Focus on Faculty #22

Manuel Borod

Dr. Manny Borod was born in Montreal and received a BSc degree in biochemistry from McGill University. Afterward, he attended McGill medical school and graduated in 1976. Following an internship at St. Mary’s Hospital in Montreal, he spent a year doing emergency home visits for Telemedic – the predecessor of Urgences Santé. He then returned to complete his family medicine training at the Montreal General Hospital. After a two-year stint in San Diego practicing family medicine and completing his Master’s Degree in Public Health at UCLA, he returned to Montreal to become director of staff health at the Jewish General Hospital. During this period, he completed his MBA at Concordia University.

For the subsequent 15 years, Dr. Borod practiced family medicine in Ahuntsic and launched what became the largest Quebec-based employee assistance program – Proact which included a national critical incident response program. In 2000, he decided to embark on a career change and re-orient his interest to Palliative Care. After working for a year on the ward at the Royal Victoria Hospital Palliative Care Unit, he launched the Mount Sinai Palliative care program. At the MUHC, he became clinical director for palliative care in 2003 and subsequently the director of the Palliative Care Division in 2011.

During the following years and in collaboration with nurse manager, Rosemary O’Grady, Dr. Borod transformed the palliative care service at the MUHC to a comprehensive supportive care division. Under his leadership, numerous programs flourished. The consultation service and outpatient clinic became essential services at the MUHC. The lymphoedema program under Dr. Anna Towers and the rehabilitation and cachexia program under Dr. Antonio Vigano established themselves as world leaders. In 2010 with the collaboration Dr. Yoram Shir from the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit of the MUHC, he established one of the only cancer pain programs in the country. This program was awarded the Prix de cancerologie in 2015 by the Direction Québécoise de cancerologie for organization of services. In addition, under his direction, the cancer survivorship program was launched at the MUHC in 2014. For these programs, Dr. Borod was awarded the 2014 MUHC-McGill University Department of Medicine Award for Innovation in Clinical Care or Quality. Dr. Borod is excited for 2017 as the MUHC Cancer Care Mission looks
forward to establishing the Cedar’s Supportive Care Center that will house the divisions’ programs in a facility adjacent to the Cedar’s Cancer Centre.

Dr. Borod has always enjoyed teaching and mentoring both students and staff. He has been invited to give countless lectures on pain, ethics, and humour. When not at work Dr. Borod enjoys spending time with his daughter Andrea and granddaughter Maggie, as well as playing golf and talking hockey with his son Ari. He looks forward to visits on the ward from his wife Diana who brings Gracie – the world’s best therapy dog.

We asked Dr. Borod to list a few of his articles whose work he is particularly proud or enjoyed the most. This is what he provided:

