In an effort to honor the former Executive Director of the ACGME (1997 – 2007), David C. Leach, MD, and his contributions to resident education and well being, the ACGME created this award in 2008. This award is unique in that it acknowledges and honors residents, fellows, and resident/fellow teams and their contribution to graduate medical education. Congratulations to this year's recipients!

Donald W. Buck II, MD
Plastic Surgery
Northwestern University
Chicago, IL

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Buck developed and implemented the first ever plastic surgery residency curriculum for the junior residents. Prior to his input, the curriculum was focused at higher level more senior learners. This intervention has led to improved satisfaction within the plastic surgery residency. Second, Dr. Buck created a plastic surgery survival guide handbook containing relevant and critical education components for the work-up and care of the plastic surgery patient. These contributions to our residency program have both improved patient care and have improved raw test scores for our program in the annual American Board of Plastic Surgery in-service examination. Dr. Buck's contributions are the greatest educational advancements in our program in the last 10 years.”

“Dr. Buck certainly deserves credit for informally teaching professional writing and paper presentation to the residents in Plastic Surgery at Northwestern. He is an accomplished educator and researcher and his numerous presentations with other residents in the program have considerably upgraded the level of presentation in the Division of Plastic Surgery.”