

2012 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients
for Program Director Excellence



Mary E. Klingensmith, MD

Surgery
Washington University
St. Louis, MO

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Klingensmith has been responsible for completely revamping our didactic educational program. As discussions have occurred on a national level from the American Surgical Association's Blue Ribbon Panel, the American Board of Surgery and the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Klingensmith has actively adapted the curriculum of our program in anticipation of the changes that have been recommended by these national groups. The coordination of the topics for education and the integration of clinical, basic, and even social science methodologies, has lead her to become the leader of the SCORE project for the American Board of Surgery. This project is establishing a core curriculum for surgical residency education. Now, some 80 percent of the surgical training programs subscribe to SCORE. Dr. Klingensmith has been the champion of the SCORE project and has been the driving force for its implementation.”

“She, along with Dr. Ira Kodner, has again helped establish Washington University School of Medicine as a leader in surgical ethics. She has enlisted a dozen beta sites to join our institution. She has collaborated with the American College of Surgeons to integrate ethics training in surgical education. Her vision, innovation, and ability to integrate diverse opinions, has led to an extremely exciting program that has clearly had a national impact on surgical education.”