August 17, 2021

To: Members of the Department of Family & Community Medicine

From: Patricia Houston, MD, MEd, FRCPC
Acting Dean, Temerty Faculty of Medicine

Re: Appointment of Dr. Danielle Martin as Chair, Department of Family & Community Medicine

I am pleased to announce that the Agenda Committee of the Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Danielle Martin as Chair of the Department of Family & Community Medicine (DFCM) for a 5-year term beginning October 1, 2021.

Dr. Martin is Associate Professor in the DFCM, with cross-appointments at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health. She is a consultant to the World Health Organization on primary health care and universal health coverage and has conducted extensive policy advisory work for local, national and international governments and organizations, including for Canada’s Minister and Deputy Minister of Health. She sits on the board of directors of the Wellesley Institute, where she currently chairs the Anti-Black Racism Task Force.

Dr. Martin’s research and creative professional activity centre on improving health care quality, equity and access in universal health care systems, and she has published extensively in the peer-reviewed literature on these themes. She has published a best-selling book on health system transformation in Canada (www.6bigideas.ca). A dedicated educator, mentor and role model to learners aspiring to enter medicine and health care leadership, she has supervised dozens of trainees at the Masters and PhD levels and in postgraduate medical research.

Over the last 8 years, Dr. Martin has served in progressively more senior roles at Women’s College Hospital (WCH), most recently as Executive Vice President and Lead Medical Executive. She co-founded WIHV, the Institute for Health System Solutions and Virtual Care; led the establishment of Women’s Virtual, Canada’s first virtual hospital; and was the medical lead for the hospital’s pandemic response, among many other achievements.

Dr. Martin completed a BSc in Biochemistry at McGill University, an MD at Western University, residency at St. Michael’s Hospital and a Master’s degree in Public Policy from the School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Martin has been honoured with numerous awards, including the Federation of Medical Women of Canada Honorary Lifetime Membership; Chatelaine Women of the Year; CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research Article of the Year; Ontario College of Family Physicians Award of Excellence; Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation Peggy Leatt Knowledge and Impact Award, and many more. In 2019 she became the youngest physician ever to receive the F.N.G Starr Award, the highest honour available to Canadian Medical Association members.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Martin on her appointment. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Professor David Tannenbaum for his superb leadership as Interim Chair of the Department since April 2020.