

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!



Craig D. Shriver, MD, FACS

Program Director for General Surgery
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Bethesda, MD

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Shriver is the subject matter expert and teacher of the sentinel lymph node biopsy procedure as applied to breast cancer and malignant melanoma. His innovativeness in scholarly activities related to sentinel lymph node biopsy using a non-blue dye technique is well documented in his curriculum vitae. His innovativeness and devotion and compassion towards patients are illustrated in his presentations on the topics of development of institutional programs for sentinel node biopsies in breast cancer and building a Breast Center. Dr. Shriver's unique approach to teaching and patient safety was ahead of its time in 1998 when he spearheaded a course on training surgical residents in complex open surgery through the use of cadaver pro-section course. Dr. Shriver's ability to think outside of the box is demonstrated by his publication on a new paradigm for integrating translational research into comprehensive breast care in the *Seminars in Breast Disease Journal*.”

“[Dr. Shriver is a] recognized Program Director of only 3 General Surgery Residency Training Programs in the country with a 100% first time board exam pass rate over 10 years (1998-2008). Since then, our Program has had a total of 53 general surgery graduates, of whom 47 have completed both the Certifying (written) and Qualifying (oral) Board Exam; 46 have passed on the first time and one graduate (in 2009) passed on the second attempt, for a total of a 98% first time board exam pass rate over 14 graduating classes and 47 graduates.”

“On top of all other attributes as an educator, Colonel Craig Shriver demonstrates commitment and passion for teaching our residents. Nowhere was this more evident than in early 2011 when he was deployed to Afghanistan. Overcoming many obstacles, Colonel Shriver made it a priority and a reality to establish a reliable phone link back to Bethesda, allowing him to weigh in from afar on all matters pertaining to our department and our residency program with the acting PO, associate PO, and program coordinators weekly meeting. Even in his absence, Dr. Shriver's presence was felt by all of us.”