

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award 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.



Preston Howard Blomquist, MD

Program Director for Ophthalmology
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

Nominators had this to say:

"Dr. Blomquist embodies the Parker J. Palmer's "courage to teach" philosophy as the consummate teacher, mentor, advisor and role model for all. In recognition of his excellence in teaching, he has received numerous awards, including the highest award for any Ophthalmology Residency Program Director in the country, the Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education."

"A dedicated teacher and respected authority, Preston has been elected to a number of national committees and is one of the leaders in the world of Ophthalmology education. He is a passionate advocate for residents' rights, a strong supporter of residency training, and always maintains the highest standards for resident education."

"If there is ever question or doubt about how to approach a certain situation, we need to do nothing more than to look at the example set forth by Dr. Blomquist. Whether it is counseling a patient through a difficult situation, providing constructive feedback during a surgical procedure, or simply telling a technician or staff member that they did an excellent job, Dr. Blomquist truly is a role model of professionalism for all of us in this program. He cares deeply about his patients, his staff, his residents, and his colleagues with genuine sincerity, and he is ready to help anyone who needs it at all hours of the day and night."