

Award: Outstanding Resident Teacher Application Form

Basic Information

Your name:

Priti Parikh

Your title:

Professor, Vice-Chair of Research Education and Professional Development

Your institution:

Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University

Your email address:

priti.parikh@wright.edu

Name of nominee:

Casey Walk

Nominee's institution:

Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University

Nominee's title:

General Surgery Resident

Nominee's email address:

casey.walk@wright.edu

Has the nominee completed at least two years of surgical residency?

Yes

Short Essays

Why do you think the nominee deserves this award?

Dr. Walk sets the example of an educator for other residents and medical students to emulate in our program. His philosophy of creating positive learning environment has honored him with educational awards and accolades from medical students and peers. He has also been nominated for leadership roles by his peers and faculty. He has exemplified how research data could be used to improve education and experiences of learners, build new curriculum, and even change policies. His life experiences have led him to have these innate qualities of a surgeon educator and a mentor to strive for the betterment of his peers, motivating the future physicians of the world, and the improved care of his patients. While Dr. Walk is considered to be in a privileged group (being a white male surgeon), he is a strong ally of diversity and equity and an active member of our DEI Committee. He is currently helping us expanding his program visibility work to reach a more diverse population effectively that will provide further research and advances in recruiting process for many residency programs, we believe. Resident educators like Dr. Walk are the future of the surgical education and surgery profession in general. I expect Dr. Walk to continue to make substantial contributions to surgical education and, therefore, he really deserves the ASE Outstanding Resident Teacher Award.

How has the nominee demonstrated passion and enthusiasm for teaching?

Dr. Walk has made the act of education part of his daily life prior to his time in residency, where he was involved in developing many programs and curriculum during high school, undergraduate studies, as well as medical school. Please see his CV for further details. Since Dr. Walk joined us in General Surgery Residency, he has continued to display his personal drive and focus for education in his daily life. He believes that students and junior residents tend to look up to senior residents/chiefs quite often to identify the right path to achieve their clinical and academic goals and so he teaches in and outside of OR while keeping the team's morale up. This philosophy has led to consistent high evaluation from medical students (4.94/5.00, see attached evaluations). Moreover, in his third year of residency he was voted by all the rotating medical students and won the Best Resident Educator Award that otherwise annually is given to chief residents. He has continued his commitment to education by obtaining his Advanced Trauma Life Support Instructor certification to continue educating the community in trauma management. Dr. Walk is matched at The Ohio State University for Surgical Critical Care and feels strongly the continued education of ATLS in the community is essential, now he has to tools to continue this throughout his career. One of the examples of Dr. Walk's involvement in teaching and surgical education is in the field of narcotics education in our program. He realized that our residents, staff, and even some attendings might benefit from the narcotics education and so he took scholarly approach to address the problem. He first evaluated the difference between a self-reported perception versus the real prescription data in our program. This work has since been presented at the Academic Surgical Congress Annual Meeting in Orlando (2022) as well as accepted for publication in the Journal of Surgical Research (October 2022). He then utilized these data to develop a new narcotic prescribing curriculum and protocol in our program to ensure that appropriate education is provided to our residents, staff, and faculty, and overprescribing is avoided at a system-level. The curriculum and protocol have been implemented starting this academic year (2022-23) and will remain part of his legacy in our program.

How has the nominee demonstrated a commitment to maintaining a positive, productive learning environment?

Dr. Walk has been honored with educational awards and accolades from medical students and peers and nominated for leadership roles by his peers and faculty. He has exemplified how research data could be used to improve education and

experiences of learners, build new curriculum, and even change policies. Dr. Walk has demonstrated a commitment to a positive learning environment by bringing a good, fun nature to work and his teaching. General surgery residency is wildly difficult and easily it can become sad, depressing, and aggravating. By focusing on positivity and bringing a sense of fun to the everyday, Casey has been able to gather reviews from medical students, fellow residents, and faculty that describe this ongoing trait. Further, while Dr. Walk is a strong ally of diversity and equity and an active member of our DEI Committee. He creates a positive and safe environment for our LGBTQ residents and truly serves as a role model for many others in our program. He has also assisted in the planning phases of creating a DEI conference at the local/regional level through the Dayton Area Graduate Medical Education Community. Some of his evaluators say the following about him, notable to span multiple years with consistent feedback:

"Affable, good-natured which translates to the patient making them comfortable." Faculty, 2022

"Casey always maintains a positive attitude." Faculty 2022

"Enthusiastic and jovial." Faculty 2021

"I think Casey is very fun and easy to be around and work with." Faculty 2021

"Casey does make a rotation more fun, which should not be overlooked." Faculty 2020

"He is a reliable resident and not only does excellent work but does it with a great attitude." Chief Evaluation 2020

How has the nominee demonstrated being able to provide effective feedback to learners?

Now in a chief resident role, Casey focuses on feedback in real time on his services. As a senior resident, Casey pre-emptively describes goals and expectations of rotations with junior residents. By setting a baseline of expectations, he can in real time provide feedback with how they are performing, progressing, and developing. By setting small goals then providing adequate room for the junior residents and medical students to blossom, Casey can then provide effective, real-time feedback that is both meaningful, timely, and appropriate to the expectations provided. This feedback is multi-tiered as well. Feedback can be simply, "you presented patients well today", to "your backhand suturing has improved since last year". Working closely with all the residents for the past 5 years, Casey has been able to monitor and evaluate progress. Taking time to note a residents or medical students progress is a major boost to morale, which then assists in creating a fun learning environment. Casey believes that when we have fun, we all learn much better.

