

**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 2015 recipients of the Courage to Teach Award.



**Karl C. Golnik, MD, MEd**  
Program Director for Ophthalmology  
University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, OH

**Nominators had this to say:**

“I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Golnik in his pursuit of improving educational systems for ophthalmologists-in-training worldwide. Dr. Golnik has spearheaded a mission to create surgical competency assessment tools for procedures that are common to ophthalmology residents such as cataract extraction, strabismus surgery and eyelid surgery. I co-authored a paper with Dr. Golnik on the validity of an original surgical competency assessment tool in conjunction with eye surgeons in Argentina, China, England, India and Turkey. Our follow-up study also included faculty eye surgeons in Australia, Israel, Mexico and Scotland. Our assessment tool has been adopted by the International Council of Ophthalmology. I believe Dr. Golnik's efforts will make a permanent difference in how ophthalmologists are trained nationally and internationally.”

“In the classroom, Dr. Golnik is an exceptional teacher. Every Wednesday morning, he sacrifices his time to lecture the residents about neuro-ophthalmology. His lectures are instrumental towards residents' understanding of the field. He is extremely innovative with didactics, keeping the audience engaged using an electronic audience response system. Additionally, he holds an annual jeopardy lecture series, making the learning interactive and fun for residents, while still being educational. Dr. Golnik's lecturing skills are further evidence of his many strengths as a creative and motivated teacher.”