

Thomas Curran, MD
Associate Professor, Bioethics and Humanities Department
College of Medicine

Script read by Dr. Gregory Eastwood, presenting the 2020 Gold Standard Award to Dr. Thomas Curran:

“I’d like to share with you a few excerpts from Dr. Tom Curran’s nomination letter:
Anyone who has met Tom Curran and has witnessed his teaching, has worked with him on a committee, has heard him lead a discussion of a topic, or simply has had a conversation with him, knows how much Tom’s dedication, enthusiasm, and passion are part of who he is and everything he does.

Tom Curran has made a broad and deep imprint on the educational mission of Upstate and on the experience of students and his colleagues here. He directs the 3rd year medical school Clinical Bioethics course with vigor and innovation, participates in ethics education programs for the Department of Medicine and the Nursing Residents, directs the Clinical Ethics Consult Service that serves University Hospital and Crouse Hospital, and is an active participant in the activities of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities.

Tom loves what he does and brings an enthusiasm that rubs off on all of us.

Tom is a remarkably gifted teacher. One mark of a good teacher is what one remembers later, sometimes years later, of what he said and how he said it. I still recall some of Tom’s comments and examples he used to make a point from his lectures 15 years ago. His enthusiasm for clinical medicine and for the educational process is infectious. One cannot help but pay attention and be caught up in what he is saying. He uses his vast clinical experience to good advantage. It is always present as the context of his teaching and he frequently cites personal experiences that are relevant to the topics at hand.

And students love him!”

Nominated by Gregory L. Eastwood, MD, University Professor, State University of New York, Professor of Bioethics and Humanities and Professor of Medicine and Past President, SUNY Upstate Medical University.