

October 12, 2018

Hi Everyone.

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement goes to **Alice Chan-Yip**, a retired but still quite vigorous and engaged member of our Department, for her receiving an honorary doctorate from McGill University at the Spring Convocation for Continuing Education.

I have pasted below the quite detailed biography from the McGill website that captures why Alice so richly deserves this honor:

"B.Sc. (University of Ottawa), MD.CM (McGill University) Dr. Alice Mannor Chan-Yip was one of the first Chinese women to practice pediatrics in Montreal. In the 1970s she was invited to develop a half-day pediatric clinic in the Chinese Community and promptly recognized significant inequity of health status among refugee children and youths as compared to those of mainstream Canadian families. The observed clinical evidences included children with high prevalence rate of nutritional iron deficiency anemia, nursing and dental caries as well as underweight and delayed growth. Embarking on clinical research led her to identify risk factors such as social isolation; lack of prenatal classes for Chinese-speaking families or family-centered child birth education. Simultaneously, she also identified low breast feeding rate, maternal fatigue and post-partum depression among Chinese women. While studying the data collected she was motivated to sensitize community leaders to support her grant-applications, and subsequently develop culturally appropriate health promotional and research projects in the community.

Dr. Chan-Yip was also aware of the importance of culturally appropriate psychosocial support and actively engaged with community organizers and action groups to apply for Federal and Provincial grants and eventually established the Chinese Family Services of Greater Montreal in 1986.

A great philanthropist and community leader, Dr. Chan-Yip supports many charitable organizations including the Canadian Red Cross, the Canadian Wildlife Federation, World Relief, UNICEF, and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, SPCA.

In tribute to her late husband Professor Gar Lam Yip, a distinguished member of the Faculty of Engineering, she initiated a fund raising campaign which succeeded in establishing endowments for annual prize awards in Electromagnetic Theory to the graduating class, as well as post-graduate scholarships in the fields of fiber-optics and photonics and Summer Undergraduate Research Education Scholarship. The Gar Lam Yip Photonic and Guided Waves Laboratory at McGill University was named in memory of Professor Yip for his distinguished research at McGill and on the international stage.

She supports various endowments for prize awards and research scholarships at the McGill University Health Centre and in the Faculty of Medicine. More recently she helped establish a prize in Health and Social Services Management that supports adult learners in the School of Continuing Studies.

Through her tireless efforts in community engagement, clinical research and teaching at the McGill University Health Centre, and her involvement with the Canadian Pediatric Society, Dr. Chan-Yip has been instrumental in developing innovative and culturally appropriate programs.

In recognition of her service to the community she has been recognized with awards including the Intercultural Prize of the Montreal Children's Hospital and an Honor Award from the Chinese Family Service Centre of Greater Montreal for dedication to community health promotion. She is also the recipient of Certificate of Merit and the Inaugural Noni MacDonald Award given by the Canadian Pediatric Society, the latter recognizes an author whose work, published by The Journal of Pediatrics & Child Health, makes an important contribution to pediatric medicine.

In 2010, for her lifetime support to the community as a medical educator and philanthropist, Dr. Alice Mannor Chan-Yip was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada."

Please join me in congratulating Alice on this honor.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael

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