

Departmental Acknowledgement

“There is nothing so stable as change.”
Bob Dylan

Hi Everyone,

I was going to give this week's Departmental Acknowledgement on a "just because" basis for superb ongoing work when quite fortuitously I attended an event where-in this same individual received an Award providing me with a 'hook'. This week's Departmental Acknowledgment goes to **Larry Lands**, who received the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation Research Excellence Award at this week's MUHC-RI Research Awards dinner.

An MDCM graduate of McGill, Larry completed his residency in pediatrics and his fellowship in respiratory medicine before undertaking a PhD at McMaster in exercise physiology. Larry returned to the MCH and McGill and undertook an academic career with a research focus. What has followed is a stellar record of academic achievement as manifested by the full cycle of FRQ-S external salary support awards then available and peer-review operational grant funding. Larry has published steadily and with considerable presence achieving an international distinction of excellence and expertise in the topics of immunomodulation in cystic fibrosis, oxidative stress in lung disease and the effect of chronic respiratory disease on muscle function. In recognition of these accomplishments, Larry received the academic rank of Professor (with Tenure) a decade ago. Not surprisingly, he has taught extensively at the graduate studies (both in the classroom and in supervising the research efforts of students) and UGME levels.

Larry's research efforts have been complimented by his extensive clinical involvement as a respiratory consultant at the MCH. He has taken a particular clinical interest going back over two decades in the management of children with cystic fibrosis which has carried over into the adult world, including their management post-lung transplant.

Administratively, Larry has steadily and effectively led the Division of Respiratory Medicine since the turn of this century. He has brought in and mentored new staff successfully and molded a Division that, like himself, fires on all academic cylinders. He has also managed the Pediatric Exercise Laboratory and the Pediatric Pulmonary Function Laboratory. Despite considerable clinical, research and administrative commitments, I have never known Larry to say no to helping out the Department. He has served on the Departmental Promotions Committee, the Management Committee of the RI and the Management Committee of the Medical Staff Services Association (MSSA-aka our "Practice Plan") to list but a few such efforts.

I have known Larry for now three decades beginning as a junior resident when he was a Senior Fellow. I have always been impressed by his intelligence and commitment to our academic mission and his forceful advocacy on behalf of his people and especially his patients and their families. He is insightful with a sardonic wit that cuts necessarily to the bone. He always sees through the unfortunate B.S. that can obscure reality. In academia, that is a gift worth noting.

Have a great weekend everyone

Michael

Michael Shevell, MDCM, FRCPC, FCAHS
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics
Professor (with Tenure)

Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology/Neurosurgery
McGill University

Guyda Chair in Pediatrics

Pediatrician-in-Chief
Montreal Children's Hospital/
McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)

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