

**Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients**  
**For Program Director Excellence 2014**



The ACGME is proud to announce the ten recipients of the 2014 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award, which honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents 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* and whose promotion of the concept of "living divided no more" has proven relevant to teaching in academic health centers. Congratulations to this year's recipients!



**William R. Graessle, MD**  
Program Director for Pediatrics  
Cooper University Hospital  
Camden, NJ

**Nominators had this to say:**

"He developed and runs the fatigue and wellness seminars at the hospital as well as the orientation for new residents. Bill gives a great face to the organization early on and again displays some of the "heart" we want to convey to our trainees as they begin their careers. Bill continues to think of new ways to teach, to achieve quality and to improve medical education. Last year Bill arranged a week long faculty development program for the institution that engaged faculty and trainees alike to talk about education, assessment, quality and patient safety .That immersion week - where we all focused on education- was extremely well received in the institution."

"Dr. Graessle is a leader and a mentor. He teaches by example, embracing our institution's fairly new push toward universal family centered rounding as an avenue to lend residents not only his clinical knowledge (which we sometimes think knows no bounds) but his "style points": allowing us to participate with him in difficult conversations with families, to perform examinations in real time as he does, to discuss decisions as a cohesive team that includes not only the medical providers but the family as well."