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## NEWS RELEASE

*(For immediate release)*

### **FAIRFIELD MEDICAL CENTER EMPLOYEE RECIPIENT OF EXCELLENCE IN LABORATORY MEDICINE AWARD FROM ARUP LABORATORIES**

**LANCASTER, Ohio (October 20, 2009)** – It is with great honor that Fairfield Medical Center announces Gregg Witham, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB, Specialty Lab Supervisor, as the winner of the Associated Regional and University Pathologists (ARUP) Laboratories' Excellence in Laboratory Medicine Award. Witham is a resident of Lancaster, Ohio and has been employed at Fairfield Medical Center for 20 years.



*From left Mina Ubbing, CEO at Fairfield Medical Center, Gregg Witham, Specialty Lab Supervisor, and Dr. Gogate, Pathologist.*

ARUP Laboratories has taken the initiative to honor individuals who have contributed to laboratory medicine through their hard work, dedication, and innovation. Awards are given in three categories, service, education, and research. Gregg Witham was honored in the category of education, due to his extraordinary motivation and energy in pursuing or delivering educational excellence in clinical laboratory science.

Dr. Shashi Gogate, Fairfield Medical Center Pathologist, nominated Gregg Witham because of his commitment to learning, "He has been with our organization for 20 years, starting as a 3<sup>rd</sup> shift Generalist with a BS/MT degree. Since then he has completed a two-year program to

obtain his Specialist in Blood Banking (SBB) Certification. This year Gregg has completed a four-year program to earn a Masters of Science in General Information Technology. I believe that Gregg exemplifies the life-long learner characteristics because he has chosen to pursue these degrees on his own. He has seen a need in the areas I mentioned, and taken it upon himself to fill these needs. I truly believe that our institution has benefited from his educational pursuits." Dr. Gogate also noted that in addition to learning new information, Gregg takes the time to pass it along to the rest of his staff, which is of great benefit to his department.

On October 14, 2009, Witham was awarded his certificate from Karen Pearce, ARUP Business Development Manager in the Laboratory Department at Fairfield Medical Center, with Mina Ubbing, Fairfield Medical Center CEO, Howard Sniderman, Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Gogate, and many Laboratory staff members present. During the ceremony, Pearce commented, "We congratulate you and thank you for your dedication to laboratory medicine. We know you have spent a great deal of time on laboratory medicine education and rightfully deserve this award. We look forward to your continued service and excellence."

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