2020-2021 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Best Phase 3 Preceptor

Name of Nominee Vishnu Kulasekaran

Dear Golden Stethoscope Award Selection Committee,

It is with my utmost great pleasure to write this nomination for Dr. Vishnu Kulasekaran as the best Phase 3 Preceptor for the 2020-2021 academic year. As I reflect on my experience during my phase 3 of my educational career, I can't think of another preceptor who has had such a profound impact on the development of my professional and personal career. Vishnu has been an integral part to the formation of my identity of the type of physician I aspire to be.

I first met Vishnu in early 2020 when I was interviewing for the Denver Health Longitudinal Curriculum (DHLIC) and from the start he had a strong impression on me as he talked about his clear commitment to providing culturally responsive care to the undeserved and to Spanish speaking patients. When I found out he was going to be my Internal Medicine longitudinal preceptor I was thrilled. Even before our official sessions started he took the time to reach out to set up a time to meet up and discuss learning goals for third-year. Ever since then, he has been consistent with meeting with me to provide feedback and also discover ways he can push me to reaching my goals. I have had several other preceptors who have met with me to talk about goals, but I have never had someone like Vishnu be in touch with me on a consistent basis and constantly checking in with me regarding my progress towards my goals.

For the last seven months, Vishnu has been 110% invested in my education and has demonstrated a clear commitment to being an outstanding preceptor. Throughout our time together, he has actively encouraged me to take more ownership of patient care, evidence by him trusting me to reach out to patients to discuss their results or plan of care. He goes above and beyond any other preceptor in helping prepare me to see patients and ensuring that I am well equipped to provide excellent care while at the same time learning the most I can from every case. One clear example was during my second Internal Medicine inpatient immersion when I was admitting a patient with opioid use disorder and suspected C. Diff infection from chronic antibiotic use. As I was getting ready to admit the patient, I noticed that her PCP was Vishnu. I sent him a text around 6am to let him know I was admitting one of his patients and within minutes he offered to chat on the phone before I went to go see her so I can better understand her complex medical history. He prepared me to make sure I was providing the best care. Even after I saw her, later that night he called me so we can debrief as it was a difficult case. This is just one of the many instances that Vishnu has gone above and beyond any phase 3 preceptor.

As a longitudinal preceptor he has been in a unique position to be there every step of the way during my growth in third year and has constantly demonstrated superior precepting skills. If anyone is deserving of the best phase 3 preceptor, I am fully confident that Vishnu is that person. He will forever go down as the best preceptorI have had the opportunity to work with.

Written by: William Mundo, MS3 DHLIC Student

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