

2020-2021 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Best Phase 1 Preceptor

Name of Nominee Dr. Michael Tozier

I am writing today to recommend Dr. Michael Tozier for the Best Phase 1 Preceptor Award. I have been privileged over the past many months to have Dr. Tozier as my preceptor. I have come to find Dr. Tozier to be a very talented, knowledgeable clinician, and I feel lucky to have him as my preceptor. I have learned a lot about clinical thinking, oral presentations, and patient interviewing from him. He also has made sure to provide plenty of opportunities for me to practice and hone my physical exam skills. He fosters an encouraging, supportive learning environment where I feel comfortable asking questions and making mistakes. One quality about Dr. Tozier that I find particularly helpful is that he constantly lets me know that any and all questions that I have are welcome. As an introvert, I truly appreciate him and his warm, inviting quality. I feel like our relationship is open, honest, and an equal partnership. Along with providing me good, constructive feedback on my progress, he makes sure to consistently check in with me to get my feedback on how the sessions are going, how well he is teaching, what I would like to change, and what I would like to get more practice on which makes me feel more ownership over my learning.

In addition to knowing a lot about medicine and patient care, I have noticed that Dr. Tozier has very strong interpersonal skills. I admire the way he effectively communicates with patients. He clearly makes them feel at ease and holds natural conversations with them while still getting the information he needs and addressing their concerns and questions. For example, I recall one patient where Dr. Tozier was not entirely sure what was going on and instead of trying to make something up he admitted that he was stumped, asked what the patient was thinking and feeling, and maintained that trust and transparency. I realize that admitting you do not know an answer can be incredibly difficult and feel fortunate to be learning from someone who is able to do this. Furthermore, I have observed Dr. Tozier's professional relationships with other healthcare team members. Similar to his patient interactions, it is clear that he makes everyone feel comfortable and contributes to making work an enjoyable experience without compromising patient care.

Dr. Tozier is a passionate, strong leader who is very deserving of this award and is the kind of clinician I aspire to be. He has taught and continues to teach me a lot about the practice of medicine and patient care. I cannot think of a better role model as I continue to learn and develop professionally. Thank you for considering Dr. Tozier for the Best Phase 1 Preceptor Award.

Written by: Fei Daly, Phase 1