College of Medicine honors its faculty

Five awarded for their work, dedication

Special to the Chronicle

Five Big Bend physicians on the faculty of the College of Medicine's Tallahassee Regional Campus were honored recently.

» Mark Akerson and John Spence (both with Panhandle Family Care Associates, Marianna) received the campus's Mission Award. "They demonstrate to our students a true sense of the joy of medicine," said Campus Dean Ron Hartsfield.

» Robin Albritton (Chipola Surgical & Medical

Specialties, Marianna) received the college's Distinguished Alumni Award. Albritton, who grew up in Marianna and graduated from the College of Medicine in 2007, serves rural, minority and geriatric patients in outpatient, inpatient and nursing home settings. "Dr. Albritton is the best example of someone who values the physician-patient relationship," said College of Medicine Dean John P. Fogarty.

» David O'Bryan (North Florida Women's Care, Tallahassee), clerkship director for OB-GYN, received the campus's Outstanding Educator Award "for his enthusiasm in teaching, his efforts to meet the educational needs of each student, his exemplary leadership, his love of patient care and his service to our college and community," Hartsfield said.

» Frank Walker (North Florida Pediatrics Associates, Tallahassee) also received the Distinguished Alumni Award. He graduated from FSU's Program in Medical Sciences, the forerunner of the College of Medicine. "In addition to caring for children in his practice for more than three decades. Dr. Walker has identified several venues through which he can reach the community's indigent population," Fogarty said. 'And he has been a leader with our admissions committee from the beginning."