

David C. Leach Award



Named to honor the ACGME's former Executive Director, Dr. David C. Leach (1997 – 2007), and his commitment to resident education and physician well-being, this award recognizes resident/fellow-led projects and innovations.



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About the project:

“During his chief residency year, Dr. Mukherjee led the creation, implementation, and evaluation of a structured “Fundamentals of Neurosurgery” (FoN) curriculum for our neurosurgical trainees in order to prepare them for the written board examination. This project primarily addressed namely innovation and improvement of our learning environment, increasing our program’s emphasis on educational outcomes, and improving communication and collaboration between residents and faculty within our training program.”

“The FoN curriculum verifiably improved the educational experience for our residents. The percentage of daily, board review-style questions answered correctly by trainees increased by an average of 8% over the course of the academic year. Between the first and last mock written board examinations, average resident scores improved by 15%. Two residents who were below the passing threshold on the first mock examination were able to cross over into the passing range on the final mock examination. By developing an objectively improved fund of knowledge, our residents were able to provide more thoughtful, evidence-based care to our patients.”