

March 29, 2019

Hi Everyone,

In academia a promotion in rank is a tangible recognition of substantial contribution to your community. It is an important milestone in one's professional journey. It is a cause for celebration. And it certainly merits recognition from one's peers and a Departmental Acknowledgement. We will be recognizing our 2019 Associate Professor cohort for the next interval and for each I will be sharing with the community the letters I wrote in support for each of our successful candidates. Putting forward someone for promotion is perhaps one of the best parts of my job as Chair.

First up is **Najma Ahmed** from the Division of Gastroenterology.

Here is what I wrote about Najma:

*Najma is Board Certified in Pediatrics with a subspecialty Certification in Pediatric Gastroenterology. Najma was appointed as Assistant Professor at McGill University in 2007 after spending three years as an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University. Najma is appointed in our Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition. Najma's academic profile is that of a clinician educator.*

*Najma provides an extensive breadth and consistent excellence in her teaching. Her teaching evaluations consistently attest to a high level of teaching effectiveness. She is noted to be highly "approachable" and to create a "nurturing" learning environment. Najma is presently in the midst of her second four-year cycle as an Osler Fellow. A specific attestation to the degree of her teaching effectiveness is her receipt of a Transition to Clinical Practice Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching in 2015 from the Faculty of Medicine. Najma's teaching occurs both at the PGME level in the context of her ongoing clinical service and exposure to our post-graduate trainees as well as at the undergraduate level.*

*Najma participates in the Canadian Pediatric Hepatology Research Group and functions as our Department's local site lead pertaining to collaborative research projects initiated by this group. She is also a founding member and active participant in the Canadian Biliary Atresia Registry. Through this registry she has participated in innovations in practice and advocacy with regards to this group of young patients suffering from severe hepatic disease.*

*Najma has served consistently in administration of educational programs. She has been a Director or co-Director of three UGME courses. She has served as a leader and curriculum developer in the pre-clinical Transition to Clinical Practice segment of the Faculty of Medicine's Undergraduate Medical Education program. She has also served since 2010 as the member of the Faculty of Medicine's Admissions Committee and is now an active participant in the MMI subcommittee, which prepares this essential component of the admissions process. She has also undertaken to be Program Director of our Pediatric GI subspecialty-training program, which had long been inactive. She has made this program now active and developed its curriculum and academic objectives. At the national level she serves on the Specialty Committee for Pediatric Gastroenterology at the Royal College, as well as the Examination Committee in this subspecialty.*

Please join me in congratulating Najma on her achievement.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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