

Hi Everyone

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement is an obvious pick for me and goes to Brenda Moroz of our Division of Pediatric Dermatology.

The timing of this pick is motivated by the fact that Brenda is switching from Attending to Honorary Staff as of February 1st, 2012. In addition, Brenda will be relinquishing her longstanding role (1975) as Division Director. In effect she is "retiring", though she will continue to attend two clinics here on a weekly basis.

One of the "factoids" that we all seem to learn in medical school is that the skin is our largest organ. For a remarkable 41 years Brenda has been "Mistress" of this large, and at times bewildering (for the visually and Latin challenged amongst us including myself), domain at the MCH. Her beginning at the MCH coincides with the introduction of medicare and my taking bar mitzvah lessons. Over 41 years here, Brenda's passion for both clinical service and teaching has never diminished. A forceful advocate for prevention and sunscreens, it was always my good fortune to run into Brenda whenever I returned from a sun-filled holiday. Over time I think we both realized we were two determined souls. She was also surprisingly someone who had a terrific knowledge of Canadian football.

On the serious side, Brenda was a female pioneer in medicine. She sought entry into, and success, in what was a hostile profession that didn't see or comprehend a woman's role as a physician. She, together with others, blazed a trail for all those that come after her to the point that the default gender today for a student physician or resident is female.

On behalf of the entire Department I wish Brenda all the best as she enters this new phase in her life. May she enjoy many years of good health, active living, personal satisfaction, and a wide-brimmed hat when the sun comes out, as it will, on her.

Have a great weekend

Michael

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