2020-2021 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Best Phase II Preceptor

Name of Nominee Monica Davern, MD

The class of 2023 ended phase I entering an unprecedented era with so many questions as to how our training might be impacted by COVID-19. Entering the summer of 2020, I had pre-COVID-19 plans to get in the hospital as much as possible with Dr. Davern as I not only enjoyed learning and seeing patients with her, but I also greatly appreciated her genuine care for my life outside of medicine. When the pandemic struck, I figured that my chance for extra practice may not come to fruition. However, without hesitation, Dr. Davern said she would be more than happy to have me come in with her for shifts and her willingness to still teach me in the midst of global chaos really set me up for success not only in phase II, but also moving into phase III.

Following my phase I nomination of Dr. Davern for a Golden Stethoscope award, for which she deservingly won, phase II has been simply a continuation of incredible preceptorship experiences. Dr. Davern's early push for me to get comfortable seeing patients on my own, as well as her patience with my steady growth in patient presentations has given me so much confidence. I know that as we progress through our training, the medical knowledge will come, but having a teacher and mentor who truly fosters growth outside of the textbook has been extremely valuable for my learning. Dr. Davern constantly emphasizes having the ability to connect with our patients. Despite her status as a physician, the humility and kindness that Dr. Davern displays with patients allows her to effortlessly establish rapport with the many families she interacts with. She exemplifies the best traits of leadership by leading through example, and really making the work space a safe and very enjoyable environment for me to learn and grow in. The many hours spent at Children's Hospital with Dr. Davern made "required hours" meaningless to me as after each session, I couldn't wait for the opportunity to come back. Medicine itself is fun, but its the people you get to learn and practice with that truly makes this field special, and I wouldn't be where am I now in my training with out the guidance and companionship of Dr. Davern.

I could continue to boast about the type of physician and mentor she has been for me, but truthfully the life lessons I've learned from Dr. Davern outside of medicine in terms of wellness, family, and even fitness have just given me more reasons for writing this nomination. It has been a pleasure to see her son growing up so quickly, as well as the joy she has in being an amazing mother and wife. On top of pushing me to pursue my career goals, she is also always diligent in keeping my wellness in check and ensuring that other domains of my life are good. The relationship we've built over the past 1.5 years has been extremely important to me because I feel it is rare to find a mentor who is willing to invest as much time, patience, and trust in a student as much as Dr. Davern has in me. I can only hope to someday provide the same quality of guidance and camaraderie to students that she has for me, and I am certain that any success I have throughout the rest of my training and career will be a direct reflection of the time Dr. Davern has given to help me grow.

It is with great pride and humility that I nominate Dr. Davern for the 'Best Phase II Preceptor' Golden Stethoscope Award. Dr. Davern truly embodies what it means to be a great mentor, friend, team member, and leader. The care and passion she has for medicine and teaching is unparalleled and I am a much better provider because of her guidance. Its an understatement to say I got lucky with the preceptorship match, and any future medical students that she works with should consider themselves so fortunate for that opportunity.

Written by: Keanu Chee

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