

June 22, 2018

Hi Everyone

One of the things I am particularly proud of implementing since I became Chair is the Annual Graduating Ceremony for our finishing residents and Fellows. The Atrium at the Glen grants us a wonderful space to come together as a community to celebrate the accomplishments of our trainees and bring a point of closure to our work together. Thanks go to Evelyn Constantin and Catherine Henin for their original suggestion and to Elisa Ruano-Cea and the Graduation Committee this year for their hard work organizing a terrific event.

All of the graduates listed below deserve the Departmental Acknowledgement this week for their accomplishment and contribution over the years to our academic community.

PGY3- General Pediatrics

*Dr. Alexandre Déragon
Dr. Vanessa Gadoury-Levesque
Dr. Aris Hadjinicolaou
Dr. Matthew Magyar
Dr. Natalie Mathews
Dr. Maria Psihogios*

PGY4- General Pediatrics

*Dr. Marie-Pier Guilbault
Dr. Rawan Hammad
Dr. Enass Raffa
Dr. Marcel Sévère
Dr. Allison Shevell*

Allergy-Immunology

Dr. Alexandra Langlois

Dermatology

Dr. Sara Almutlaga

Emergency Medicine

Dr. Kristen Lambrinakos-Raymond

Microbiology & Infectious Disease

Dr. Mohammad Al-Gounaim

Nephrology

Dr. Michael Geylis

Neurology

*Dr. Fatema Al-Amrani
Dr. Laurence Gauquelin
Dr. Salva Sadeghi*

Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

*Dr. Nada Aljassim
Dr. Mohammed Almazyad
Dr. Christina Maratta*

Fellowship in Advanced Pediatric Critical Care Medicine *Dr. Fawaz Lanzi*

I would however wish to invoke a Chair's privilege and single out one name on the list; **Allison Shevell**. It's not easy being a resident in a Department and institution where your Dad is the Chair and Physician-

in-Chief, and indeed also where both your Mom and Dad spent their entire academic careers. From enquiries I made before Allison started, this was an unprecedented situation and clear boundaries to enable proper process were established before Allison started her CaRMS application process and residency.

Allison handled this challenge as she does everything that comes her way. With integrity, independence, intelligence, honesty and fortitude. As a father, a role I deem in the long run to be more important than my professional and academic ones, it was a delight for me to see Allison grow as a physician and professional during her residency. I realize that I was uniquely privileged to actually witness my child become proficient and meritorious in her chosen vocation. It was always heartwarming, and a boost for parental pride, whenever hospital staff members (physicians, nurses, therapists, unit coordinators, translators etc) would take the time to let me know spontaneously during a chance encounter how terrific she was at what she did. She started in 2014 at the MCH as “The Other Dr. Shevell”, but clearly now given what I have heard, I have that “Other” title now. On more than one occasion, families have identified their primary neurologist as “Allison’s Dad”.

I have no doubt that this DA will hugely embarrass her, but then what are fathers for? That is the reason that despite many occasions when I could have given her one previously, I purposely held back to her last working week here as a trainee as she exits our front door. Allison has spent the last year of her Gen Peds residency focusing on critical care and she is off on July 1st to Sick Kids in Toronto for further subspecialty training in her chosen field.

Please join me in wishing Allison and all our graduates hearty congratulations and all the best on wherever their professional journey takes them. We have much to be proud of in our professional progeny.

This will be the last DA before the annual Summer hiatus. We will resume this weekly tradition the Friday after Labour Day.

Have a great long weekend and Summer everyone!

Michael

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