

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients

Prathibha Varkey, MD

Preventive Medicine

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN



Nominators had this to say:

Dr. Varkey has served as program director of the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education (MSGME) Preventive, Occupational and Aerospace Medicine Fellowship at Mayo Clinic Rochester since 2005. She is highly regarded by her fellows as an educator, role model, mentor and colleague. She is an enthusiastic teacher in a variety of settings that range from the traditional apprenticeship model of bedside instruction to the design of innovative experiential learning curricula. The fellows in her program appreciate the passion Dr. Varkey exhibits on a daily basis, her responsiveness to their suggestions and her effective advocacy on their behalf.

A major area of focus and achievement for Dr. Varkey has involved her educational activities in support of quality, safety and value in patient care. She has demonstrated leadership ability in developing a quality safety curriculum for residents and fellows that has been established as a required educational experience for all MSGME trainees. She also showed exceptional leadership and contributed to faculty development in working with other program directors to implement training in quality and safety throughout the school and she played a major role in assuring the ACGME competencies were understood, taught and measured in all ACGME-accredited training programs at Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Varkey has genuine passion for medical education. She is already an accomplished educator and her ambition, motivation and drive predict continued success. She sees no problem as too large, no aspiration as too high and no effort as too great in the pursuit of her goals. I am confident she will continue to reach the ambitious goals she has set for herself and I am pleased to support her nomination for the Parker J. Palmer award.