2023-2024 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Outstanding DOCS Preceptor

Name of Nominee Dr. Manuel Urra

From our very first session, Dr. Urra created an environment where my curiosity was actively encouraged and I could feel comfortable asking any and all questions. Throughout our time together, he balanced crerating a supportive learning environment with pushing me to gain competency in unfamiliar skills. His feedback was always constructive, highlighting my strengths while clearly communicating suggestions for improvement. This balanced approach to teaching helped me grow both personally and professionally, and it also provided me a great example to hopeffully emulate later on in my career.

One of Dr. Urra ' s greatest strengths is breaking down complex concepts and connecting them to our current block in the medical science curriculum, which enhanced my ability to integrate didactic and clinical knowledge. He also consistently engaged me in thoughtful discussions about patient cases, encouraging me to share my thoughts and guiding me through the diagnostic process without simply providing answers. This approach not only improved my medical knowledge and critical thinking, but it has also built my confidence in clinical decision-making.

Perhaps most importantly, Dr. Urra ' s enthusiasm for teaching was obvious each session that we spent together. He took every opportunity to involve me in all aspects when we were working together, from patient encounters to discussions with colleagues to grand rounds presentations. Since he happened to be finishing his fellowship this year, I also had ample opportunities to witness his own continued pursuit of learning from his colleagues and attendings. This allowed me the unique opportunity to see him as a role model who excels both as a great teacher and a great student.

One of the most impactful lessons that Dr. Urra imparted to me was his encouragement to take advantage of the considerable time that we are able to spend with patients in our role as medical students. Through simple acts like holding a patient ' s hand or asking about their grandchildren, he never failed to demonstrate genuine care and compassion in each of his patient interactions. His example has helped teach me to do the same in my experiences thus far, and I am looking forward to continuing to foster meaningful relationships during LIC next year and throughout my career.

In summary, I feel incredibly fortunate to have had Dr. Urra as my preceptor this year. His mentorship has left an indelible mark on my medical education, shaping me into a more competent and compassionate future physician. While I easily could have nominated him for any category, it is his comprehensive excellence in all of these areas that I believe makes him most deserving of the Golden Stethoscope for Outstanding DOCS Preceptor.

Written by: Amanda Palutsis

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