David C. Leach Award



Named to honor the ACGME's former Executive Director, Dr. David C. Leach (1997 – 2007), and his commitment to resident education and physician well-being, this award recognizes resident/fellow-led projects and innovations.



David R. Velez, MD Surgery University of North Dakota West Fargo, North Dakota

About the project:

"Dr. Velez created an educational program, The Operative Review of Surgery. It is an online educational resource dedicated to the practice of surgery. It is committed to providing the most effective, up-to-date, and comprehensive material for residents, students, and practicing physicians. It is completely free and is intended for the sole altruistic purpose of providing access to education

and assistance to trainees in need of help. It consists of three sections including a comprehensive review of general surgery, a section on dealing with on call problems, and an ABSITE section. The site has been used by residents inside and outside our program, and around the world. The resource is free and available to all at https://operativereview.com/."

"Additionally, Dr. Velez has produced a number of original publications as lead author related to surgical education in areas such as rotation schedules, ABSITE preparation, and didactic formats. His project on rotation schedules and ABSITE was selected as the top research project in our program last year."