

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award honors Designated Institutional Officials (DIOs) who have demonstrated excellence in overseeing residency programs at their sponsoring institutions. DIOs have authority and responsibility for all graduate medical education programs in a teaching hospital, community hospital or other type of institution that sponsors residency programs.



Nedd I. Brown, EdD

Designated Institutional Official
University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Brown is an extraordinary leader, by philosophy and by example. To further incorporate quality improvement projects into the resident experience, he championed institutional commitment to resident representation at the annual Institute for Healthcare Improvement conference.”

“Dr. Brown has restructured our GME process with his development of "Report Cards" and a live "Dashboard" providing program directors and administrators the capability to organize and analyze information critical to a healthy learning environment. These tools incorporate data from resident surveys along with other vital metrics such as evaluation completion compliance. We review this data together with the opportunity to reflect upon our strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. Through his leadership, he fosters a setting where programs and administrators utilize this data to share and innovate together.”

“Starting a new procedure based (general surgery) residency in an exclusive RVU-based environment with volunteer faculty is a monumental task and I could not have done it without the support, guidance and mentorship of Dr. Brown. There are many examples I can think of, but two key areas that stand out; faculty development and resident empowerment.”