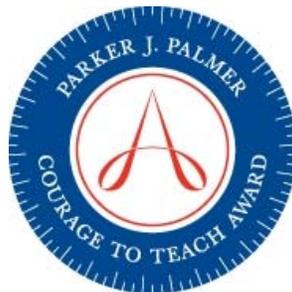


2011 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients

for Program Director Excellence



Christian de Virgilio, MD

General Surgery
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
Torrance, CA

Nominators had this to say:

As Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Surgery and Residency Training Program Director, he has “raised the performance level and reputation of the general surgery residency to unequaled heights. This has been accomplished through innovative and daring programmatic additions such as a weekly American Board of Surgery In-Training Examination (ABSITE) written practice test and review that comprehensively covers the entire field of general surgery educational content. As a result of this effort the average ABSITE test scores for the Harbor-UCLA General Surgery Residency has risen from just above the 50th percentile to the 80th percentile. Because of this success these original examinations have been collated in to an instructional textbook for surgeons in training and teaching programs around the country that is currently in the process of publication.”

“Over the past 12 years, he has captured the Golden Apple Award as the Faculty Teacher of the Year in the School of Medicine no less than 10 times.”

“An example of extreme commitment to humanism and charitable giving has been Dr. de Virgilio's commitment to safe and expert surgical care of the disadvantaged. His surgical practice in vascular surgery is limited to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, a Los Angeles County public hospital that ministers to an almost exclusively indigent patient population, and the Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center that exclusively cares for veterans of the U.S. military.”