



TOPIC: School of P&OT's Inaugural Nametag Ceremony  
 SPEAKER: VP-Dean Richard I. Levin  
 TO WHOM: Director Dr. Majnemer, program directors, physical and occupational therapy students and instructors  
 WHERE: Palmer Howard Ampitheatre, McIntyre Building  
 DATE: April 29, 2011  
 TIME: 9 – 10am  
 LENGTH: 5 minutes  
 TONE: Semi-formal

## BACKGROUND

This inaugural Nametag Ceremony intends to mark a milestone in a similar fashion to Medicine's White Coat Ceremony. It is the midway point in the training of occupational and physical therapists before they embark on 1,000 hours of clinical practice.

## ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Introduction: Dr. Patricia McKinley

Opening Remarks: **VP-Dean Richard I. Levin**

Clinician Speakers: MaryAnn Dalzell, PT, MSc: *Professionalism: from abstract to application*

Kathleen Montpetit, OT, MSc: *Clinician-Researcher: building bridges for better care*

Student Speakers, Rebecca Todor, Pamela Dinunzio: Student Pledge

Name tag presentation:

OT: Dr Bernadette Nedelec, Prof. Caroline Storr

PT: Dr Judith Soicher, Prof. Liliane Asseraf-Pasin

Closing remarks: Dr. Annette Majnemer

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

It's a great pleasure to be here at this milestone in your education. *Un des plus grands honneurs et privilèges en tant que doyen est de vivre des moments comme ceux-ci.*

Sir William Osler once said, "He who studies medicine without books sails an uncharted sea, but he who studies medicine without patients does not go to sea at all."

This event is a launch into the vast sea of the health sciences. Although some features of the voyage are familiar to those of us who have already established careers, none of us can tell you what to expect on your own particular journey. What exactly will you find?

Herman Melville, author of the most famous sea-faring

book of them all, *Moby Dick*, once wrote: “It is not down in any map; true places never are.”

Eighteen months of discovery. A thousand hours in the field. And every port of call will take you to a “true place.” It goes without saying that you’re going to learn a lot. You’ll learn not just about the health care system and the needs of those who require your skills, you’ll also learn about yourselves.

The health care system is changing quickly, but the compass by which we navigate these turbulent waters remains the same. McGill has a proud history of graduating professionals who are competent and skilled at what they do, but who are also caring and compassionate *healers*... The social and interpersonal side of the health

sciences has never been overlooked. It's been celebrated since Osler's day.

Like all those who follow the calling into the health sciences, you will be playing several demanding roles all at once. These roles have been defined and redefined at different times and jurisdictions. Canada's Physician Competency Framework says that each of you will need to become a Medical Expert, a Communicator, a Collaborator, a Manager, a Health Advocate, a Scholar, and a Professional.

Maybe some roles will come easier to you than others.

That's part of what you'll learn about yourself on this journey. And what a journey it will be... When I think back to the day that I first pulled on the doctor's trademark

White Coat, entering a similar phase of my training as you, I recall the sense of responsibility that I felt. It comes from knowing that the path you have chosen will encompass hundreds – even thousands – of opportunities to make a difference in the lives people.

*Aujourd'hui, à la première cérémonie de son genre à l'École de physiothérapie et d'ergothérapie, je vous encourage à considérer la grande responsabilité que vous avez en avant de vous comme un cadeau. Le voyage ne sera pas facile mais sera très gratifiant.*

Enjoy the rest of this morning's celebrations. My very best wishes to you all.