ACGME Awards Program

2017 Award Recipients
Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award

The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award honors designated institutional officials (DIOs) who have demonstrated excellence in overseeing residency/fellowship programs at their Sponsoring Institutions. DIOs have authority and responsibility for all graduate medical education programs in a teaching hospital, community hospital, or other type of institution that sponsors such programs. The ACGME congratulates the recipients of the 2017 Courage to Lead Award.

**Madeline Erario, MD, FACP**
Inova Fairfax Medical Campus
Falls Church, VA

**Abdulla K. Ghori, MD**
MetroHealth Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH

**Rita M. Patel, MD**
UPMC Medical Education
Pittsburgh, PA
Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award  
for Program Director Excellence

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. The ACGME congratulates the 2017 recipients of the Courage to Teach Award.

Melvin S. Blanchard, MD, FACP  
Program Director for Internal Medicine  
Barnes Jewish Hospital/Washington University  
School of Medicine  
St. Louis, MO

Vu Q.C. Nguyen, MD, MBA  
Program Director for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Carolinas Medical Center/Carolinas Rehabilitation  
Charlotte, NC

Steven H. Bowman, MD, FACEP  
Program Director for Emergency Medicine  
Cook County Health and Hospital System  
Chicago, IL

Jill A. Patton, DO  
Program Director for Internal Medicine  
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital  
Park Ridge, IL

Susie Buchter, MD  
Program Director for Pediatrics  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA

Richard J. Pels, MD  
Program Director for Internal Medicine  
Cambridge Health Alliance  
Cambridge, MA

Sharhabeel M. Jwayyed, MD, MS, FACEP, FAAEM  
Program Director for Emergency Medicine  
Summa Health  
Akron, OH

Vicki Shanker, MD  
Program Director for Neurology  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Downtown  
New York, NY

Adam I. Levine, MD  
Program Director for Anesthesiology  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
New York, NY

William T. Shimeall, MD, MPH, FACP  
Program Director for Internal Medicine  
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center/National Capital Consortium  
Bethesda, MD
David C. Leach Award

The ACGME created this award in 2008 to honor of former ACGME Executive Director David C. Leach, MD (1997-2007) and his contributions to resident education and well-being. This award is unique in that it acknowledges and honors residents, fellows, and resident/fellow teams, and their contributions to graduate medical education. The ACGME congratulates the 2017 recipients of the David C. Leach Award.

LCDR Samuel D. Frasier, MD, MC, USN
Team member: Lt Col Jacob M. Wessler, MD, FAAP, USAF, MC
Otolaryngology
Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
Chesapeake, VA

Gordon Powers, MD
Family Medicine
University of Vermont
Milton, VT

Aalap C. Shah, MD
Team members: Meghan Flanagan, MD, MPH; Katy Flynn-O’Brien, MD, MPH;
Andrew Herstein, MD; Barbara DeWitt, RN; Elizabeth Visco, CRNA
Anesthesiology
University of Washington
Seattle, WA
GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award

The GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award honors and recognizes the pivotal position of the institutional coordinator. The ACGME congratulates the 2017 recipient of the GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award.

Richard A. Boggs, MSA
San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium
JBSA Fort Sam Houston, TX
GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award

The GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award honors and recognizes the crucial role that program coordinators play in the success of a residency/fellowship program. The ACGME congratulates the recipients of the 2017 GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award.

Dennis E. Henson
Urology
VCU Health
Richmond, VA

Theresa M. Hill, C-TAGME
Orthopaedic Surgery
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

Georgina Rink, C-TAGME
Psychiatry
Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

Thea Stranger-Najjar
Pediatrics
University of Chicago
Chicago, IL

Terri Trotter
Ophthalmology
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA