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 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* and whose promotion of the concept of "living divided no more" has proven relevant to teaching in academic health centers.

Douglas S. Smink, MD, MPH
Program Director Surgery
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Nominators had this to say:

"In addition to his direct work as a program director, Dr. Smink contributes to the national and international conversation around surgical education. He is widely published in surgical education journals, and is the current editor in chief of the Journal of Surgical Education. He has worked carefully with the simulation Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He has developed new curricular for surgical residency and other participants in simulation training. He has obtained grant funding for this and is widely respected for his pedagogical contributions."

"His efforts—and effectiveness—as a mentor, educator, role model and highly skilled administrator is invaluable. He truly cares, but is also talented enough to operationalize his solutions to better the learning environment for everyone. His work has gained the admiration of all, and has led to his appointment as Associate Chair of Education within his department, tasked with the optimization of teaching and learning within the BWH Department of Surgery."

"Dr. Smink has contributed nationally and locally via research and implementation of novel procedural and nontechnical skill training programs. He is a member of the Procedural Learning and Safety Collaborative (PLSC), a co-investigator in the SIMPL trial utilizing mobile technology to enhance procedural learning, and played a key role as surgical director of STRATUS Center for Medical Simulation."