

“The successful teacher is no longer on a height, pumping knowledge at high pressure into passive receptacles.”

Hi Everyone

This particular Departmental Acknowledgement has been a long time in coming but I wanted to schedule it appropriately. It goes to **Richard Gosselin** for the collective accomplishment of full accreditation of the Pediatrics PGME program as a result of this week's Royal College review and for his singular individual accomplishment of being selected to the Faculty Honor Roll for Educational Excellence.

I would like to reproduce below what I wrote in my letter of nomination of Richard to the Faculty Honor Roll earlier this year.

"The Department of Pediatrics has a long tradition of educational excellence. Richard as our Program Director for the Pediatrics Residency is a vital reason why this tradition continues in the present day. Richard is an educational superstar. He has an enormous commitment to the educational mission bringing to it commitment, passion, dedication, devotion and excellence. He lives this mission 24/7, 365 days a year. He takes the residents' professional development to heart and is a major reason for both their satisfaction and success.

Richard has a longstanding commitment to medical education. Prior to becoming the Program Director for Pediatrics in 2008 he was the Program Director for neonatology. He has completed the Teaching Scholars Program at McGill and has shown leadership in medical education provincially amongst his colleagues and nationally at the Royal College level. In his role as Program Director, Richard has manifested a steadfast and resolute commitment to ensuring a respectful learning and work environment. He is among our local champions in this important Faculty-wide endeavour. Indeed this has led to some difficult but necessary moments with attendings, that Richard has consistently handled with tact and diplomacy without ever compromising his basic principles.

Richard has steered the program through changes that include the adjustment to the new contract that saw significant changes in work rules. Richard managed these changes in an innovative way coming up with solutions that respected the negotiated contract, preserved clinical coverage and ensured our educational commitments.

Richard has also led the introduction of a didactic curriculum in pediatrics that has enhanced the valorization and role of the general pediatrician in

our changing health care landscape. He has also fostered novel experiences for the residents in emerging needs such as social pediatrics and in the regions (i.e. Gatineau, Ste-Hyacinthe) that has extended the McGill 'brand' and most importantly sensitized the residents to both challenges and opportunities outside of the traditional ivory tower.

A final innovation of Richard's is his modification of the annual Residents' Retreat. He has empowered the residents' to utilize this event as an opportunity to focus on a Departmental-wide Residents' led initiative that will impact on child health. These have included efforts within the community to promote active and healthy living choices by children and youth and efforts to enhance patient safety while under medical care. Indeed these initiatives have been leveraged at the Department level and our forthcoming Departmental wide retreat will be built around the residents' prior work on patient safety. These initiatives have both increased learner-faculty engagement and have also shown the residents' most importantly that they can make a difference beyond the traditional patient-doctor role interaction as advocates for child health and well-being."

A Royal College review is never an easy thing. The analogy I envision is that it's like someone snooping around in your house opening drawers, peeking into the medicine cabinet and checking for dust on high surfaces. I am sure that Richard is enormously relieved that this is now behind him. Please join me in congratulating Richard on his substantial recent accomplishments.

Have a great weekend and for my co-religionists Chag Shameach and Happy Pesach.