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Dr. Paul Friedmann and Dr. William T. Williams honored with ACGME's Gienapp Award

Physicians who co-chaired work group on resident duty hour standards honored for outstanding service

CHICAGO, Jan. 14, 2003 – In recognition of their notable contributions to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Paul Friedmann, MD, and William T. Williams Jr., MD, will receive the ACGME's 2003 John C. Gienapp award. The annual award, which will be presented at the ACGME's Feb. 10-11 meeting, honors persons who have made distinguished contributions to graduate medical education and the accreditation process.

Dr. Friedmann and Dr. Williams recently co-chaired the Council's work group on resident duty hours, which developed the resident duty hour standards that take effect in July. Dr. Friedmann previously served as chairman of the ACGME's Board of Directors and the Residency Review Committee for Surgery. Dr. Williams also served as chairman of the ACGME's Institutional Review Committee and co-chaired a task force on rewriting institutional requirements.

The two physicians exemplify the dedication of the ACGME's volunteer physicians who, through their service to the Council, improve patient care by improving the way physicians are educated, said David C. Leach, MD, the ACGME's executive director.

"While everyone is essential to the success of an organization, occasionally individuals come along who contribute so effectively and consistently the community feels compelled to recognize their efforts," said Dr. Leach. "Paul Friedmann and Bill Williams are two such individuals. Long service on the review committees, acceptance of hard supplemental assignments to improve the ACGME and graduate medical education, and an uncanny ability to address complicated problems with grace and ease have resulted in this recognition."

Dr. Friedmann, a surgeon, is senior vice president for academic affairs for Baystate Health System in Springfield,

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Mass., and a professor of surgery at Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Williams, a retired internist and pediatrician, is a clinical professor of medicine and pediatrics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. Before retirement, he also served as chief medical officer for the Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte, N.C.

The Gienapp award, established in 1999, honors John C. Gienapp, PhD, who served as the ACGME's executive director from 1980 to 1998.

The ACGME is a private, non-profit council that accredits about 7,800 medical residency programs in 26 medical specialties affecting almost 100,000 medical residents. Its mission is to improve the quality of health care in the United States by ensuring and improving the quality of graduate medical education for physicians in training.

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