

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents and fellows, 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*; his promotion of the concept of “living divided no more” has proven relevant to teaching in academic health centers.



Deborah J. Chute, MD

Program Director for Pathology-Anatomic and Clinical
Robert J. Tomsich Institute of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Cleveland
Clinic
Cleveland, Ohio

Nominators had this to say:

“When ancillary testing is needed, careful consideration into the rationale and necessity of each test is taken into account. Dr. Chute also emphasizes communication in final reports, ensuring that trainees think through the information clinicians need and making sure those points are conveyed. By following this approach, Dr. Chute encourages broad and well-rounded preparedness for independent practice, going far beyond the initial question of right-versus-wrong diagnosis.”

“Every morning, my day begins with an email from Dr. Chute sharing an inspirational quote. Recently, this was ‘teach others what you know.’ A simple statement, yet it left me more cognizant of my approach with residents that afternoon. This is characteristic of how she teaches and leads.”

“Dr. Chute personifies the courage to teach philosophy. Always, she centers her conflict resolution strategies on the teaching and learning environment. She is able to see beyond current stressors to a successful path forward. Recognizing the importance of interprofessional teambuilding, she has incorporated nonphysician caregivers into resident education. It is critical for the residents to learn the skills provided by these other team members and she has developed an interprofessional learning environment that facilitates this organically.”