

May 5, 2017

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires"  
**William Arthur Ward**

Hi Everyone

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Ilana Bank** on the occasion of her selection to the Faculty Honor Roll for Educational Excellence. She is one of four Faculty members selected this year.

I thought it would be apropos to reproduce below what I wrote in my nomination letter putting forward Ilana for this designation:

*Ilana is a McGill product through and through. She received her MDCM in 2002 and then completed her pediatric residency and her pediatric emergency fellowship in our Department of Pediatrics. She has been an attending physician in our ER since 2009 and holds an appointment as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics.*

*Ilana's passion and excellence for medical education and teaching has been evident from the outset of her professional journey as a Faculty member. She has completed the Teaching Scholars Program and has a sustained record of outstanding teaching evaluations. In a Department with a reputation for considerable educational excellence, Ilana is universally recognized by our learners as an inspirational, indeed transformative, teacher and role model for physicianship and professionalism. That she does the bulk of her teaching hours in the context of an always busy, at times chaotic, emergency room setting, is a testimony to her capability and dedication to finding the "teaching moment".*

*Ilana's significant involvement, innovation and leadership, at the Faculty level and nationally, in education have been focused in the domain of simulation education. She is committed to creating a 'safe' educational curricula in which learners can profit from learning from their mistakes, without harming actual patients. The goal is always better care for children through iterative learning.*

*Ilana led the way to create a Canadian Pediatric Emergency Medicine Simulation Curriculum that has been adopted nationally. This curriculum ensures equivalent training irrespective of geography that is the initial cornerstone of equal care for all children in an emergency context. This curriculum has presaged the adoption of a competency-by-design model of trainee evaluation.*

*Ilana's educational leadership and innovation is also evident in her collaboration with colleagues in other disciplines and professions to create inter-professional simulation curricula that more closely mimic the reality of present-day care delivery in a tertiary pediatric care facility. This is a now vital part of both our continuing professional development and our efforts to improve quality and patient safety.*

*A final area of innovation and leadership in education demonstrated by Ilana is her use of simulated disasters on two occasions to further our understanding of potential challenges and deficiencies in our present strategies to deal with potential mass pediatric casualties. These simulations were massive logistical undertakings that by necessity involved months of detailed planning and collaboration with varied agencies outside the traditional health care milieu. Ilana's ability to carefully analyze the results of these simulations has led to modifications in our response plans.*

*In all her efforts, Ilana has maintained a commitment to educational scholarship. The result is multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals, abstracts and presentations at national and international meetings.*

*The areas of educational innovation highlighted above all share a common theme. Through learning and practice in a safe milieu, improvements in practice and care and ultimately patient outcomes can be realized. Ilana embodies the highest standards and expectations of our Faculty's educational culture and I support her consideration for the Honor List in the highest terms and without reservation.*

Please join me in congratulating Ilana on this most well-deserved personal honor.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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