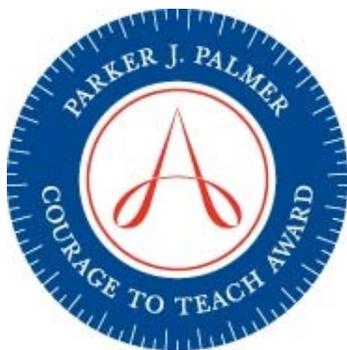
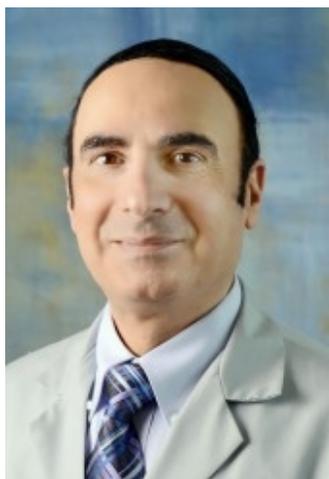


## **Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award** **for Program Director Excellence**



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents/fellows and to provide quality health care while remaining connected to the initial impulse to care for others in this environment. The ACGME congratulates the 2015 recipients of the Courage to Teach Award.



**Bashar M. Attar, MD, PhD**

Program Director for Gastroenterology  
Cook County Health and Hospitals System  
Chicago, IL

**Nominators had this to say:**

“Over 20 years, Dr. Attar has trained more than 1339 internal medicine residents and fellows. Dr. Attar has built a novel tool to elicit feedback from past graduates at 1 and 5 years regarding the training program. He also invites past fellows to a dinner meeting every 4 years during Digestive Disease Week. This feedback is extremely helpful in further improving the quality of training program.”

“Perhaps the best known efforts of Dr. Attar are his work in the Chicago Society for Gastroenterology by creating a fellow competition each year. Fellows present their clinical research studies that look into outcomes, PBL, SSP, QI and patient safety competitions which improved fellows' communication skills, professionalism, and allowed them to network.”

“One of the most innovative areas of our educational program is the combined case conference between Cook County and Rush Medical Center. Dr. Attar is a founder of this conference. A fellow from each institution presents a clinical case followed by a well-researched discussion of pertinent literature. This unique experience makes the trainees confident in all the six ACGME core competencies. The fellow becomes efficient in searching pre-appraised resources and critically appraising them based on Evidence Based Medicine.”