2023-2024 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Outstanding Role Model

Name of Nominee Dr. Susan Piggott

From my first precepting shift to my last, Dr. Piggott always exuded a disposition of kindness and professionalism with our encounters. When I first began my shifts with Dr. Piggott, I was a bit nervous to translate skills I had learned in the classroom to real clinical settings. However, that feeling of unease quickly vanished upon meeting Dr. Piggott. Dr. Piggott always created an environment for me to practice physical exam skills, patient collecting skills, and oral presentations without demonstrating negative judgement towards my abilities. I greatly valued how Dr. Piggott let me practice my independence by letting me go talk to patients on my own and practice provocative exam maneuvers that I think would be relevant to their case.

In particular, I think Dr. Piggott demonstrated great bedside manner and balanced her disposition of friendliness with her clinical deduction skills. Through observation of her patient consultations, I eventually found myself adopting some of her traits that she would practice in her conversations with patients. Specifically, I admired her confidence that she communicated with all her patients. Prior to entering patient rooms together, we would always discuss my differential for the case. After a brief discussion together, I always found it amazing how she translated our discussion and her own thoughts to a clear and well-defined explanation to the patient shortly after.

Furthermore, Dr. Piggott always made sure to challenge me as to push my growth and development. For example, she would ask me questions on possible diagnoses that may be less unlikely to get me to think outside of the box. Next, she would also teach me different maneuvers or procedures that may have related to our patient case in the moment. Dr. Piggott created a fantastic learning environment for me- I was always able to enter every shift ready and excited to learn. I never felt like she was judging me for a lapse in knowledge and I always felt comfortable to ask any question that I was curious about.

Ultimately, I think Dr. Piggott is well-deserving to be a candidate for the Golden Stethoscope Award for Outstanding Role Model. She serves as an amazing role model for her colleagues, medical students, and her patients. Although our time working together was brief throughout my first year of medical school, I was able to learn a tremendous amount and always looked forward to our shifts together. Dr. Piggott is not only a great physician, but an excellent role model in her professional disposition that I have since modeled to emulate in my own personal development.

Written by: David Chen