

April 5, 2019

Hi Everyone.

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Deborah Friedman**, a physiotherapist and joint member of our Department whose academic home in our Department is the Division of Emergency Medicine for her promotion to Associate Professor.

Here is what I wrote about Debbie in my nominating letter:

Deborah is professionally a physiotherapist and was appointed an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics in 2011 and was later appointed in 2016 at the same academic level in the Department of Pediatric Surgery. She is situated in the Department of Pediatrics Division of Emergency Medicine. It should be noted that Deborah graduated from the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy at McGill University in 1983 and has spent her entire professional career at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Deborah's teaching is primarily in the context of her extensive knowledge mobilization and translation efforts with respect to pediatric trauma. Specifically, she has had extensive, and indeed exhaustive, efforts in media and in the community in promoting the awareness of pediatric trauma and efforts that can be undertaken to prevent it. A particular subset of her extensive outreach effort has been related to pediatric concussion and specifically its recognition and proper management to minimize the occurrence and impact of post-concussion syndrome.

Deborah has been a tremendous provincial innovator in the area of health service delivery for pediatric trauma. She had the lead role in developing the provincial inter-professional emergency trauma code response teams as a model for service. She was also responsible for the Children's Hospital Neurotrauma Center of Expertise, which is also an inter-professional program. Her recognized tertiary level and community expertise in trauma has led to her extensive involvement as an expert consultant in many provincial task force in efforts to modify the health service delivery system in order to improve outcomes after pediatric trauma. Her innovation in this area has been recognized through various awards including the Prix Annuel from the Corporation Professionnel de Physiothérapeute de Quebec and the Canadian Brain Injury Coalition Award. Of particular note is her being awarded the inaugural School of Physical and Occupational Therapy Alumni Award of Merit in 2013. This award is specifically presented to an alumni who has enhanced the reputation of McGill University and the profession of physical or occupational therapy through contributions of exceptional leadership and community service.

Deborah is the inaugural Assistant Dean Student Affairs for the Schools of the Faculty of Medicine (School of Physical and Occupational therapy, Ingram School of Nursing and the School for Communication Sciences Disorders as well as co-Director of the WELL Office in the Faculty of Medicine). In this position, she has not only fostered and enhanced inter-professional education within the Faculty of Medicine, she has also promoted healthy learning and building resilience in learners in the various schools of the Faculty of Medicine through curricular development. This is a key effort in the Faculty's current educational strategic plan. Further contributions to scholarly communities include her leadership in the Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting Prevention Program (CHIRPP) of Health Canada where she serves as Director the McGill component.

Please join me in congratulating Debbie on her achievement.

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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