



**Accreditation Council for
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**David C. Leach, MD, honored with AAMC's Flexner Award for
outstanding contributions to medical education**

CHICAGO, Nov. 3, 2007—David C. Leach, MD, the executive director of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, has received the 2007 Abraham Flexner Award for Distinguished Service to Medical Education from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

The award was presented to Dr. Leach during the AAMC's annual meeting, held Nov. 2-7 in Washington, D.C. Each year the AAMC gives the award to a leader in academic medicine who had made extraordinary contributions to medical education.

In presenting the award, the AAMC cited Dr. Leach's gift for bringing together key stakeholders in medical education, the Council's introduction of the common duty hour standards for residency programs, and Dr. Leach's leadership in developing a web-based learning portfolio for residents and moving residency programs to an outcomes-based system of teaching and evaluating residents.

Dr. Leach said he was honored to represent the many people who contribute to medical education.

“The Flexner Award is the most important award given by the profession to honor people who have taken education seriously. Anyone who has done so knows that education is not a solo event-any progress that has been made is attributable to the many communities and individuals who have done this work,” said Dr. Leach. “I am humbled and also tremendously honored to represent them. Taking the formation of residents seriously is an essential component of the profession’s journey to authenticity.”

Dr. Leach will retire from the ACGME in December after serving 10 years as executive director of the Council.

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The ACGME is a private, non-profit organization that accredits 8,200 medical residency programs in 126 specialties and subspecialties educating 103,000 residents. Its mission is to improve health care by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians’ education through accreditation.