

January 31, 2020

“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.”
- John Maxwell

This week’s Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Dr. Michael Shevell** for his ability to adeptly adjust the sails as a dedicated leader of our department. This acknowledgement was submitted by the Department of Pediatrics’ Executive Committee (Mylene Dandavino, Patricia Fontela, Cassandra Fusco, Emmett Francoeur, Laurie Plotnick, Mitchell Shiller). Since Michael was appointed Chair of our department in 2011 and reappointed in 2016, he has been committed to supporting individual members and our department as a whole. He formalized a distributive leadership model and created a Mission/Vision/Values and strategic plan of our department that was the guiding force to academic advancement and creativity despite university and governmental budget limitations and dwindling trainees. He has proudly been at the helm of a thriving department which has demonstrated increasing clinical excellence and innovation, research success, continued educational accomplishments and diversity in leadership. Mike sees the big picture but also has an open door policy and very quick response to emails where no question or concern is too big or too small to answer.



True to who he is as a dedicated leader, prior to his leave, Michael ensured that all Friday Departmental Acknowledgments were written, that departmental member nominations for awards were submitted and that all Chair responsibilities were appropriately delegated including every committee meeting time and date. As a testament to his care for us as people and as a group, one of the first questions Mike asked when he woke up post-procedure was “How was the Town Hall?”.

We are so grateful to have Michael leading us through these challenging times and even more thankful that Michael is on the road to recovery, resting at home and well-supported by his family and friends.

“Have a great weekend everyone!”

**Dr. Emmett Francoeur, Dr. Mylène Dandavino, Dr. Laurie Plotnick, Dr. Mitch Shiller,
Dr. Patricia Fontela, Mrs. Cassandra Fusco**

Executive Committee, Department of Pediatrics
McGill University/Montreal Children’s Hospital (MUHC)