2020-2021 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Best Phase 4 preceptor

Name of Nominee Dr. Jeremy Long

Dr. Long has been my foundations preceptor for five years (including a year of my MPH). He has been an exceptional preceptor.

During my preclinical years, I was not at all sure how I fit into the field of medicine. I was struggling to find meaning in my studies while working for hours each day. I looked forward to the Friday afternoons I would get to spend with Dr. Long at Denver Health. Seeing patients with him kept me excited about my career in medicine.

I watched how he was easily able to develop and maintain compassionate and trusting relationships with his patients. If he was busy, he would still make every patient feel that he had all of the time in the world for his patients. He listens to them, not only about their medical concerns but about their lives. When he makes a diagnosis he takes the time to explain it to patients, often pulling up pictures. If the medication or treatment regimen he suggests doesn't work for the patient, he listens to their concerns and finds ways to compramise on the plan.

I have been told by multiple patients after he leaves the room, "you are so lucky to get to work with him." I have also been told, "He is the only person that I have." This year, during phase IV, I was gathering a history from a patient when he told me that his health was good until he changed doctors, so he was back to see Dr. Long. He inititally changed to a practice closer to his home but was willing to accept the long commute if it meant working with Dr. Long again.

He consistently made me feel part of the team. Every year I worked with him, he gave me more responsibility, expected more from me, and pushed me to be more independent. He encouraged me to form relationships with our patients. If he disagreed with my assessment he would explain why. He found every opportunity to send me articles and find teaching points for every case.

Most importantly, he made me feel that I have a place in medicine. He is going to be my hooder at graduation because he has been the single most important contributer to my development as a physician. Wherever I work and whatever I am doing in the future, I will take so many lessons away from my time with Dr. Long. He taught me how to make meaningful relationships with patients, he taught me how to work as part of an interdisciplinary team, and he taught me how to engage and encourage learners. In the future I hope my patients, learners, and colleagues think about me as they think of Dr. Long.

Written by: Katie Havranek