



Graduation Speech given by Dr. Andres Boadella , June 7, 2013

Dr. Fuhrman, Dr. Singh, Dr. Prieto, faculty, staff, honored guests and family members

Welcome to this very special edition of morning report. Last night we had an admission of a 6 m/o with fever, rhinorrhea and diarrhea. He denies headache ear ache and all vaccines are up to date, no significant past medical hx, no daily medications, negative surgical history.....

I hope that in these past 3 years you have deemed us worthy of not being a danger to others.... But don't worry because July 1st you will have a brand new group of menaces to worry about...

It is hard to believe that three years have gone by. It seems like only yesterday we were looking around at each other in orientation trying to figure each other out. Many of us remember introducing ourselves for the first time by saying our names only to get a reply of, "I'm sorry what.....? How do you spell that??"

These past 3 years have been filled with lifelong lessons of both human suffering as well as great moments of joy experienced by the delivery of a brand new life. Whatever the experience may be if it were not for our Parents, Attendings, Faculty, Staff, our Spouses and Children, we would not be here without you today, here and now. Many think that we are here today to celebrate us but we are here to celebrate you, mostly for putting up with us and allowing us to carry out our dreams of being great pediatricians.

Many of us have finally realized, after going countless numbers of times to the delivery rooms, where babies come from! Well maybe not at 3:30 am after almost being up for 24 hours, at that moment we tend to forget who we are and what we're doing.... Of course that would be the "Eat-when-you-can,-sleep-when-you-can" rotation famously known as NICU. Of course we all know that NICU stands for No Intern Can Understand... The up side to having rotations like NICU and PICU is that we have rotations like adolescent medicine where we can go relax, grab a chair and listen to teenagers teach us about the birds and the bees. Then we go back to NICU and find out that they were right all along about where babies come from....

You have trained us to be great pediatricians. We have become your tools to go and touch the community at the root of medicine. After all, pediatrics is where it all begins. We have a great responsibility that has been bestowed upon us by you. A great responsibility that cannot be measured with a paycheck or a board exam, but by providing our patients with relief, guidance, and a healing hand that makes them feel that everything will be all right. Nothing can ever be as gratifying as hearing a child laugh and putting a parent at ease.

Most importantly, we would like to thank our patients and their parents who asked us to learn from their disease and pain and suffering so that we may better understand how to treat and cure others. Although this compassion is acquired, it is you our faculty, that have lead the way to obtaining it. For this, we will never forget you.

Last but not least, Ms. Gabby, Ms. Yolie, Ms. Acosta; without you nothing and I mean absolutely nothing, would be possible. We are so grateful for your hard work and effort. We will never forget you. Your office space is where we always go for answers, it's our little security blanket. We will never forget how we always felt at home just by stopping in to say hi.

Thank you all for this life changing experience, it is truly the fiber of what life is made of.

-Dr. Andres Boadella, Class of 2013

