

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Integrative Medicine in Residency receives national Innovative Program Award**

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine recognizes program's impact on medical education

**TUCSON, Ariz., April 27, 2011** – Integrative Medicine in Residency (IMR), the first competency-based, online integrative medicine curriculum for residencies, has been named the recipient of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Innovative Program Award.

IMR, the award-winning flagship program of the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, was pilot tested in eight leading academic institutions in the US during three years. After extremely positive results the IMR is now open to early adopter programs and is being utilized as part of a three-year residency at 14 residency programs nationwide.

"We are very proud that the collaborative efforts with the pilot programs, and expertise used to create this cutting-edge program is being recognized by our peers," said **Patricia Lebensohn, MD**, director of IMR and associate professor of clinical family and community medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. "We appreciate that STFM, the organization that represents the core users of our curriculum, is recognizing IMR's innovation, scope and, ultimately, potential impact on the education of future family physicians."

The STFM Innovative Program Award honors excellence in the development of an original educational program or activity for family practice residents, students, or faculty based on innovativeness, sustained impact at the home institution, and the broader regional or national impact on family medicine education.

"We are thrilled to have received this STFM recognition," said **Victoria Maizes, MD**, executive director of the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine. "We believe this project has the potential to serve as a national model for training all primary care physicians in integrative medicine."

The Kansas-based STFM was founded in 1967 with the mission of advancing family medicine to improve health through a community of teachers and scholars. The organization has a membership roster of nearly 5,000 teachers of family medicine, including medical school professors, preceptors, residency program faculty, residency program directors and all involved in family medicine education.

The 2011 award will be presented during STFM's Annual Spring Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 27 - May 1, 2011, where the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine will also be exhibiting.

To learn more about Integrative Medicine in residency, visit [www.azcim.org/IMR](http://www.azcim.org/IMR)

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### **About the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine**

The Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine leads the transformation of health care by creating, educating and actively supporting a community that embodies the philosophy and practice of healing-oriented medicine, addressing mind, body and spirit. Integrative medicine is healing-oriented and makes use of conventional and alternative therapies as appropriate. Since its inception, the Center has focused its efforts on three areas: education, clinical care and research, with the primary emphasis on education. We built the Center on the premise that the best way to change a field is to educate the most gifted professionals and place them in settings where they can, in turn, teach others. To learn more about the Center, visit [www.azcim.org](http://www.azcim.org).