

## **Candidate's day**

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Candidate's day is an opportunity to promote the image of our faculty to all those who will ensure our future, and to disclose what we do and who we are to all those visiting us. This year I was able to contribute to the success of this event, which I consider to be of vital importance to the faculty. We have an obligation to attract the best students, and to ensure that the most dynamic ones, who are willing to be different and to do things differently, and who believe in their own potential, come to the conclusion that we have the conditions to welcome their ideas and their work.

My task was to talk about research within the integrated master degree in medicine. I have spent some time conducting basic research at the Institute of Molecular Medicine, and I have always believed, now supported by practice, that the Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon is unique, in the country, in promoting and supporting research carried out by its students. As a strong supporter of the idea that the practice of research offers enormous benefits in terms of clinical reasoning, innovation and implementation of projects, participating in candidate's day was a duty, due to my determination to show what we can do and what we can do even better.

On this day, I realized that the faculty needs to maintain the enthusiasm of these prospective students. This way, it will become a better place through the plurality of its students, who, in turn, will become better students and better doctors. With these thoughts in mind, I advised them to be engaged in associations, volunteer work, research, and innovative projects. I told them that whoever enters the faculty should take advantage of our infrastructure, but especially of our culture and of the people who form part of our faculty; this was my message to them, and my contribution.