In Memoriam: S. Michael Marcy, MD, FAAP

Reflection by Ken Zangwill, Chief, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases,
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The Section on Infectious Diseases would like to acknowledge the life and contributions of S. Michael Marcy, MD, a member of our Section who died in September 2014. Since his passing, many individuals and institutions in pediatrics have celebrated Mike's accomplishments and dedication to his patients and our specialty. These tributes reflected his strong work ethic, endless enthusiasm for teaching and research, collegiality, and his well-earned position as a role model for many.

Mike was extremely active in pediatric infectious disease policy and education initiatives for decades, at every level. In addition to his work for the SOID, Mike was a valued member of the ACIP, AAP COID, and innumerable other committees and policy/practice groups at PIDS, AAP, CDC, AHRQ, and NCQA. Indeed, he could be counted on to give “100%” whether the task was high profile or thankless. For the SOID specifically, Mike was a member of the Executive Committee for 6 years and Co-Chair of the AAP PREP-ID Planning Group for 4 years. Mike was dedicated to the faculty whom he recruited to PREP-ID; let it be known that he picked up the tab for libations for several pre-conference faculty dinner gatherings (AAP does not reimburse such intemperance!). For SOID and other groups, he led many sessions at infectious disease meetings, frequently spoke at hospitals throughout the country, and was known for his animated, informative, and truly practical talks. In 2012, Mike received the SOID Award for Lifetime Contribution in Infectious Diseases Education, an honor which particularly moved him. Recently, the SOID Executive Committee has named its newly developed Visiting Professor Program after Mike as he clearly personified the raison d'être for this activity.

Many SOID members have shared in the “Marcy experience” which reflected his easy manner, scientific rigor, enjoyment of public service, and perhaps most importantly to him, modeling of the highest clinical standards in patient care. Regardless of context, Mike's joie de vivre could not be ignored. Mike was overtly humble and consistently gave due credit to others as the source of a clinical pearl. He could take and deliver a searing joke, but never failed to make a phone call on someone's behalf (sometimes telling the beneficiary, sometimes not). Mike Marcy - clinician, educator, researcher, raconteur, gastronome, lover of art and art history, friend, and all around mensch - lives on in the heart of the SOID.

Training Fellow’s Column
Seeking a Job in Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Annabelle de St. Maurice, MD, FAAP

Pediatric infectious diseases doctors have high job satisfaction and enjoy careers rich with educational, clinical and research opportunities. Leaving fellowship and seeking employment can be a daunting task, particularly given the current challenges in reimbursements and NIH funding. To gain insight into the job seeking process, we contacted several recent fellowship graduates to get their advice.

Utilize online job and organizational websites

One of the most consistent recommendations was that job seekers “look everywhere and talk to everyone.” Although the PIDS website is frequently used for job searches, other organizations and websites advertising jobs include: IDSA website, PedsJobs, CareerMD, LinkedIn, Doximity and even Google. There are also less traditional job opportunities for pediatric infectious diseases physicians in the government, private sector and non-governmental organizations such as PATH or the WHO. Pediatric infectious diseases physicians pursue careers in the pharmaceutical industry and with U.S. Government agencies (e.g., CDC, FDA, and NIH) and other organizations (e.g., Doctors without Borders, the Gates Foundation).

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