Congratulatons to all SBH Graduates

Doctors Day Celebration

Dr. Judith Berger, director of SBH’s Division of Infectious Diseases, arrived at St. Barnabas Hospital in November 1986 during the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, caring for young people who were dying from what they thought was an incurable disease. Years later, she would be at the forefront in helping the hospital prepare for another killer – the Ebola virus. Recognized for her role as an extraordinary teacher and mentor, compassionate and meticulous clinician, puzzle solver, and person of honor and integrity, Dr. Berger was recognized by her colleagues during the hospital’s Doctors Day Service and Recognition Awards with its highest honor, the Ronald L. Cisbotaer Physician to Physician Award. The award was established in 2014 in the memory of the beloved SBH physician who embodied the highest values and standards. The award acknowledges an individual with an “exceptional clinician, dedicated mentor and valued colleague, characterized by integrity and humility and deeply committed to teaching and the delivery of compassionate care.”

“My thought is I’d stay a year or two and I have been here now for 30-plus years,” said Dr. Berger in accepting the award. “It’s the camaraderie that kept me here. It’s a place I keep close to my heart.” She was introduced by Dr. Brian Delaney, who called her “my teacher and mentor,” and who added the comments of many of her long-time colleagues, who described her as “a person of honor and integrity…a mensch” (Dr. Malcolm Phillips), “a true scholar of medicine” (Dr. Daniel Angel), “someone who will always do the right thing” (Dr. James Croll), and “an extraordinary teacher and role model” (Dr. Victoria Bengualid).

Dr. Marcia Albert, a senior emergency medicine physician who, received the Medical Staff Achievement Award. Dr. Albert, who did her residency training at St. Barnabas Hospital in the early 1990s – first stepping foot at the hospital in 1987 when he was a medical student in the Caribbean – has long been “the face” of SBH, appearing frequently on local and national television, in workshops about health and medical issues. “When I met Dr. Albert, she was working on a skyscraper in Manhattan with [his father’s construction company], I never in a million years thought I’d be in this position,” he said in accepting the award.

Dr. Ilmana Fulger, division director of Hematology/Oncology, received the Medical Staff Service Award. Dr. Fulger, when she was a medical student in the Caribbean – has long been “the face” of SBH, appearing frequently on local and national television, in workshops about health and medical issues. “When I met Dr. Albert, she was working on a skyscraper in Manhattan with [his father’s construction company], I never in a million years thought I’d be in this position,” he said in accepting the award.