

April 1, 2021

Hi Everyone!

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement kicks off a series highlighting our Departmental members who achieved promotion this year. The first goes to **Fatemeh Jafarian**, a dermatologist in our Division of Allergy, Immunology and Dermatology on the occasion of her promotion to Associate Professor. I will extract for all those promoted the contents of my Chair's letter of support that was submitted with their dossier to the Faculty and University for promotional consideration.

Fatemeh received her medical degree (1995) and undertook her specialty training 1996-2000 in dermatology in her native Iran. After immigrating to Canada she completed further specialty training in pediatric dermatology at HSJ (Universite de Montreal) from 2003-2005 that enabled her to secure certification in dermatology from the CMQ in 2006. She joined our Department in 2008 as an Assistant Professor with an appointment in our Division of Allergy, Immunology & Dermatology.



Fatemeh has an extensive teaching presence at the UGME and PGME level. Since 2014, she has been both a lecturer and Small Group Facilitator in the FOMD segment of UGME in the Host Defence block. Also, since 2014 she has been a small group leader and facilitator in the Transition to Clinical Practice segment of UGME. At the PGME level she regularly supervises pediatrics and dermatology trainees. Evidence of her teaching effectiveness is provided by steady robustly positive one45 evaluations. Furthermore, she received in 2010 the Resident Teaching Award in Dermatology. Administratively in education, since 2015 she has been both the Site Director for dermatology training at the MCH and Program Director for Pediatric Dermatology. Her teaching quality is evident by her regular and substantial involvement in CME activities for practicing health professionals. She has also supervised 27 medical students and residents in their dermatology related research efforts. Almost 2/3 of these supervisees achieve a peer-reviewed publication as an end result.

Though Fatemeh has not ever benefited from protection to enable research, she has achieved 25 peer reviewed publications since her initial appointment. These have focused on clinically relevant efforts in the diagnostic assessments of skin conditions, the use of novel techniques (including telemedicine) and identifying genes involved in rare skin conditions. As noted above, she regularly supervises trainees involved in clinical research. Particularly noteworthy is Fatemeh's recognized efforts in clinical innovation. Her efforts to demonstrate that cotton swabbing was equivalent to the painful scraping of an infant's scalp (a long established gold standard) in the diagnosis of tinea capitis (a common pediatric skin disorder) achieved peer reviewed publication and impacted clinical practice as cotton swabbing is now the standard method of diagnosis (much to the relief of countless infants and their parents). She has also been at the forefront of developing comprehensive distance education tools to assist primary care physicians (especially those in remote areas) in their accurate diagnosis of pediatric skin conditions. Her work

developing Providing the Providers to improve first line dermatology care to indigenous communities in Northern Quebec has been recognized by the 2019 Galderma SKINPACT Award and the MUHC Outreach Team Award. Fatemeh's passion and commitment to knowledge mobilization is further evident in her development of parent focused information (print and online) for common pediatric skin conditions. She has also become involved in transplant clinics to provide care directly for skin conditions that arise in the context of chronic immunosuppression.

Together with our Departmental Promotion Committee, I supported Fatemeh's promotion to Associate Professor without hesitation. I am delighted to see this innovative and accomplished clinician-educator be recognized for her valuable contributions to our academic mission.

Have a great long weekend and Happy Easter to all those celebrating this festival of renewal this weekend.

Michael

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