

Departmental Acknowledgement

"It frightens me, the awful truth, of how sweet life can be"
Bob Dylan

Hi Everyone,

It's the first Friday after Labor Day and it is time to start up the weekly Departmental Acknowledgement after its summer hiatus. I do hope that everyone had a good summer and have some warm memories to look back on during the upcoming year.

I still have some accomplishments from the last academic year to single out for recognition. Thus our first Departmental Acknowledgement for the 2015-2016 academic year will go to **Michael Zappitelli** for his receipt of a FRQ-S Chercheur Boursier Clinicien Senior Salary Support Award for the next 4 years. This achievement is particularly important for a clinician-investigator as it will confer placement on an expedited tenure-track at the University upon its completion. Granting of tenure will then provide a measure of security beyond the availability of salary support awards for future research efforts. This new Faculty innovation is the product of much work by the Faculty's Vice-Dean for Academic Affairs, Mara Ludwig, and the strategic vision of Dean Eidelman. I am proud to have played a small role in its formulation as a member of the small Task Force of Clinical Chairs who helped Mara to formulate this.

Michael is a McGill product at the MDCM, pediatric residency and pediatric nephrology sub-specialty levels. He found the time during his sub-specialty fellowship training to undertake a Masters in Epidemiology & Biostatistics. Michael furthered his research training at Baylor in Houston, Texas where he developed his particular expertise in acute kidney injury (AKI).

Michael returned to McGill and the Montreal Children's Hospital in 2007 as a member of our Division of Pediatric Nephrology. Clinically, he has directed our Dialysis and Apheresis Program. He has been particularly involved in supervising and mentoring residents in their research efforts.

Michael has had enormous traction and success as a researcher. He has had continuous external salary support funding from the FRQ-S from the very beginning of his time here. Not surprisingly, he has also been very successful at securing external operating grants from the Kidney Foundation of Canada, FRQ-S and CIHR. He is playing a leadership role in several national research efforts in AKI. Michael already has 50 peer-reviewed publications to his credit. He has also been involved in the Division of pediatric nephrology's international educational efforts most particularly at the St John's Medical College in Bangalore, India. Michael is one reason the Department of Pediatrics and the MCH has a national and international impact.

Please join me in congratulating Michael on his personal accomplishment.

Finally Rosh Hashanah starts on Sunday evening. Let me wish all my co-religionists a Shana Tova. May the New Year be an extra sweet one for you and your family.

Have a great weekend everyone !

Michael

Michael Shevell, MD CM, FRCPC, FAAN, FANA, FCAHS
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics
Professor (with Tenure)
Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology/Neurosurgery

McGill University

Guyda Chair in Pediatrics

Pediatrician-in-Chief
Montreal Children's Hospital/
McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)

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