

March 6, 2020

Hi Everyone

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to the Chief Residents, **Chelsea Ash** and **Jasmine Vafi**, who are just completing their one-year term in this role.

The Chief Residents function as a vital bridge between trainees and Faculty and are often the point persons to deal with last minute disruptions in scheduling that necessitate a quick fix. The past year has seen the program faced with the challenge of navigating a significant decline in resident numbers and one



of the busiest and most acute viral seasons in recent memory. The Chiefs were particularly implicated in developing short and long-term solutions for our clinical operations but also in ensuring that the resident voice was represented and their wellbeing was always considered. In addition to scheduling, the Chiefs play a vital role in optimizing the work and learning environment to ensure that all remain healthy. Particular efforts for these Chiefs include the implementation of CPS statement reviews into the academic curriculum, the revamping of 'Chief of Service Rounds' to enhance the focus on clinical reasoning, the organization of an outstanding resident retreat focused on supporting and enhancing leadership skills and the integration of the



PHQ-4 (Patient Health Questionnaire-4) into our program to enable us to monitor resident wellbeing on an ongoing basis. As if this wasn't enough, Jasmine and Catherine both interviewed every single CaRMS candidate for our program this year playing an absolutely vital role in our selection process.

Chelsea is a Memorial graduate and will undertake subspecialty training in hematology-oncology shortly. Jasmine is a McGill graduate and will be pursuing a PGY-4 in pediatrics.

Please join me in thanking Chelsea and Jasmine for their hard work and a term of leadership that highlighted their resourcefulness, compassion, open-mindedness and commitment to their colleagues, their program and the MCH community. It has been an absolute pleasure to work alongside them.

Please also join me in welcoming our new Chiefs David D'Arienzo and Rosie Dion to their new roles.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Rob Sternszus

On behalf of Michael Shevell, MDCM, FRCPC, FCAHS  
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics  
Professor (with Tenure), Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology/Neurosurgery  
McGill University

Guyda Chair in Pediatrics

Pediatrician-in-Chief, Montreal Children's Hospital/McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)