

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 2016 recipients of the Courage to Teach Award.



Phillip N. Rauk, MD

Program Director for Obstetrics & Gynecology
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

Nominators had this to say:

“When I was offered an experience at the World Health Organization, it required extra petitioning due to the length of time away from the program. Dr. Rauk, rather than another stepping block to becoming approved, became my staunch advocate and helped ensure that this amazing experience could take place. I am forever grateful.”

“[Dr. Rauk] was the leader of the Zero Birth Injury initiative in our residency, advocating for patient safety and encouraging residents to do so as well.”

“Residents reported feeling that their surgical procedures lacked instant feedback. So, he developed a form to be used to discuss each case with an attending immediately after the case- not only creating an incentive for feedback, but also facilitating more evaluation of residents for the new Core Competencies.”

“Dr. Rauk’s excellence has been recognized nationally as he has been elected to the CREOG Council as the Region 4 Representative and he also serves on the CREOG Executive Committee. Through his leadership, our Residency Program has initiated and helped to develop the CREOG Milestones. In order to accomplish this task, Dr. Rauk has incorporated faculty development, learning modules, evaluation tools and mentoring programs for Residents and faculty.”