

## Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award Recipients

### **Ronald Maier, MD**

Surgical Critical Care

UW School of Medicine & Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA



#### **Nominators had this to say:**

Ron has always impressed me with his absolute dedication to his fellows and residents despite all the competing priorities of someone who is not only the Surgeon-in-Chief of one of the country's leading Level I trauma centers, but also a leader nationally and internationally in his field and an eminent researcher.

His teaching is tireless, approachable, and expertly directed. He has a wonderful gift for being able to teach everyone in the room – patients, junior residents, senior residents, fellows and junior attendings. His style is personal, engaging, and unforgettable. One cannot help but learn from him, and to be inspired in so doing.

His innate sense of what concepts will be most important for patient care is demonstrated through the programs that he developed as “firsts” in surgical critical care education. He created an M.P.H. program for Surgical Critical Care decades before outcomes research became prevalent, he implemented the time-out procedure in the operating room (to confirm right patient-right procedure-right site) years before it was mandated, he strongly emphasized evidence-based medicine many years before it became a guiding principle, and he co-founded the Harborview Injury Prevention Research Center, a first of its kind center that brings trauma surgeons and epidemiologists together to develop trauma prevention strategies. These “firsts” show not only his dedication to his patients, but also his dedication to providing his fellows with the best possible preparation for their careers. By ensuring that his fellows excel in their field he ensures that future patients are provided with the best possible care.