2012 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award Recipients





Robin C. Newton, MD, FACP
Designated Institutional Official
Howard University Hospital
Washington, DC

Nominators had this to say:

"Graduate medical education had apparently "stalled" such that when Dr. Newton assumed the position of Designated Institutional Official/Director of Graduate Medical Education at the hospital in 2003, the average program accreditation cycle was 2.7 years and the hospital, as the sponsoring institution, was in unfavorable status. In

addition, the accreditation of three programs had been withdrawn by the ACGME, three programs were in a second cycle of probationary accreditation, and two programs were in the first cycle of probationary accreditation. Through Dr. Newton's leadership, HUH programs now average an accreditation cycle of 4.4 years with some programs having few or no citations. The sponsoring institution now enjoys a full five-year cycle."

"To complement the professional development of residents' program training, Dr. Newton initiated the core lecture series, which includes presentations on lifestyle decisions in job selection, interviewing skills, negotiating contracts, and starting a practice as well as presentations on current matters in the American healthcare system and selected general competencies. And to ensure that all constituents of the GME enterprise at HUH stay informed, she initiated an annual retreat for training program directors, department chairs, house staff association officers, and program coordinators at which key topics relevant to graduate medical education are presented and discussed."