

## 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.



### **David Della-Giustina, MD, FACEP**

Program Director for Emergency Medicine  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut

#### **Nominators had this to say:**

“Dr. Della-Giustina's courage is exemplified not only by his service on the front lines in Afghanistan and Iraq, but by his work on the front lines of an inner-city ED, sharing his personal experiences and challenges with residents so that they can emerge as better leaders.”

“An internationally renowned leader in Wilderness Medicine education, Dr. Della-Giustina is one of the originators of "Advanced Wilderness Life Support", a course taught internationally. He is also on the Board of the Wilderness Medical Society and responsible for education within the society.”

“As Dr. Palmer wrote, a good teacher must “yield some control in order to empower the group.” Dr. Della-Giustina’s commitment to this ideal is evident to every Yale Emergency Medicine resident from the day we start as interns. He encourages academic innovation and expects us to take joint responsibility for our program. His embrace of resident feedback has led to myriad tangible impacts including: a complete re-working of our orthopedics and toxicology rotations, a new ophthalmology rotation, expanded administration exposure, and the addition of Advanced Wilderness Life Support.”