

September 11, 2020

Hi Everyone,

With the first DA after the summer hiatus I want to officially welcome everyone back. I do hope that all of you were able to get some quality relaxation time this past summer after the challenges of the first half of 2020. While I write these words it is unclear what COVID has in store for us as individuals and as an organization heading into the Fall. What I do know is that we will be up to any challenge that comes our way.

This week's DA goes to **Francois Olivier** who was this year's recipient of the Department's Paige & Bernard Kaplan Teaching Award. Francois is a member of the Division of Neonatology (MCH) and holds the rank of Assistant Professor at McGill University in the Department of Pediatrics. Francois was recruited to the MCH and McGill in 2016 after completing medical school, pediatrics and neonatal-perinatal subspecialty training at Laval in Quebec City. In the Division he heads up the innovative Neonatal Transport Program.



The Kaplan Teaching Award is now in its 4th decade and is awarded by the Pediatric PGME trainees to an outstanding educator who has impacted in a substantial way their training. While Departmental Teaching Awards in the Faculty are now an expected part of Departmental activities, the Kaplan Award was among the first so designated at McGill. This reflects our educational culture within our Department which emphasizes excellence, innovation, passion and recognition. It also reflects a longstanding plethora of outstanding educators within the Department.

Francois can take his place amongst this roster of excellent educators. A NICU can be a stressful and intimidating place for a learner, however Francois is recognized for his ability to make it safe and nurturing for trainees. He readily transfers his own intrinsic knowledge regarding his field to the trainees, encouraging curiosity, engagement, and self-learning. He readily and steadfastly models patterns that form the basis for lifelong self-learning skills as well as the highest standards of professionalism.

Please join me in congratulating Francois on this most well deserved personal recognition.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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