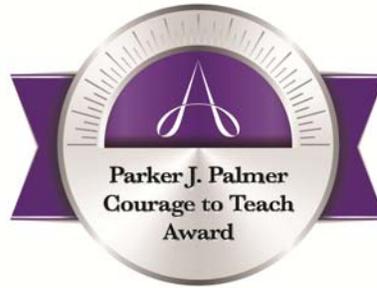


Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award
for Program Director Excellence



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents/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

Nominators had this to say:

“[Dr. Blanchard] is a clinical genius, demonstrating bedside and problem-solving skills that stand alongside those of some of the most famous names in American medical history. This is illustrated by the many times he has been voted Clinical Teacher of the Year at the medical school.”

“Dr. Blanchard's ability to analyze cases is also legendary. A few years ago, while delivering an invited Clinical-Pathological Conference at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he deduced from subtle clinical clues the presence of Vitamin A and Vitamin C deficiency that none of the physicians managing the patient had suspected. The audience responded by giving him a standing ovation. This CPC was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM 2014;370:159-66).”

“Eight years ago, he developed an electronic tool for engaging residents in improving the quality of outpatient care in the residents' clinic. Residents were provided detailed individualized reports on their patient panels as well as comparative peer data. Residents could thereby identify areas for improvement and implement needed changes in their personal practices. This project resulted in his delivering a podium presentation at an AAMC forum on quality improvement. More importantly, it resulted in a documentable improvement in the quality of care provided by our residents in their clinic practices.”