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## TEXAS ACADEMY *of* FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DARRYL WHITE, M.D., AND TAMMY PON, M.D., RECEIVE TAFP EXEMPLARY TEACHING AWARD**

Darryl White, M.D., of Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas and Tammy Pon, M.D., of Plano, Texas, were presented with the Texas Academy of Family Physicians Exemplary Teaching Awards during its 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Session and Scientific Assembly in San Antonio, Texas on July 21, 2005.

Dr. White, a former Naval Reserve Lieutenant Commander, joined the faculty of Valley Baptist in 1997 where he serves as clinic director. Dr. White was instrumental in the development of the innovative blended curriculum used at Valley Baptist. The hands-on, clinic-based curriculum designed to prepare the residents for real life practice has been recognized by the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. He is the “procedures guru” at the residency program and presents clinical quizzes every morning to keep the residents and staff moving on to higher academic ground, said Program Director, Bruce Leibert, M.D. in his nomination letter. Another colleague wrote, “He has been a prominent source of inspiration and motivation to all who have come under his tutelage.”

Dr. Tammy Pon, a graduate of Texas A&M University and the University of Texas Medical School in Houston, was honored in the Part Time Category. In her work with the St. Paul Family Practice Residency Program she was a trusted and admired mentor. One former resident wrote of her ability to get the “most out of each learner and each patient situation, taking advantage of teaching moments and always wanting to learn more herself.”

Dr. Pon developed curricula in sports medicine and radiology. She also developed a template system for yearly physicals for the different pediatric age groups as well as for adult male and female health maintenance exams to streamline the clinical experience and improve documentation. One colleague writes, “She challenged herself and others to continue to explore questions, expand their knowledge base and be attentive to cultural and ethnic differences.”

As the state’s largest medical specialty organization, TAFP promotes and assures the maintenance of high-quality health care. It has over 5,000 members, 32 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. TAFP provides its members with a unified voice for family medicine and continues to be one of the most patient-oriented public health groups in Texas.