



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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Hershey, Pa. family doctor named top physician educator in the U.S.

(HARRISBURG, PA.) July 8, 2014 – The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) has chosen Dennis Gingrich, MD of Hershey as its 2014 Exemplary Teacher Award recipient. Gingrich, a past president of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP), is a professor of family and community medicine at the Penn State Hershey College of Medicine. He also practices family medicine and geriatric medicine with Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

Gingrich, who graduated from the Penn State Hershey College of Medicine, returned to the college as a member of its faculty in 1985. In addition to teaching and practicing medicine, he created and runs a yearly project called The Primary Care Scholars Program wherein college students interested in primary care careers visit Hershey for a week to learn about family medicine. Gingrich serves with the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), the Family Medicine Education Consortium (FMEC), and in various capacities with the AAFP and PAFP. In the past, Gingrich has been recognized with Penn State Hershey Medical Center's Distinguished Educator Award, and is currently listed in *The Best Doctors in America* in family medicine and geriatrics.

According to the AAFP, the Exemplary Teaching Award “was developed to acknowledge exemplary teaching skills, as well as outstanding educational program implementation and/or innovating teaching models.” The AAFP said Gingrich earned the prestigious distinction because of his value as a mentor and role model, calling him “a shining example of the best in family medicine.” A photo of Gingrich is attached for your convenience.

The American Academy of Family Physicians and its chapters proudly represent more than 115,900 family physician, resident, and medical student members. Family physicians play a critical role in improving the health of patients, families, and communities across the United States. The AAFP is committed to helping family physicians improve the health of Americans by advancing the specialty of family medicine.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians and its Foundation supports its members (including nearly 80 percent of Pennsylvania family physicians) through advocacy and education to ensure a patient-centered medical home for every Pennsylvanian. The Academy and its Foundation are the leading influential resource among family physicians and physicians in training in Pennsylvania; the primary voice on health care issues with state legislative and administrative branches of government, media and professional health organizations; and the leader on health care issues in the community.

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