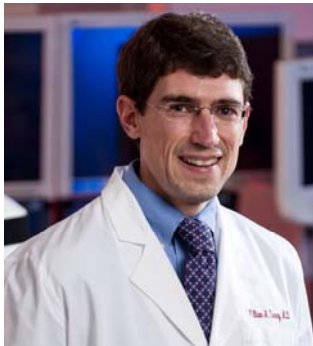


Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients
For Program Director Excellence 2013



The ACGME is proud to announce the ten recipients of the 2013 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award, which 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. Congratulations to this year's recipients!



William M. Tierney, MD

Program Director for Gastroenterology
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Oklahoma City, OK

Nominators had this to say:

"Dr Tierney has demonstrated leadership at both local and national levels. Locally he was awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award on the Internal Medicine Clerkship, and awarded the prestigious Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award. Nationally he has been named to America's Top Gastroenterologists and served in leadership positions of the American Gastroenterology Association and American Society for GI endoscopy."

"As we have progressed through our training each of us has developed interests in certain specialties within gastroenterology (e.g. advanced endoscopy) and he has revised the program or our individual schedules to foster our skills and interests in those areas. Many of the recent changes to our program were his response to our requests. His flexibility and desire to encourage each of us in our personal interests has been very popular and appreciated by the trainees. For example, one of us was interested in focusing on liver diseases and Dr. Tierney revised one of his two continuity clinics to be dedicated to patients with liver diseases. He recently added an advanced endoscopy elective, and this year he opened up a much anticipated transplant rotation."

"In addition to the development of a highly flexible and well-designed curriculum, Dr. Tierney has also been instrumental in the professional development of his fellows and bringing patient safety, quality improvement, and humanism to the fellowship program. Recently Dr. Tierney implemented a

professional development conference for his trainees. As an example, the fellows have participated in sessions such as "Building and Maintaining Your Curriculum Vitae" as part of professional development. He has sponsored a professional development retreat to foster strong collaborative bonds and cohesion among fellows and their families with the section. He has also implemented quality improvement conferences and has begun using performance improvement projects and performance data to evaluate both clinical efficacy and instructing residents and fellows on quality and performance improvement."

"He is that rare breed of teacher who commands the highest respect from his students simply by the force of his example."