

## 2006 Distinguished Service Award

Dr. F. A. Garcia has never allowed his own highly accomplished past to eclipse his view of the future. A member of the School of Medicine's class of 1941, Dr. Garcia – or “Gus” as he is affectionately known – has served on the School of Medicine's Admission Committee for more than 25 years, helping to recruit tomorrow's medical professionals and fellow School of Medicine alumni.

Perhaps even more significant, however, are Dr. Garcia's ongoing efforts to advocate for those students he helps to admit. Dr. Garcia has long stressed the importance of offering students the highest-caliber teaching and training, in addition to a stronger sense of community.

One of Colorado's finest plastic surgeons for approximately 40 years, Dr. Garcia has never forgotten the support he received while he was a student at the School of Medicine, which may explain in part his continued dedication and service to his alma mater.

But Dr. Garcia's actions are the result of a more global view as well. He has said “the future of medicine is about collaboration and prevention, as well as treatment and cure.” By working to foster an environment at the School of Medicine that promotes greater communication, Dr. Garcia is doing his part to enrich the field of medicine as well as the process by which we educate our medical professionals.

A past recipient of the CU Medical Alumni Association's Silver and Gold Award, Dr. Garcia has received much recognition over the course of his highly distinguished career. It is my great pleasure to add yet another award to the list. For his outstanding service to the University of Colorado School of Medicine – and for his dedication and support that spans more than six decades – I present Dr. F. A. Garcia with the 2006 Distinguished Service Award.