

**2012 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients**  
**for Program Director Excellence**



**Stephanie A. Call, MD, MSPH**

Internal Medicine  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, VA

**Nominators had this to say:**

“Recognizing that active learning is key in teaching adults, she took the initiative to identify mentors in innovative active learning methods and trained in methods such as team-based learning. Her application of team-based learning in the medical teaching arena has transformed the teaching that occurs in several institutions at the GME and medical clerkship level. Her randomized controlled trial in this field demonstrated the effectiveness of this method and gave others a model for its application. Dr. Call revamped our core Internal Medicine residency lecture series and our entire clerkship to incorporate this engaging learning method that holds our adult learners accountable for their learning and allows them to more actively apply concepts during class time. She has also brought this teaching method to other departments at both the GME and UME level.”

“Although there is no way in which I could list all the contributions that she has made, key examples of her innovations include an innovative, active, simulation-based multi-departmental two-day intern orientation conference which focuses on training new interns in the behaviors that lead to the creation of a patient-centered culture in our medical center. This institution-wide conference now trains 140 new interns each year in key concepts such as escalation; admission of limitations; communications; teamwork; and more as they enter their new roles as physicians in a medical center. The innovative use of small group discussions, simulation, team-exercises have made this conference a tremendous success. We all look forward to formal analysis of the impact of this conference on our trainees and our institution (currently underway) and have already disseminated and shared some of the curriculum with other institutions.”