

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**RE: Rector of the University of Porto**

Dear Selection Committee,

I am interested in applying for the position of ‘*Rector*’ with the University of Porto. As a Professor, Chair, Director, and an administrator with over two decades of international experience I believe I possess the skills and qualities you seek for this dynamic leadership role. There is no question that the University of Porto is a world class university and that the Rector role is a dynamic one. Under my leadership over the next two terms (8 years) the university will expand its student enrolment to 50,000 students and establish three new campuses in Brazil, Mozambique and Angola. Moreover, it will become a top 100 world university and a leader within the European Union. In order to make this possible significant capital will have to be raised from alumni and philanthropy, and the university will need to capitalise on its existing relationships in Africa and Brazil.

Over the past two decades I have worked and engaged with governments, academic and research institutions and the private sector in a variety of leadership roles. As a Professor, Chair, Director and Manager I have engaged with National Ministers of Health, State Governors, CDC/WHO Directorates, Provincial Institutes and local governments, to advise on academic, scientific, research and medical priorities. My working relationships are well known for being highly collegial, productive, professional and harmonious. In academia I sit on a number of senior committees that address the key performance indicators of our students and faculty with regards to policy, teaching, research and staff performance. These collective experiences position me well to lead the University of Porto.

In the past I have taught Community Medicine, Evidence-based Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology to third year medical students, Infectious Diseases and Global Health to graduate students and Public Health Medicine to newly qualified doctors preparing for their Canadian Medical Licensing Exams (LMCC). I am presently a committee member of the National Health & Medical Research Council of Australia and the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (AFPHEM) Accreditation Subcommittee and in the past a committee member for the Faculties of Medicine of Canada. While in Canada I also worked with the Public Health Agency of Canada to develop a new standardized core curriculum for the teaching of Evidence-Based Medicine and Community Medicine for medical students from year one to four in the medical course. This core curriculum is now being deployed by all the medical schools in Canada.

In sum, over the last two decades, I have worked in politically, economically and culturally diverse settings in a variety of roles, from senior leadership to academic physician, health manager, clinical trial coordinator and the provision of primary-care in rural, remote and resource poor areas. This breadth of experience has enriched me with innovative and exceptional leadership skills, exemplary organization and management abilities, creativity to handle complex situations and superior interpersonal and public speaking skills. I believe that I embody the characteristics to continue the great momentum at the University of Porto.

I thank you for your kind consideration.

***Professor Allen G. P. Ross, MD, PhD, DSc, FRCP Edin, FRCPath, FACTM, FRSPH***  
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