

## FSU med students honor IRMC doctors with teaching awards

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VERO BEACH — The Florida State University College of Medicine Fort Pierce Regional Campus recently honored their fourth graduating class. During the event, awards given by the students were presented to faculty. The Class of 2012 presented Dr. George Mitchell, medical director of Critical Care Medicine at Indian River Medical Center, with the Excellence in Teaching Award. Students chose Dr. Chris Hollinger, anesthesiologist at IRMC, for the Extra Mile Award.

Dr. Mitchell received this honor in 2009 also. He is one of more than 45 IRMC physicians who worked with these fourth-year medical students in order to provide them with clinical training and the opportunity to work one-on-one with physicians. Dr. Mitchell was recognized for having a “unique combination of being scientifically proficient and compassionate, caring, understanding and sensitive.”

Dr. Hollinger, who joined the IRMC staff in 2009, was a high school music teacher in Michigan before he went to medical school. His framed certificate reads: With thanks from the Class of 2012, for going above and beyond the call of duty, and inspiring us to be great. Amongst themselves, the students choose the faculty member who they feel has put in effort beyond just teaching them. They felt Dr. Hollinger went to great lengths to give them an outstanding educational experience and truly inspired them.

Having spent two years training one-on-one with physicians all over the Treasure Coast, the 18 members of the Class of 2012 are moving on to their residency programs. These students will be pursuing careers as doctors in family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, emergency medicine, otolaryngology, and anesthesiology. The graduates gathered with the FSU campus dean, Dr. Randall Bertolette, community board members, staff, and physician faculty to celebrate their accomplishments. Indian River Medical Center was one of the sponsors of the event.

This is the fifth year for IRMC to serve as a regional medical school campus, providing an atmosphere for clinical training and an opportunity for students to work with staff physicians.

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