

David C. Leach Award



In honor of former ACGME Executive Director David C. Leach, MD (1997-2007) and his contributions to resident education and well-being, the ACGME created this award in 2008. This award is unique in that it acknowledges and honors residents, fellows, and resident/fellow teams and their contributions to graduate medical education. The ACGME congratulates the 2016 recipients of the David C. Leach, MD Award.



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Nominators had this to say:

[Fellows and Residents Health and Wellness Initiative (PROJECT FERHAWI) was created to advance humanism in the patient care environment and among caregivers.]

“The objectives were to: utilize Humanities to combat fatigue, stress, and burnout among residents and fellows; integrate these strategies into the educational curriculum to fulfill the ACGME competencies of professionalism, interpersonal skills, and communication; and support and subsidize wellness initiatives outside of the workplace.”

“The team conducted a pilot study in June 2014 to demonstrate the feasibility of integrating the arts and humanities into graduate medical education. Fifteen Internal Medicine residents at the Mayo Clinic campus in Florida were randomized to a 1-hour session of watercolor painting, or a control group performing or a 1-hour session of internal medicine trivia, a common yet casual noon conference activity. Surveys were administered to the participants before and after the intervention to evaluate their fatigue level and work-related motivation on a 10-point scale. Analysis of pretest and posttest surveys indicated that there was a significant decrease in the self-reported fatigue level in the intervention group compared to the control group.”