

“To have a group of cloistered clinicians away completely from the broad current of professional life would be bad for teacher and worse for student. The primary work of a professor of medicine in a medical school is in the wards, teaching his pupils how to deal with patients and their diseases.”

Sir William Osler

Hi Everyone!

Community-based pediatricians are the 'foot soldiers' of our Department.

They provide needed primary and secondary services external to the hospital home. They need to provide screening, surveillance, prevention, education, reassurance, and astute disease detection in one convenient and accessible package. They are the first link in a chain of care that is our referral network.

They also do some heavy lifting around the hospital providing services in a variety of roles; as service providers, teachers and role models in the ER, ambulatory clinics, wards and nurseries. They do so for very little in the way of academic compensation and reward often at personal financial cost.

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to one of our community-based pediatricians, **Paul Rossy**, on the occasion of his recent receipt of the annual **Paige and Bernard Kaplan Teaching Award**.

This Award is selected and given annually by our pediatric residents to a valued teacher in our Department. Paul receives the Award for his teaching contributions over the years in our Pediatric Continuity and Resident Clinics. In this setting, which replicates on a University hospital site the practice content for a community-based pediatrician, children are seen and evaluated and the clinical encounter is the teaching moment for trainees. Through observation of a skilled clinician, combined with the refinement of their own history, physical examination, and case management skills, a medical specialist in child health emerges. This practical experience, which in a way is a true "apprenticeship", is further enhanced by case-based discussion with an experienced clinician who is a "living textbook" replete with the vast wisdom of experience.

Paul has for many years practiced as a clinician on both the South Shore in Châteauguay and in West End Montreal. We were residents together a generation ago and I recall from then that he already demonstrated a passion, skill, and patience for teaching more junior trainees. What also stands out in my memory from then was his ability at case presentations and rounds to formulate a lengthy and complete differential diagnosis, and then quickly through the particulars of the case hone into the probable diagnosis that could be confirmed by judicious testing. Over the years Paul has developed a particular interest and aptitude in childhood obesity and has fashioned a holistic approach to the effective management of this challenging problem.

Please join me in congratulating Paul on his well-deserved Award.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael