

## David C. Leach Award



Named to honor the ACGME's former Executive Director, Dr. David C. Leach (1997 – 2007), and his commitment to resident education and physician well-being, this award recognizes resident/fellow-led projects and innovations.



**Andrew C. Vivas, MD**  
Neurological Surgery  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, Florida

**About the project:**

*Development of a year-long neurosurgical system-based educational program to promote the practice of current evidence-based medicine*

“Andrew has spent the past year completely redeveloping the educational program of our residency. We meet every Wednesday evening and Friday morning and monthly for journal club with all residents and faculty for our educational activities. While this was previously an unorganized collection of lectures, Andrew has developed a year-long curriculum including monthly, theme based educational modules, resident driven research presentations, local, regional, national, and international expert visiting lecturers, and neurosurgical written and oral board review. He did this on his own initiative and on his own time.”

“The USF neurosurgery department is aiming to increase our academic and research acumen to complement our strong clinical and surgical experiences. Andrew's efforts have allowed us to deliver a more complete, well rounded neurosurgical education to our residents. As a result, the junior residents feel more confident in their command of knowledge when treating patients, inspired to pursue a thoroughly evidence-based medicine approach to care. They have also been exposed to the professional community on an international scale and are driven to be influential on that level.”