

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents and fellows, and to provide quality health care while remaining connected to the initial impulse to care for others in this environment. Parker J. Palmer is the author of the book *The Courage to Teach*; his promotion of the concept of “living divided no more” has proven relevant to teaching in academic health centers.



David K. Barnes, MD, FACEP

Emergency Medicine
University of California Davis Health
Sacramento, California

Nominators had this to say:

“He teaches widely beyond the residency program: emergency department nurses, nurse practitioner/physician assistant students in the UC Davis School of Nursing, paramedics and EMTs in private schools, and previously as EMS medical director for Yolo County. He teaches medical students during the School of Medicine’s transition to clerkship curriculum and high school students of under-represented minorities in the Prep Medico experience.”

“After a decade as program director, here are a few highlights of Dr. Barnes’s achievements:

- Expanded residency program from 12 to 20 residents
- Created new academic and financial partnerships with multiple organizations
- Developed a quality improvement curriculum including a novel patient experience encounter
- Created a new chief resident process and helped develop a Northern California- wide annual chief resident retreat
- Renovated and rejuvenated the residency program’s didactic conference
- Replaced 12-hour resident shifts in the emergency department with 10-hour shifts
- Worked with the US Air Force to embed two clinician educators who support the military residency and student program
- Developed Transition to Residency program for incoming PGY-1s
- Championed residency program’s diversity and inclusion efforts