GREAT GEC Wins Florida Health Department Award

In December, the college’s Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center (GREAT GEC) was named the winner of the inaugural Florida State Surgeon General Health Innovation, Prevention and Management Awards in the faith-based and/or community-based initiatives category. The center was honored for providing wellness and disease prevention as well as advocating healthy lifestyles.

“The recognition of the GREAT GEC by Florida’s surgeon general, Dr. Ana M. Viamonte Ros, is truly an honor,” said Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D., who serves as GREAT GEC executive director. “This is so significant to the center and to the College of Osteopathic Medicine because it is the inaugural State Surgeon General Health Innovation, Prevention, and Management Award, and because it recognizes the efforts of our GEC, which are focused on a group of people that are so significant to Florida—our elders. In addition, it provides for the center the added incentive to continue its work in educating future interdisciplinary professionals to enter the geriatrics profession and to integrate innovative, patient-centered health care to elders, with an emphasis on health promotions and disease prevention.”

The Health Innovation, Prevention and Management Awards were created to honor organizations, businesses, and programs that are innovative in bringing preventative health care to their members, employees, or community.