

Amy Goldberg, M.D.
Chief of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care
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Professional Accomplishments

Suffice to say that the typical nominee for the Women of Distinction Award probably isn't found elbow deep in a trauma victim's gut at 2 a.m. on a Saturday night.

Meet Dr. Amy Goldberg.

Goldberg, 45, is Chief of Trauma & Surgical Critical Care at Temple University Hospital. This means that she leads Temple's nationally known trauma team, one of the country's busiest and most respected. Last year, the team handled more than 1,800 trauma cases. That's an average of five a day.

In most award nominations it's common to list ad nauseam a candidate's credentials and work history. These lists are invariably impressive, lengthy and...well...a bit dull.

We're going to spare you that list and ask that you trust us when we say that Goldberg has all of those credentials. She has earned degrees, led departments, lectured and published nationally, sat on committees, and advanced to the top of her field.

As we said, Goldberg may not be your typical nominee. She isn't a woman of distinction because she is a partner in a Center City law firm, a guest on the Sunday morning talk shows, or the CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

She's a woman of distinction because, in a male-dominated field, she is one of only a handful of female trauma chiefs at the country's 125 academic medical centers.

She's a woman of distinction because of the work she does with Philadelphia's youth (more on that below).

She's a woman of distinction because – at 5' 2" – she's not afraid to get in the face of Temple's "frequent flyers" – tough kids and young adults who have made wrong choices and ended up in the ER a second or third time.

She's a woman of distinction because she patches up dying patients and is there to watch as they walk out the door and return to their lives and their families.

Goldberg is a compelling person. Cool and calm during the intense stress of a major trauma, she acknowledges becoming nervous and anxious when she has to talk to the family of a patient who has died. This combination of skill and compassion serves her well and has earned her universal respect from her peers.

As you will see in the awards section of this nomination, Goldberg is also a superb teacher and mentor. As director of Temple's surgical residency program, she oversees and guides the training of future surgeons. It's a responsibility she takes seriously and one at which she excels. Our country's next crop of surgeons couldn't ask for a better teacher.

We strongly urge you to consider Dr. Amy Goldberg for a Women of Distinction Award. Not only for the kind of person she is, but also for what she does for our city and its residents – even at 2 a.m. on a Saturday night.

Community Involvement

Tired of seeing the same young victims of violence come through the ER over and over again, Goldberg teamed up with Temple's trauma outreach coordinator to develop "Cradle to the Grave."

This violence-prevention program gives middle- and high-school students a "behind-the-scenes" look at the toll violence takes. The program aims to de-glamorize violence and stop the stream of youth from entering Temple's ER.

Many of the children who participate in the program have already been through the city's Juvenile Justice Department. About half are from North Philadelphia, the other half from various other neighborhoods. During the program, they learn what happens to victims of gun violence by touring the hospital, the ER's trauma bay and the hospital morgue.

The tour revolves around the story of a 16-year-old boy who was brought into Temple with multiple gunshot wounds and died a short time later. Twice a week, in graphic detail, Goldberg walks students step-by-step through the procedures this boy went through as doctors attempted to save his life. She then describes to them what it was like to tell the boy's family that he had died. During the program, students are also shown photos of people who have been shot and tour Temple's trauma bays with Goldberg and her medical residents.

Three hundred students have been through the program since it was launched in February 2006. Temple is currently seeking external funding to greatly expand the program, which has received very positive reviews.

Awards and Milestones

- Five Golden Apple Awards (given by medical students for teaching excellence)
- Three Wallace P. Ritchie, Jr., M.D., Ph.D. Awards for Excellence in the Clinical and Scientific Practice of Surgery
- Three W. Emory Burnett Awards for Teaching Excellence
- Three Russell C. Moses Memorial Awards for Excellence in Clinical Training
- The prestigious Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching
- The College of Physicians of Philadelphia Exemplar of Humanism in Medicine Award
- Charter member of The Academy of Distinguished Educators in Medicine
- Former program chair for the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery
- Former associate examiner for the Board of the American Board of Surgery
- Fellow of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia
- Accepted articles in *The Mt. Sinai Journal of Medicine*, *The American Journal of Surgery*, and *American Surgeon*
- The Hewlett Packard Award for "Top Medical Graduate" at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
- Magna Cum Laude graduate from the University of Pennsylvania