession as an Orthopaedic Surgeon recognised by his peers as an outstanding example of his Vocation? This is the story of success against all odds of our next awardee, Associate Professor Munjed Al Muderis.

Born in Baghdad, Munjed had to flee Iraq as a 27 year old doctor having refused the orders of Saddam Hussein to mutilate army deserters’ ears.

Munjed endured a life-threatening journey to Australia. After spending 10 months in Curtin Detention Centre, he embarked on a mission to become an Orthopaedic Surgeon. He is now a world leader in the revolutionary technology of Osseointegration. As a leading surgeon in this complex reconstructive and robotic surgery, Munjed has helped more than 550 amputees world-wide by improving mobility, reducing pain and overall enhancing their quality of life.

Munjed’s day-to-day work as an Orthopaedic Surgeon involves hip and knee arthroplasty and major reconstructive surgery. He teaches at Notre Dame and Macquarie Universities, trains local and international surgeons, registrars and medical students.

Apart from his academic and clinical roles, Munjed is heavily involved in humanitarian work volunteering his time as a surgeon and as a human rights advocate.

A/Prof Al Muderis is an Australian trained Orthopaedic Surgeon and a Squadron Leader in the Australian Air Force Reserve. Munjed is an Ambassador and Patron for several organisations, a human rights activist and a refugee.

Rotary District 9685 is honoured to recognise Munjed Al Muderis with the 2019 District Vocational Excellence Award.