Paul C. Brucker, MD was the Founding Chair of the Department of Family Medicine, and went on to become the President of Thomas Jefferson University. The Paul C. Brucker, MD Annual Lecture was created in 1993 by current and former Jefferson faculty, affiliate faculty, preceptors, family medicine resident graduates, and fellowship graduates in order to honor his many accomplishments.

After graduating with honors from Muhlenberg College, Dr. Brucker attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and in an era when general practice was not a popular choice for graduating students, he designed his own graduate training program at Hunterdon Medical Center and Lankenau Hospital. He then joined a group practice in suburban Philadelphia, where he was quickly identified as one of the outstanding physicians in the community. During this thirteen year period in private practice, Dr. Brucker served as preceptor and role model for a large number of students from various Philadelphia medical schools. In 1973, Jefferson made a strong commitment to Family Medicine and chose Dr. Brucker as Alumni Professor and founding Chairman of the Department. Under Dr. Brucker's leadership, Jefferson developed a nationally renowned academic Department of Family Medicine, and one of the most successful family medicine student and residency training programs in the country. He also helped establish fellowship programs in Faculty Development and Geriatrics.

From 1990-2004, Dr. Brucker served as President of Thomas Jefferson University, the only family physician in the United States to hold such a position. As President of Jefferson, Dr. Brucker provided the institutional leadership which resulted in the formation of the Jefferson Health System (JHS), and served as its Board Chair. Nationally, Dr. Brucker received many honors and awards. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Family Practice, serving as President of the Board from 1987 to 1988. In 1994, Dr. Brucker was elected to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences). He received honorary degrees from his alma mater Muhlenberg College, where he was a Life Trustee, and from Gwynedd-Mercy College. A Past President of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, he also participated in many other civic organizations benefiting the Delaware Valley.

Until his recent passing, Dr. Brucker served as President Emeritus of Thomas Jefferson University, remaining one of Jefferson’s most respected individuals, by faculty, administrators, patients, nurses, residents, students, and friends. He was also extraordinarily committed to and supported by his wife, Joan, their three children, Sheri, Linda, and Chuck – and spouses Kevin, Tom, and Jenifer – and their seven grandchildren.
Michael K. Magill, MD graduated from Dartmouth College, and completed medical school, Family Medicine Residency, and a Faculty Development Fellowship at Duke Medical School. He served five years on the faculty of the University of Arizona College of Medicine where he led the teaching fellowship, and for eight years as Director of the community based Family Medicine Residency Program in Tallahassee, Florida. Following this, Dr. Magill moved to Utah to join the faculty of the University of Utah School of Medicine and founded the Utah Area Health Education Center (AHEC), a statewide program he still directs which increases entry of young people from underserved rural and urban areas into health careers. Soon thereafter he was named Chairman of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, a position he held for over 21 years prior to stepping down in January, 2017; he continues to serve as Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine at Utah. The department is an interdisciplinary one that includes, in addition to family medicine, divisions of public health, occupational and environmental health, and physician assistant studies. Department faculty teach in all four years of the medical school, lead two residency programs and two fellowships, as well as teaching 275 students in the 7 graduate degree programs (masters and PhD) housed in the department. Department faculty conduct research ranging from epidemiology to quality of care.

In addition to his role as department chairman, Dr. Magill for over 10 years led the University-owned network of primary care practices with around 100 physicians. It was in this network that the University developed its model of the patient centered medical home, known as Care by Design. He has also served as medical director of the University-owned health insurance plan. Dr. Magill has held many national leadership positions, including serving as President of the Association of Departments of Family Medicine. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Family Medicine, the specialty certification board for family physicians. Dr. Magill’s work now focuses on caring for his patients, leading an ongoing research program on primary care transformation, and clinical teaching, while also protecting time to play with his grandchildren.