

March 31, 2017

"What a world this will be when human possibilities are freed, when we discover each other, when the stranger is no longer the potential criminal and the certain inferior"

**W.E.B. Du Bois**

Hi Everyone,

Location, location, location is the mantra of the real estate industry. It also affects what we see. From my office location at the Glen, my location ensures that I regularly see how hard my across-the-hallway neighbour works. That is why this week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Louise Auger**.

Louise is a longstanding member of the Division of General Pediatrics and an Associate Professor in the Department. She received her PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Texas Health Sciences Centre in Houston focusing on the relationship of immunoglobulin genes to inverted DNA sequences. She then went on to do her medical training at Baylor followed by pediatric training and a critical care fellowship at Texas Children's Hospital. She then ended up in Kuwait as a Consultant Pediatrician, a position she held when Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi military invaded prompting the first Gulf War. Yet another Middle Eastern crisis was our gain as Louise then returned to her roots in Quebec and joined our hospital and Department where she has remained since.

At the MCH since her arrival, Louise has been one of our most hard-working and respected ward attending physicians. She is known for her calm demeanor, encyclopedic knowledge of pediatric hospital-based medicine, compassion and dedication to the admitted children and their families. A generation of residents and medical students have benefitted from her exemplary role-modeling of physicianship and professionalism. In addition to her ward attending role, Louise has been a steady presence in both the Pediatric Consultation Clinic and as a preceptor/mentor in the Resident Continuity Clinic. She founded (1996) our innovative Multicultural Clinic which has provided needed access to medical care in a culturally sensitive way to children and families frequently uprooted by trauma from their native lands. She has become a forceful advocate on their behalf in many forums at many levels.

What I regularly observe in Louise is how late she stays doing the necessary paperwork, following up on a myriad of clinical details and liaisons with families often going the extra mile to secure needed services. Her excellence and achievements have been recognized by our community on multiple occasions. Awards received include the Kaplan Award for Clinical Teaching Excellence (twice) and the hospital's Interculturalism Prize and the Immigration and Citizenship Award. She has also voluntarily given much time to be a mentor and guide to many of our Gulf trainees, welcoming them not only to Canada but to her home.

We could all learn from Louise's modelling of the academic pediatrician.

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)

Follow Me on Twitter: @McGillPeds