

# Departmental Acknowledgement

"When you feel in your gut what you are and then dynamically pursue it –  
don't back down and give up - then you are going to mystify a lot of folks"  
Bob Dylan

Hi Everyone,

Saturday Night Live has a 'select club' for hosts that have hosted five times or more. Perhaps we should do the same for our Departmental Acknowledgement as this week's Acknowledgement goes to our first five-time recipient: **Nada Jabado**.

I simply can't ignore Nada's terrific personal accomplishments in the last 6 months; Election to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) and being awarded an FRQ-S Chaire de Recherche for a 4-year term commencing in 2015.

The RSC describes itself and its members (selected in a rigorous process of peer review) in the following terms on its website:

*“The RSC is the recognized pre-eminent body of independent scholars, researchers and creative people in Canada whose Fellows comprise a collegium that can provide intellectual leadership for the betterment of Canada and the world.”*

*“To serve Canada and Canadians by recognizing Canada’s leading intellectuals, scholars, researchers and artists and by mobilizing them in open discussion and debate, to advance knowledge, encourage integrated interdisciplinary understandings and address issues that are critical to Canada and Canadians.”*

The FRQ-S aptly captures its criteria for consideration for a Chaire de Recherche as follows on its website:

*« Ce programme de prestige consacre l'excellence d'un nombre limité de chercheurs chevronnés sélectionnés par concours parmi des sortants des programmes Chercheurs-boursiers, c'est-à-dire au terme du niveau Senior du FRQS ou de l'équivalent. »*

Clearly each are high bars indeed. Please refer to Nada's previous four Acknowledgments (Feb 3, 2012; April 22, 2012; Feb 22, 2013; April 26, 2013) for detailed descriptions of her work as a researcher.

Basically Nada is paradigm shifting our understanding of the molecular basis of pediatric brain tumors. Her work is both altering our understanding of why some kids do poorly in response to interventions AND offering hope for new avenues of therapeutic attack that offers the hope of improved outcomes and lessened mortality. Why she does this and the reasons for her success were both amply on display in her recent MCH Grand Rounds presentation (which she gave on short notice). Nada brings a passion, energy and intelligence to her work that is both obvious and

inspiring. These qualities are what we all should aspire to in our own particular efforts to improve child health.

Please join me in congratulating Nada on her remarkable personal accomplishments.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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