Please give an example of the nominee role modeling professionalism.

Casey has developed into a chief resident during his time at Wright State University. He takes the stance of "be the change you wish to see". This includes how residents are to act on a daily basis. Going back to how he sets expectations for his junior residents for a rotation, this also includes expectations for himself. By holding himself to the same standard in a public setting, this allows for junior residents, medical students, and faculty to observe a professional standard, thus setting this standard as a baseline for behavior and patient care for the team. A direct example of this being when Dr. Walk and his fellow chief residents discussed their expectations with the entirety of the general surgery residency in early July. This was talk included goals for the year, specific focuses each chief had going forward, and most importantly, expectations the program should have from the chiefs. True professionalism is not just a dress code, professional status, but it is the constant, daily act of being the gold standard for those around you in all you do. Casey embodies this trait, and this has been documented by numerous evaluations. "Dr. Walk is very confident in his operative skills without coming across as arrogant or condescending. Patients feel this with him with his good-natured attitude and ability to speak to patients without medical jargon. He can focus quickly on problems and prioritize. He also delegates well this early as a chief resident and has some prior leadership experience or skills." Faculty Evaluation 2021

Please complete the following:

Please list any education or teaching awards the nominee has received.

- 1) Outstanding Resident Teacher Award, Wright State University, 2019-2020
- 2) First Place Research Award, Elliot Research Symposium, Department of Surgery, Wright State University, 2022
- 3) Finalist, Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching, American College of Surgeons, 2022
- 4) First Place Surgical Olympics, Department of Surgery, Wright State University, 2022

Please list the nominee's education-related activities (e.g., lectures, programs, presentations, curricula, innovations for teaching or assessment, education-related research).

- Department of Surgery, Wright State University, Advanced Trauma Life Support (2022-present)

Was nominated by trauma faculty to become an Advanced Trauma Life Support Instructor due to my managing abilities on the trauma service, affinity for surgical education, and aptitude in the Advanced Trauma Life Support course.

- Department of Surgery, Wright State University, Development and Implementation of Opioid Prescription Protocol and Curriculum (2022-present)

Worked with Department of Surgery leadership and affiliated hospital sites to implement new opioid prescription protocols that is based on literature supported guidelines. This protocol is taught alongside a new curriculum to ensure that appropriate education is provided to our trainees and overprescribing is avoided at a system-level. We plan to present and publish this work by end of this academic year.

- Department of Surgery, Wright State University, Program Visibility and Outreach (2021-present)

Assisted the General Surgery Residency program through an organized approach on social media to increase visibility and reach. This has led to two publication and presentations at national conferences. As an active member, can lead discussions on strategy and efforts concerning new content. Currently, working on how social media recruitment and increased social

media reach effects diversity of applicants.

- Wright State University, Boonshoft School of Medicine, MD/MS dual degree program (2014-2018)

Offered a full scholarship to be a pilot student in the MD/MS dual degree program that partnered with the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology to focus on Clinical Research. This pilot program relied heavily on my personal clinical research time and feedback. Personally assisted in developing the curriculum and requirements for students to follow.

- Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Hand Washing Elective (2015-2018)

Created and implemented a curriculum for elementary school students concerning the basics of germs, public health, and the importance of washing hands. Partnered with multiple local school districts and this continues to be an ongoing elective to date.

- University of Dayton, Peer Tutor, Teachers Aid (2011-2014)

A tutor for all science courses included within the Pre-Medicine pre-requisites, including biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, and qualitative chemistry. Employed also as a Teacher's Aid for physics and chemistry. Would attend classes throughout the week then hold focused study groups for students in the evenings, set up study guides, and create personal curriculums for course reviews.

- University of Dayton, Global Brigades (2011-2014)

Founded and was President of an organization titled Global Brigades that developed a curriculum focusing on the ethics of global health volunteer work along with the logistics of how to successfully perform a medical mission trip. This organization went on to fundraise both finances and medical supplies to perform annual mission trips.

- Beaver Creek High School, "Character Ed" Curriculum (2008-2010)

Assisted in creating and educating a curriculum on character education for elementary school students with the program called "Character Ed". High School students were recruited to be mentors for younger students in the district to showcase these character traits, active role in dressing up as "Character Ed" and giving talks to the schools at large assemblies throughout city.

Please list the nominee's leadership roles in courses or groups related to surgery and surgical education, including involvement in national committees related to surgical education.

- 1) Resident Leadership Committee, Class of 2023 Representative
- 2) Resident Research Advisor, Chief Role
- 3) Co-Creator, Host for "Hot Wings, Cold Steel" video series (used for improving program outreach and recruitment)
- 4) Social Media Co-Manager, Department of Surgery, Wright State University
- 5) Committee Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (leading efforts for improving diversity in our program)
- 6) Surgery Representative, Ethics Committee, Miami Valley Hospital
- 7) Surgery and Ethics Committee Representative, House Staff Council, Premier Health

File Uploads

Please upload the nominee's CV

- [Casey-Walk-CV.ase.pdf](#)

Please upload a teaching statement from the nominee about their passion, enthusiasm, and commitment to teaching.

- [Educational-Philosophy-CTW-2.0.pdf](#)

Please upload a letter of recommendation from a learner.

- [Casey-LOR.pdf](#)

Please upload documentation of teaching competency in the form of an aggregate evaluation report (from MedHub, New Innovations, etc) from learners over the past year.

- [WalkCasey-Eval.pdf](#)