

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.



Stacey Quintero Wolfe, MD, FAANS

Neurological Surgery
Wake Forest Baptist Health
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Wolfe has been nothing short of transformational, completely redesigning the academic and research structure. Raising over \$250,000 in educational grant funding for resident training has benefited numerous programs, including cadaver labs, revamped visiting professor program, resident wellness programs, and support of pilot funding for resident research projects. She raised resident academic

performance to an unprecedented level as measured by their scores on the oral board exam.

“She is a superb clinician and an innovator in neurosurgical treatment of stroke who leads the residents by example of her excellent clinical care. She is a true surgeon scientist and is the recipient of numerous grants related to hemorrhagic stroke and cerebrovascular pathophysiology and is Co-PI of our NINOS Stroke Net.”

“Dr. Wolfe joined our faculty almost 10 years ago after training as an endovascular neurosurgeon at the University of Miami. She then completed her duty in the United States Armed Services as a neurosurgeon who bridged both Army and Navy services at the Tripler Hospital in Hawaii. This unique posting allowed her to bring two very different services together in an environment of health care and healing.”

“We had recently lost a beloved program director to cancer and the morale in the program was as low as I [had] seen it in years. In this difficult time, Dr. Wolfe injected a spirit of joy and purpose that elevated the role of the teacher and frankly the student as well. Disciplined efforts to improve study for written Board exams elevated the scores to heights that we have never seen. Research expectation was elevated such that in short order, two of her trainees received prestigious recognition and grants from the Neurosurgical Research and Education Foundation. She initiated and promoted a wellness

program for faculty and residents that brought the team together. Her educational spirit has extended to the continent of Africa where she is directing the curriculum for a new neurosurgical training program at Tenwek in Kenya.”