

Hi Everyone

I will admit to having a welcomed problem these past few weeks. The problem is that the number of Departmental members deserving an Acknowledgement is challenging our capacity, especially in light of the fast approaching two month summer hiatus that will begin at the end of this month. So please be patient about your nominees and allow for time to work its magic.

I have been waiting to give this week's Acknowledgement since April when the FRQ-S Awards came out. Thus this week's Acknowledgment goes to **Beth Foster and Caroline Quach** for their receiving Chercheur-Boursier Clinician Salary Support Awards at the Senior level. Indeed they finished to my understanding 1-2 in the Committee's rankings and indeed were the only two Awards given this year. The Award provides important peer recognition of their success as independent clinician investigators and tangible real dollar support for the research component of their professional time; "protected time" is the key precious ingredient for any successful academic professional pursuit.

Beth is a pediatric nephrologist. A medical graduate of the University of Ottawa, she undertook pediatric residency here at the MCH serving as Chief Resident as well as subspecialty training in nephrology. This was followed by time at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as a research fellow where she acquired expertise and an MSc in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics. Her time in Philadelphia was supported by a prestigious Duane Gordon Fellowship from the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation. Beth returned to the MCH in 2004 where she has established herself as an independent investigator securing substantial external operational grant support. She was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department in 2011. Beth's research focuses on aspects of chronic renal disease, in particular factors affecting outcomes and survival following renal transplant in pediatric patients. In addition she is a dedicated teacher at both the UGME and PGME levels and has served as an Osler Fellow. Beth's FRQ-S Salary support award is titled "optimization of medications in Young Renal Transplant Patients". Her work in this area will make an obvious pragmatic impact on the care of children with chronic renal disease.

Caroline is a member of our Division of Infectious Disease and Microbiology. A medical graduate of Université de Montreal, she completed her pediatric residency at Hopital Ste-Justine and her fellowship training here. Like Beth she has an MSc in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, which appear to be a recurring theme among external salary support awardees who are clinically oriented. Caroline has established a prominent research program relating to nosocomial infections which derives a substantial reciprocal pragmatic link to her role in infection control at the MCH. She also has a research focus on the surveillance of vaccine preventable illnesses (influenza and rotavirus) heading up several large team grants in this area. This too is leveraged with a prominent role in provincial and national advisory groups relating to immunization. She too has been promoted to Associate Professor in the Department. A prior Chair of Unit 7 (Infections and Microbiology) in the medical school's Basis of Medicine first year's curriculum, she now heads up the local PHRESCA segment of the national Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program (CCHCSP). Caroline's FRQ-S salary award is titled "The Prevention of Infections in Hospitals and the Community".

Please join me in congratulating Beth and Caroline on this important personal milestone.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael