

DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY



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Dermatology Review & Highlights

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“While the department’s strength in clinical care, research and education is often touted, one key aspect of our department should not be missed – the community atmosphere and goodwill among our almost 100 personnel.”

Amy Paller, MD

Message from the Department Chair



This has been an exciting year for the Department of Dermatology at Northwestern. In the pages of this annual department newsletter, we celebrate the role models who have impacted our lives and academic careers, the various specialties and research that continue to improve patient care, our new residents and fellows, and the tremendous

spirit of volunteerism in our department. With that said, it is with great excitement to announce that Dr. Gene Bauer and his wife Gloria have established a chair in dermatology in Dr. Ruth Freinkel’s honor. This endowment serves as a key resource in faculty recruiting. Also, I remind you of the growing spirit of “giving back” from our wonderful alumni who have established a new endowed fund, the Northwestern Alumni Resident Education and Research Endowment. Please consider making a donation to support the training of our current and future residents. We continue to offer top educational experience for our residents, fellows, and medical students through frequent special lectureships, conferences, and Grand Rounds.

Our General Dermatology, Cutaneous & Aesthetic Surgery, and Dermatopathology sections continue to grow and to offer more specialty services. In the past year, our multidisciplinary Melanoma Clinic, led by Dr. Mary Martini, has attracted almost 30% more patients. We’ve also established a new hair clinic, led by Dr. Maria Colavincenzo, and a collagen vascular disease clinic, led by Dr. Anne Laumann. Our Dermatopathology program has experienced a record year, particular through consultation requests nationally and internationally. An exciting new opportunity comes with the new Skin Cancer Institute of Northwestern University. Established this summer after approval by the Dean’s office, this multi-department Institute under the auspices of the Lurie Cancer Center is directed by Dr. Joan Guitart (see pg. 5).

I am also pleased to mention that the NIH-funded Skin Disease Research Center (SDRC) has completed its second year of operation. Each of the research Cores (Administrative, Keratinocyte, Pathology and DNA/RNA Delivery) has expanded its services and attracts users from faculty in 12 departments. We should all be proud that the Northwestern Department of Dermatology ranks 7th in NIH funding among all dermatology departments nationally.

Just in the last month, the academic offices of our Children’s Hospital moved downtown, the first step in the exciting physical consolidation of campuses. The final and much awaited relocation of dermatology clinics to the new 23-story, state-of-the-art Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital facility is slated for June 2012.

While the department’s strength in clinical care, research and education is often touted, one key aspect of our department should not be missed – the community atmosphere and goodwill among our almost 100 personnel. Our faculty and residents continue to volunteer their time at the free dermatology clinic we established at CommunityHealth in Chicago. To show support for our Cancer Center and many of our patients, several department members offered knowledge, sunscreen, and water bottles to 4,000 walkers at the 18th Annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration and Walk. Even more special was our department-specific Bake Sale in August 2011, the brainchild of Connie Lemar, Clinical Practice Supervisor. The department sent \$1,125 in proceeds to the World Food Programme to alleviate the famine in Africa. Let’s all spend time this year considering how we each can make a difference in the world – and then take action.

Warmest regards,
Amy Paller, MD

Pictured on the cover: Dr. Simon Yoo, Director of Resident Education in Cutaneous and Aesthetic Surgery

The Ruth K. Freinkel Chair in Dermatology

There is no question that the decisions that influence our careers and our lives are built upon our own strengths, personalities, and usually a lot of effort. Nevertheless, that old saying “being in the right place at the right time” holds true for all of us as well, and we each have our stories of the



role models who influenced us. Such is the case for Dr. Eugene Bauer, originally from Mattoon, IL who started his career at Northwestern, first as an undergraduate and then at its medical school. Dr. Bauer went on to be a leading dermatologic researcher, Chair at Stanford University, Dean at the Stanford Medical School, and most recently CEO of industry partners who have greatly supported dermatology (Connetics, Peplin). If you ask him how his extraordinary career started, he'll say “Dr. Ruth Freinkel”. And in honor of Dr. Freinkel and her influence, Dr. Bauer and his wife, Gloria, have established a chair in dermatology in Dr. Freinkel's honor. (See page 10, Ruth K. Freinkel, MD)

The story dates back to the mid-1960's when Dr. Bauer was as a third year medical student at Northwestern. Having decided that he enjoyed research and caring for skin disease, he sought advice from the only full-time member of the department of dermatology, the newly arrived Dr. Ruth Freinkel. Dr. Freinkel moved in 1966 from Harvard with her husband, Dr. Norbert Freinkel, who was recruited to head the division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Nutrition in the department of Medicine. At the time, there were only 7 full-time members of the department of Medicine – clearly a very different medical school at the time. The advice given by Dr. Freinkel to Dr. Bauer was heeded. He headed to Washington University, where he trained with Dr. Arthur Eisen, became faculty there, and the rest is history.

Dr. and Mrs. Bauer's tremendous generosity in “giving back” comes at an important time for the department. During the past several years, we have tripled our number of faculty and have put Northwestern on the research map. Dr. Robert Lavker was recruited in 2002 as director of laboratory research in the department, and now 7 scientists with a primary appointment and 6 with a secondary appointment in dermatology run research laboratories dedicated to skin research. Currently 12 NIH grants are based in our department, and a Skin Disease Research Center was established in 2009, funded by the National Institutes of Health and one of only six in the country. To become even stronger in our contribution to the specialty, it will be critical to bring additional scientists and, in particular, physician-scientists to the department who – as Dr. Freinkel and Dr. Bauer have done so beautifully – can serve as role models to help guide the careers of junior dermatologists. This endowment serves as a key resource in recruiting a special faculty member to this meaningful Ruth K. Freinkel chair in dermatology.

As Chair and former resident in dermatology, I could not be more thrilled with this wonderful new endowment because it holds great personal significance. I arrived in the department of dermatology as a resident in 1981, and had the pleasure of working with Dr. Freinkel throughout my residency. It was shortly thereafter that I first met both Dr. Bauer and his wife, Gloria, at my very first meeting of the Society for Pediatric Dermatology. Dr. Bauer spoke about epidermolysis bullosa (EB), a disorder that held great fascination for me at the time and became the focus of my later research fellowship training. In fact, it was Dr. Freinkel who sent me to work on EB research at University of North Carolina, and once again, the rest is history.

The Bauers and Dr. Freinkel were recently honored at the 2011 Alumni Weekend. ■

Shown above: Dr. Ruth Freinkel, Gloria Bauer, and Dr. Gene Bauer

ALUMNI RESIDENT EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FUNDS

The first part of 2011 has been promising for the future of the Department of Dermatology. In particular, we want to highlight the current activity of our Alumni Resident Education and Research Funds.

Our dedicated alumni are leading a fundraising effort to endow a new fund, the Northwestern Alumni Resident Education and Research Endowment, to add to the support already available to our department through the Resident Gift Fund. While the Resident Gift Fund provides immediate-use funds to realize current priorities, the Northwestern Alumni Resident Education and Research Endowment will ensure the Department has the ability to finance projects in perpetuity. Gifts to both funds will support visiting professors, didactic programs for residents, first-year resident research studies, and more.

Among the support of many of our engaged alumni, certain donors deserve additional acknowledgment for their generous support of the department. The following donors are Founding Partners of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Alumni Resident Education and Research Funds:

Michael H. Gold, MD, GMER '89
Morgan L. Magid, MD, GMER '88
Amy Paller, MD, GMER '83
David D. Picascia, MD, GMER '88
Bryan C. Schultz, MD, GMER '79
Andrew Truhan, MD, GMER '86
Charles Zuger, MD, GMER '77

Since this fundraising effort began in 2009, the Department has received well over \$100,000 in gifts and pledges toward both funds. Thanks to our Founding Partners and other alumni we are off to a good start, but more work needs to be done. We hope that you will follow the example of fellow alumni with a generous gift or pledge.

In addition to the Northwestern Alumni Resident Education and Research Endowment and Resident Gift Fund, there are many giving opportunities within the Department. If you are interested in learning more about these initiatives or how to contribute, please contact Jeff Nearhoof in the Office of Development at (312) 503-3088 or j-nearhoof@northwestern.edu, or visit our website www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/giving. ■

Donald Levin Lectureship

On April 6th, the Donald Levin Lecture featured world renowned dermatologist, Dr. Steve Katz from the NIH. Dr. Katz lectured during Grand Rounds and met with faculty, fellows, and residents during his stay. ■



General Dermatology

Anne Laumann, MBChB, MRCP (UK)
Chief of General Dermatology

We are excited to report several ongoing clinical and research activities related to our faculty.

Dr. Mary Martini has spearheaded the expansion of our Melanoma Clinic by more than 30% [See the Specialty Clinic update on page 6]. In addition, Dr. Martini has initiated a patient database and has an ongoing investigation of skin pigmentation in pregnancy. Dr. Joaquin Brieva continues to care for patients with complex medical dermatology conditions, including one of the largest autoimmune bullous disorders clinics in the United States. Dr. Maria Colavincenzo runs the dedicated hair loss clinic, and is becoming increasingly recognized nationally for her hair expertise. Dr. Jonathan Cotliar has established a new CTVD through his TARGET™ [Treatment of Adverse Reactions and Graft-versus-

host disease Effects of cancer] clinical service. Dr. Kenneth Gordon has recently rejoined the Department of Dermatology and will lead a new program on Inflammatory Skin Disorders. He will join Drs. Prashant Singri and Eric Ruderman from Rheumatology at our Tuesday joint Psoriasis/Psoriatic Arthritis Clinic. Dr. Anne Laumann leads our new specialty Collagen Vascular Disease Clinic. Evaluation of a new drug for discoid lupus and subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus is underway.

We congratulate Dr. Jonathan Cotliar for his Dermatology Foundation's Medical Dermatology Career Development Foundation award. He will study "Improving the Diagnosis of acute graft-versus-host disease." Dr. Anne Laumann received the ARRA Stimulus Award for the innovative use of tongue piercing to assist individuals with severe neurological disorders to interact wirelessly with the environment. ■

Cutaneous & Aesthetic Surgery



Murad Alam, MD, MSCI
Chief, Cutaneous and Aesthetic Surgery

The NMFF Dermatologic Surgery section last year expanded its ability to treat rare and uncommon nonmelanoma skin cancers by expanding cooperative relationships with surgical oncology, medical oncology, trans-

In addition, NMFF dermatology has been a center for the national centers for the investigational use of GDC 0449 (Vismodegib), the systemic hedgehog inhibitor that is a promising treatment for advanced and metastatic basal cell carcinoma. Dr. Simon Yoo heads this protocol, and he also continues to spearhead our Transplantation Skin Cancer program, which has enrolled another 300 solid organ transplant patients in our ongoing cancer tracking database during the past year.

This year, NMFF Dermatologic Surgery completed training of its fifth procedural dermatology fellow, Diana Bolotin, MD, PhD, who has accepted a position as Director of dermatologic surgery at the University of Chicago. NMFF Dermatologic Surgery also sponsored its third annual evidence-based medicine dermatologic surgery symposium in August 2011. This symposium provided education to the Chicago dermatology community.

In the last year, the cosmetic dermatology practice at NMFF has been expanded to provide a more complete palette of skin contouring services, as well as more services for skin of color patients. We have acquired a cryolipolysis device for noninvasive fat reduction to supplement our liposuction practice, an ultrasound skin tightening device for facial use, and a microsecond Nd:YAG laser for skin toning with reduced risk of hyper-pigmentation in skin of color patients. In clinical research, the unit continues to be one of the most active in the country in comparative effectiveness research for acne scarring, melasma, and scars.

Finally, the surgeons at NMFF dermatology believe strongly that unencumbered patient access to dermatologists and dermatologic surgeons is vital, and have been working to advocate in this regard. Dr. Yoo is now active as a member of the Coding and Reimbursement Task Force of AAD, and Dr. Alam has been renewed as the ASDS Advisor to the AMA-CPT Committee and has joined the AAD's ICD-10 Task Force. ■

Significantly, our dermatologic surgeons and their interdisciplinary team of collaborators are completing a project which will result in largest retrospective analysis in the US of the treatment outcomes of rare nonmelanoma skin cancers. This data may shed light on the best way to treat these tumors.

plant surgery, plastic surgery, ENT, and oculoplastic surgery. Several cooperative groups have now been developed to jointly treat neoplasms such as Merkel cell carcinoma, sebaceous carcinoma, and dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans respectively. Our 5-year institutional series of DFSP patients is being readied for publication. Significantly, our dermatologic surgeons and their interdisciplinary team of collaborators are completing a project which will result in the largest retrospective analysis in the US of the treatment outcomes of rare nonmelanoma skin cancers. This data may shed light on the best way to treat these tumors. Dr. Alam remains the Northwestern University representative to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network's Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer Panel, which will be meeting later this year to refine treatment guidelines for basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma, as well as Merkel cell carcinoma. The Dermatologic Surgery section is also the lead site in an ongoing prospective study to assess the adverse events associated with Mohs surgery as well as cosmetic dermatologic surgery procedures.

Dermatopathology



Joan Guitart, MD
Chief, Dermatopathology

We are having a record year on our consultation service with a huge increase in the number of complex cases, primarily melanoma and lymphoma cases received from across the nation and overseas. Dr. Pedram Gerami continues to consolidate his extensive experience with FISH analysis of melanocytic lesions. In his research, he is exploring new target chromosomes to evaluate a variety of benign, malignant and ambiguous lesions to be able to provide more accurate prognostic data.

We are adding new molecular techniques to check gene target mutations in melanomas which will have important impact on the use of new target kinase inhibitor and immune modulator drugs.

Finally, we are expanding our repertoire of immune markers for lymphocytic lesions and other tumors. Our research in cutaneous lymphomas includes new observations on gamma-delta and other cytotoxic lymphomas, a case control epidemiology study on lymphomatoid papulosis and a review of our experience with pediatric skin lymphomas. ■



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Children's Memorial Hospital



Anthony J. Mancini, MD
Chief, Pediatric Dermatology

Our division continues to participate in the multicenter, international, collaborative, prospective, placebo-controlled propranolol trial for infantile hemangiomas ("Hemangioid" study), with Dr. Mancini serving as site PI. Worldwide, approximately 45% of the goal for recruited patients has been randomized.

Dr. Amy Paller led an international study of obesity in children with psoriasis. As in adults, children with psoriasis show increased BMI's, regardless of psoriatic severity. The data suggest that all children with psoriasis are at risk for metabolic disease and deserve early therapeutic intervention, including counseling on diet and exercise.

Drs. Sarah Chamlin and Anthony Mancini are completing patient enrollment for validity testing of a quality-of-life scale for patients with infantile hemangiomas. This research is being performed with colleagues at Indiana University as part of an NIH Challenge grant designed to develop and test a quality-of-life and severity scale for infantile hemangiomas.

Dr. Paller initiated the Pediatric Research Alliance (PEDRA) and is one of 6 Principal Investigator's nationally in the NIH funded Atopic Dermatitis Research Network. The Children's-based clinical research group also recently discovered

that a topical combination of lovastatin and cholesterol ("pathogenesis-based therapy") reversed the skin defect of the previously recalcitrant ichthyotic defect of CHILD syndrome in *J Invest Derm.* (2011:131:2242-8).

Drs. Mancini and Paller have completed the 4th edition of Hurwitz Clinical Pediatric Dermatology, one of the leading textbooks of the discipline. Dr. Mancini has completed work (as Co-Editor) on the 2nd edition of the American Academy of Pediatrics Pediatric Dermatology – A Quick Reference Guide. He is an Editor of the new Bologna textbook. Dr. Paller edited the new Schachner & Hansen Pediatric Dermatology text and is an Editor of the new Fitzpatrick's textbook.

Dr. Chamlin completed the 1st edition of Teen's Guides: Living with Skin Conditions, published by Checkmark Books. This is part of the Teen's Guides Series designed to educate adolescents about medical conditions.

The Division of Dermatology has relocated their academic offices to the new Children's campus downtown in Streeterville. The academic offices are now located at 155 N. Superior. The following June of 2012, the pediatric dermatology clinics will move into their new space in the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, at 225 E. Chicago Avenue. The new 23 story, state-of-the-art hospital will bring our facility to the main campus of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and move us closer to our colleagues in the Department of Dermatology. ■



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specialty clinics update

The Vulvar Mucosal Specialty Clinic and the Women's Skin Health Program



Bethanee J. Schlosser, MD, PhD

The **Vulvar Mucosal Specialty Clinic** continues to provide highly sought expertise in the Chicagoland area and now draws patients from the entire Midwest region and beyond. The clinic has expanded considerably over the past 2 years, increasing from one clinic per month with 9 appointments to a weekly full-day clinic serving 12-13 patients each clinic. Dr. Bethanee Schlosser, Director, and Dr. Catherine Stika, Associate Professor of Obstetrics

and Gynecology, provide multidisciplinary care to women with common dermatoses including lichen sclerosus, lichen planus and lichen simplex chronicus as well as more rare and complex entities such as vulvovaginal graft versus host disease, metastatic Crohn's disease, and extramammary Paget's disease. There is frequent collaboration with providers in gynecologic oncology, urogynecology and pelvic physical therapy. Dr. Schlosser has expanded the educational efforts of the clinic to include national talks including Erosive Vulvar Diseases: Approach to Diagnosis, Differential Diagnosis and Treatment and Vulvar Manifestations of Systemic Diseases at the Annual AAD meeting. Additionally, Dr. Schlosser served as guest editor, with Dr. Ginat Mirowski, on an issue of *Dermatologic Therapy* dedicated to vulvar and vaginal disorders (September/October 2010).

The success of the Women's Skin Health Program, directed by Dr. Bethanee Schlosser, is the result of dedication and commitment on the part of many of the dermatology attendings in General Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery at Northwestern.

The success of the Women's Skin Health Program, directed by Dr. Bethanee Schlosser, is the result of dedication and commitment on the part of many of the dermatology attendings in General Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery at Northwestern. The return of Dr. Roopal Kundu has greatly enhanced the services provided to patients with darker skin types through the **Ethnic Skin Center**. Dr. Anne Laumann now provides outstanding care to complicated patients, many of whom are women, through her dedicated weekly **Collagen Vascular Disease Clinic**. Dr. Maria Colavincenzo serves as an invaluable resource for patients with hair loss disorders, and her weekly dedicated **Hair Disorders Clinic** is booming. Organized by the Women's Skin Health Program in conjunction with the Health Learning Center of NMH, Drs. Colavincenzo, Martini and Alam provided a series of public educational lectures on important skin health topics during June 2011; this annual program has been well-received by community attendees and now in its 3rd year, is repeatedly requested by the Health Learning Center. Dr. Schlosser continues to provide care to female patients with acne and rosacea and has developed expertise in hormonal therapy of these common but stigmatizing skin diseases. ■

Melanoma



Mary Martini, MD

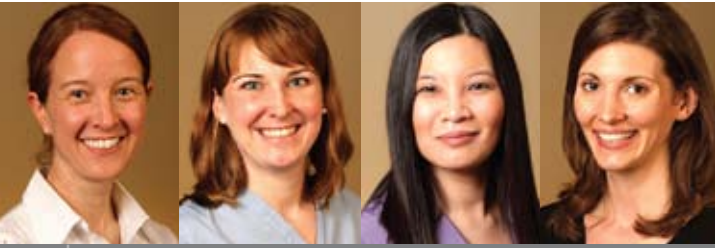
The multispecialty **Melanoma program** at the Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation continues to grow. The incidence of melanoma is growing worldwide and our patient population is a reflection of this data. The pigmented lesion clinic staffed by Drs. Mary Martini and Pedram Gerami is now seeing patients 4 days a week. The physicians evaluate and examine patients with a personal or family history of dysplastic nevus syndrome or a family history of melanoma. Patients seen in this clinic are evaluated and have "mole mapping" which involves a dermoscopic exam of the nevi and, if appropriate, whole body photos.

The melanoma program is multidisciplinary and staffed by physicians from dermatology (Drs. Martini, Gerami, Alam and Yoo), oncology (Dr. Kuzel) and surgical oncology (Dr. Wayne). This Tuesday afternoon clinic based in dermatology accepts patients with a recent diagnosis of melanoma within the past year and is especially oriented to patients with a new diagnosis of melanoma that may require full body assessments of their nevi, additional surgery, sentinel lymph node biopsy or systemic therapy. To schedule patients for the pigmented lesions clinic or the melanoma clinic, please call Ruby at **312-695-6849**.

In addition to the standard clinical care of melanoma patients, the physicians are also involved in a number of research studies. Dr. Martini's work involves current imaging techniques of dysplastic nevi and melanoma. Dr. Gerami's research is studying the genetic mutations noted in melanoma through a new technique called FISH (Fluorescent in-situ hybridization). Drs. Alam, Kuzel and Wayne have ongoing trials of new biologic, surgical and laser therapies in the management of more aggressive melanomas. The melanoma program at Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation offers the melanoma patient a comprehensive approach to their melanoma care as well as cutting edge therapeutics. The physicians are always available for consultation and acute referrals through the contact number above. ■

Congratulations!

At the American Society of Dermatopathology (ASDP) annual meeting held in Seattle, Bryan Gammon, MD and Pedram Pouryazdanparast, MD received the only 2 awards given to trainees, Pedram for the best oral abstract (Pedram is a repeat since he won last year) and Bryan for the best poster. This is an extraordinary event, especially when there were close to 400 abstracts and 900 participants with trainees from practically all fellowship and residency programs. Congratulations to Pedram and Bryan!



Congratulations to our recent graduates

Pictured above from left to right:

Dr. Melissa Abrams is doing Pediatric Dermatology at Medical College of Wisconsin.

Dr. Elizabeth Grossman joined Chicago Lake Shore Medical Associates.

Dr. Sandra Han is a procedural dermatology fellow at UCSF.

Dr. Kimberly Nicholson is a dermatopathology fellow at UT-MD Anderson Cancer Center. ■



Tracy Fuhrmann, MD obtained her undergraduate education from UCLA, attended medical school at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, and completed her internship at University of Chicago Medical Center.



Julia Minocha, MD obtained her undergraduate education from Notre Dame University, attended medical school at Northwestern University, and completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Northwestern University.



Lisa Shen, MD obtained her undergraduate education from University of Wisconsin-Madison, attended medical school at University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, and completed her internship at Tufts Medical Center.



Jennifer Sorrell, MD obtained her undergraduate education from University of Maryland, attended medical school at Temple University School of Medicine, completed a residency in Pediatrics at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, and then served as a clinical trials fellow for 2 years. ■

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HOSPITAL PEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY FELLOWS:

Heather Salvaggio, MD attended and received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, PA in 2007. Post-graduate, she completed a one year internship in internal medicine at York Hospital in York, PA, and dermatology residency at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA.

Ingrid Polcari, MD attended and received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine in 2005. Her residencies included Pediatrics at Children's Memorial Hospital and Dermatology at University of Chicago Hospitals.

Dr. Antoinette Chateau is visiting from South Africa. She is here on a one year "International Observership" in Dermatology at Children's Memorial Hospital. Antoinette just finished her first year of practice as an attending physician at University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in South Africa. ■

DERMATOPATHOLOGY FELLOW:



Pedram Pouryazdanparast, MD attended medical school at The Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University. He is currently in the two-year Dermatopathology Fellowship program at Northwestern

University [2010-2012]. On July 1, 2011, he began his ACGME-accredited fellowship year, and he will follow his fellowship with a dermatology residency at Northwestern. ■

PROCEDURAL DERMATOLOGY FELLOW:



Melanie Warycha, MD attended medical school and completed a preliminary medicine internship and Dermatology residency at New York University School of Medicine. Dr. Warycha also served as a Melanoma

Translational Research Fellow at NYU. She began her one-year appointment as Procedural Dermatology Fellow here at Northwestern University on July 1, 2011, with hopes of becoming an academic Mohs surgeon with a particular focus on research in non-melanoma skin cancer. ■



Warm Welcome to our Visitors from Japan

In the week of May 9, 2011, the department welcomed Dr. Shinji Noda, (right) from the University of Tokyo and Dr. Hiroshi Kawasaki, (left) from Keio University School of Medicine. Drs. Noda and Kawasaki were recipients of the 2011 Society of Investigative Dermatology (SID)/ Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID) Young Fellow Collegiality Award. During their week visit at Northwestern Dermatology, they attended research and clinical activities, and meet with several clinical and research faculty. ■

Thank You!

On behalf of the Department of Dermatology, we thank Dr. Donald Levin for his generous donation of the iPads to our 1st and 2nd year residents. They have begun to incorporate these iPads within their clinics and research experience.



clinical trials unit update

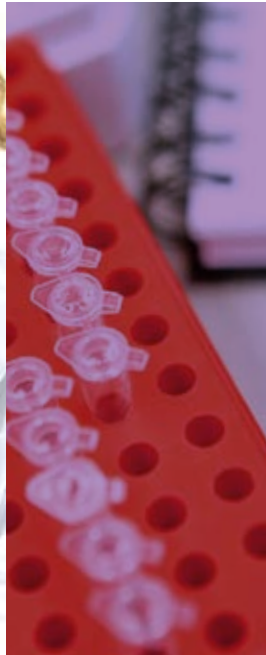
The Clinical Trials Unit in the Department of Dermatology facilitates both investigator and sponsor-driven innovative clinical research studies. Clinical research is conducted at both Northwestern University and Children's Memorial Hospital. The Clinical Trials Unit is directed by Dr. Dennis West as part of the Dermatopharmacology Program.

Visit our Clinical and Outcomes Research Webpage

www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/depts/dermatology/research/clinical-trials/

View our 2010-2011 Publications

www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/depts/dermatology/research/clinical-trials/ctu-publications.htm



2011-2012 CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOWS

Nazila Barahmani, MD, MS received her medical degree and dermatology residency at Istanbul University. Dr Barahmani is a former Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Scientist at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She is a first-year Clinical Research Fellow.

Jaimee Holbrook, MD received her medical degree from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is a second-year Clinical Research Fellow.

Kathleen Mercy, MD received her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed her Pediatrics

Residency at Northwestern McGaw/Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, IL. She is a first-year Clinical Research Fellow.

Elizabeth Sherlock, MD received her MD from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. She completed an internship in Internal Medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center. She is a first-year Clinical Research Fellow.

Duri Yun, MD, MPH received her MD and MPH from the University of Illinois and completed her Pediatrics Residency at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital. She is a first-year Clinical Research Fellow. ■

2010-2011 GRADUATE FELLOWS

From left to right: Beatrice Nardone, Jaimee Holbrook, Jennifer Gordon, Fritz Hoesly, Amy Paller, Julia Minocha, Judy Borovicka, Amanda Silverio, Anne Mahoney, Dennis West. Not Pictured: Meghan Dubina. All of our graduating fellows will be initiating dermatology residencies within the next 1-2 years.

Help Us Enroll Study Subjects!

A study evaluating the safety and efficacy of apremilast (CC-10004) in patients with moderate-severe plaque psoriasis.

Adults with a confirmed diagnosis of psoriasis.

Please call: 312-695-0287

A study evaluating the efficacy of text messaging to improve adherence to health maintenance behaviors in adolescents with atopic dermatitis.

Children between the ages of 10 and 17 with a confirmed diagnosis of atopic dermatitis and a mobile phone capable of receiving text messages.

Please call: 312-227-6485

A study evaluating the safety and efficacy of JNJ 10229570-AAA cream in patients with moderate facial acne vulgaris.

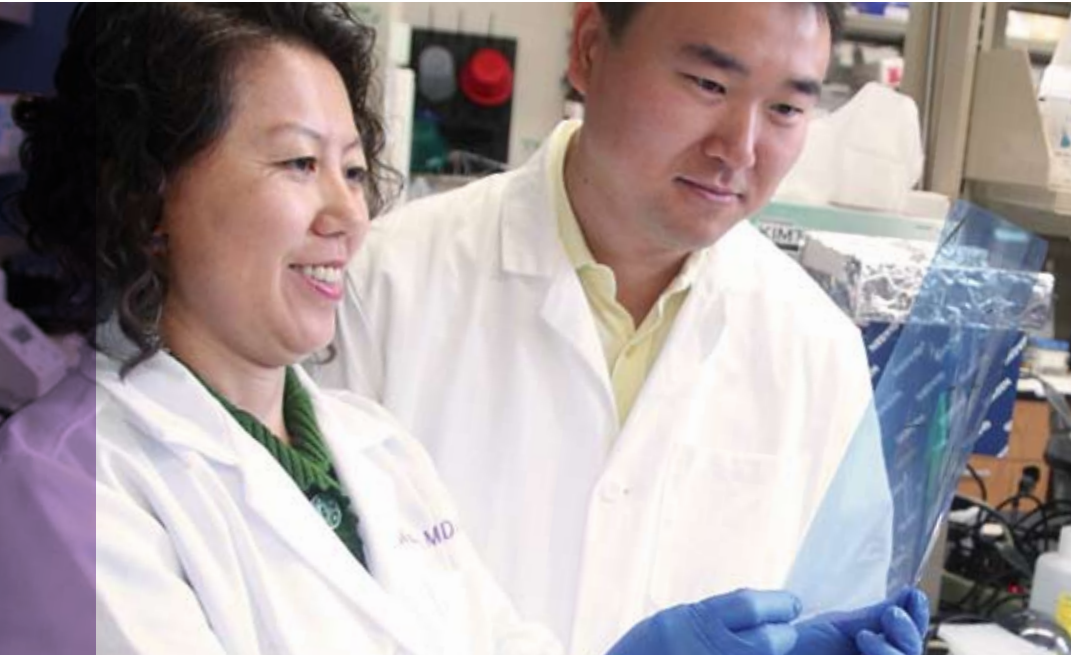
Children (12 years or older) and adults with a confirmed diagnosis of moderate facial acne vulgaris.

Please call: 312-695-0287

A study to maintain a database of atopic dermatitis and to identify genetic variants that may be associated with their susceptibility to cutaneous bacterial and viral infections.

Children (2 years or older) and adults with confirmed diagnosis of atopic dermatitis.

Please call: 312-227-6484



Left: Dr. Xiao-qi Wang and Dr. Peng Han in Research Lab.

Below: Dr. Amy Paller and Dr. Robert Lavker discussing medical research with resident Dr. Lisa Arkin.

The dermatology research enterprise is flourishing at Northwestern University, in part spearheaded by the Skin Disease Research Center (SDRC). The SDRC has just completed its second year and the Administrative, Keratinocyte, Pathology and DNA/RNA Delivery cores are fully functional. Each of the Service Cores continues to expand their respective user base and this has led to many new potential collaborations among members of the SDRC. The first round of Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) projects has been completed and was deemed to be extremely successful. For example, a P&F project directed by Dr. Chad Mirkin (Chemistry) with assistance by Dr. Amy Paller (Derm) has yielded a new R01 NIH grant entitled the "Topical Delivery of siRNA Nanconjugates: Suppressing Epidermal Hyperplasia" with a manuscript under review in *PNAS*. A P&F directed by Dr. Navdeep Chandel (Pulmonary Medicine) to study the role of mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (ROS) in keratinocyte biology has led to a newly funded R21 NIH grant from NIAMS in collaboration with Dr. Robert Lavker (Derm). SDRC faculty Dr. Spiro Getsios and Dr. Robert Lavker also recently co-authored a manuscript submitted to *Science* describing how mitochondrial ROS regulates epidermal differentiation and hair follicle development.

The SDRC has awarded four new P&F projects to a diverse group of investigators within the Medical School. Dr. Melissa Brown, Professor of Microbiology/Immunology is the P.I. on a project entitled "Mechanisms underlying adverse cutaneous effects of the anti-cancer drug, Bortezomib." This work will be done in collaboration with Irina Budunova (Derm). Dr. Brian Mitchell, Assistant Professor of Cell and Molecular Biology is the P.I. on a project to study "The regulation of cell migration and intercalation through keratinocytes." Dr. William J. Muller, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics is the P.I. on a project entitled "Keratinocyte innate immune responses after herpes simplex virus infection." Dr. Christian Stehlik, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Rheumatology is the P.I. on a project to study "Innate immune host defense function of keratinocytes." We anticipate that these new projects will generate new collaborative initiatives as well as bring new investigators into the field of cutaneous biology.

The research faculty has been extremely productive in 2011. In addition to Amy Paller's new R01 NIH grant and a new R21 related to diabetic wound healing, Dr. Sergey Troyanovsky has successfully obtained funding for two NIH – R01 grants focused on understanding cadherin biology. In addition, he has recently published a high profile paper entitled "Cadherins trade bonds: Study describes how adhesion molecules rearrange their interactions to exit cell junctions," which was published in the *Journal of Cell Biology*. June Robinson received a new NIH-R01 grant from NCI to study "A Comparison of Interventions to Teach Melanoma Patients' Skin Self-Examination." Dr. Xiao-qi Wang received an American Cancer Society grant to support her studies on gangliosides and melanoma. Drs. Pedram Gerami, Jonathan Cotliar, Lisa Godesl (Pathology and Derm) and Kevin Hamill (Cell and Molecular Biology and Derm) received Career Development Awards from the Dermatology Foundation to support their ongoing research. Drs. Robert Lavker and Amy Paller resubmitted the T32 Cutaneous Biology Training Grant, which we hope will support the post-doctoral training of two physician/scientists and/or bench scientists annually who want to pursue careers as researchers in cutaneous biology.

In Spring 2011, the research faculty was well-represented at the annual meetings of the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID) and the Association for Research and Vision in Ophthalmology with numerous platform presentations as well as posters. It was gratifying to see that there was a nice mix of both basic science and translational research presented by our research and clinical faculty at the SID. ■



Ruth K. Freinkel, M.D.

PROFESSOR, RESEARCHER, & TEACHER FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Having served for one of the longest periods in the Department of Dermatology history at Northwestern, Ruth K. Freinkel, M.D., was a key faculty member in training many dermatology residents during her tenure of more than three decades as faculty at Northwestern.

Her outstanding knowledge of medicine, interest in basic science research, emphasis on awareness of individual patient characteristics and symptoms, and accurate diagnostic laboratory interpretations led to an application of evidence-based dermatological therapeutic regimens that were ahead of their time and a rewarding educational experience for all of us training at Northwestern.

Ruth K. Freinkel, M.D., was born in Hamburg, Germany, completed her undergraduate education at Randolph Macon College for Women and, at a time when few American medical schools accepted women students, graduated second in her class with an M.D. degree from Duke University School of Medicine. After completing her internship at Duke University, she completed an internal medicine residency at Boston City Hospital and fellowship in biochemistry at Harvard Medical School and Cambridge University.

As a third-year medical student, Dr. Freinkel enjoyed exposure to a dermatology rotation at the Massachusetts General Hospital and recalls that Dr. Calloway, then Chief of the Department, had two

Former residents fondly recall our interactive gathering once a week in the afternoon with Dr. Freinkel for our basic science lectures in dermatology. Most importantly, Dr. Freinkel challenged us to reflect on our reasoning and make sure it was the best it could be!

She also participated in activities outside Northwestern. She held memberships in a number of societies, some of which had strict requirements for membership, such as the American Dermatological Association. She was the first woman to serve on the NIH Council, which ultimately determines grant funding, and served as well on many NIH study sections. She was the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Investigative Dermatology from 1977-1982. She also served on the Board of Directors and then as President of the Society for Investigative Dermatology. In recognition of her contributions, the Society of Investigative Dermatology awarded Dr. Freinkel the Stephen Rothman Medal, its highest honor.

Dr. Freinkel was a trailblazer in dermatology at Northwestern. Her laboratory was the first dermatology laboratory at the university, and her research focused on acne and hair disorders. One of her assistants in the laboratory, Mr. Thomas Traczyk, is currently our senior technologist in the dermatopathology labs, and was recently honored for his 35 years of service to the department. In the

1960's, Northwestern had few female faculty members, and certainly a female chair would have been unheard of. She recalls surviving as chairmen came and went – and there were several. She also has memories of the department offices located in the Ward building along with the cramped patient clinics which were relocated into the new 222 East Superior Building (soon to be the site of the new Lurie Children's Hospital)

when the offices were moved to the Tarry building. She retired and was appointed Professor Emeritus in 1995.

Dr. Freinkel was the ultimate medical dermatologist. She specialized in the care of individuals with the most complex, chronic cutaneous disorders. Today, Dr. Freinkel is enjoying retirement and reading "a lot of non-scientific stuff." She has taken some classes in history and the humanities at the University of Oregon. She lives in Eugene near her youngest daughter, Dr. Lisa Myobun Freinkel (who is Director of the Comparative Literature Program at the University of Oregon). ■

Her outstanding knowledge of medicine, interest in basic science research, emphasis on awareness of individual patient characteristics and symptoms, and accurate diagnostic laboratory interpretations led to an application of evidence-based dermatological therapeutic regimens that were ahead-of-their-time and a rewarding educational experience for all of us training at Northwestern.

young residents/fellows, Drs. George W. Hambrick and J. Graham "Skee" Smith, Jr. They both later became very famous in our field. She accepted a residency in dermatology at the Massachusetts General Hospital where she was later appointed Instructor and then Assistant Professor of Dermatology.

Dr. Freinkel then moved to Chicago and Northwestern University Medical School where her husband, Dr. Norbert Freinkel, was recruited for a professorship in Internal Medicine. In order to induce him to take the position, Northwestern offered Dr. Ruth Freinkel a position as Associate Professor of Dermatology and Cell Biology. Department Chair Dr. Samuel Bluefarb agreed that her achievements would enhance the department, and provided her a lab for research. Appointment to Professor and Vice-Chair of the department followed.

Getting to know Dr. Ruth Freinkel:

What does her middle initial stand for?

Hint: It is her maiden name, and her father's name is well known to all medical students.

Answer: Kimmelsteil. Dr. Freinkel's parents were both physicians in Germany, and immigrated to the United States. Her father, a pathologist, went on to describe the pathologic changes of diabetic nephropathy, the "Kimmelsteil-Wilson kidney".



**2011 AAD Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA
Women's Dermatologic Society Lunch event**

Top Row (Left to Right): Drs. Sarah Baker, Sonal Shah, Amy Paller, Mary Martini, and Sapna Patel Vaghani

Bottom Row (Left to Right): Drs. Gunilla Carlsson-Thorn, Sandra Han, Kavita Menon, and Diana Bolotin



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**3rd Northwestern University Dermatology
Alumni Reunion and Educational Seminar**

JUNE 25, 2011 – JUNE 26, 2011

The 3rd Northwestern University Dermatology Alumni Reunion and Educational Seminar was held on June 25th and 26th of this year. The alumni committee welcomed more than 65 alumni, faculty, residents, and guests. Dr. Amy Paller ('83), Chair, Department of Dermatology, welcomed the alumni in attendance and delivered the committee's vision to unify the alumni, and to support the future and education of a new generation of residents. This exciting weekend was filled with clinical and research presentations by past alumni and current resident and fellows.

Special tributes were presented to Dr. Eugene and Gloria Bauer (The Ruth K. Freinkel Endowed Professorship), and Dr. Donald L. Levin (The Donald L. Levin Lectureship) for their extraordinary contributions to the department. Dr. Morgan Magid, one of the founding partners of the Residency Endowment Fund, and our residents emphasized the importance of giving back. We hope all alumni will remember the value of residency training and help to support our educational program.

A skype session was arranged via computer with Dr. Ruth Freinkel from Chicago to Eugene, Oregon. Thereafter, an alumni dinner was held at the Grand Lux Café on Saturday evening. ■

Save the Date!

**The next reunion
will be held on
August 17-18, 2013.**

Pictured above (left to right):

- 1: Dr. Sapna Patel Vaghani, Mehul Shah, Dr. Sonal Shah, Dr. Donald Levin, Dr. Sarah Baker, Chris Baker**
- 2: Mrs. Gombiner and Dr. Arnold Gombiner**
- 3: Chris Rands, Dr. Jennifer Sorrell, Dr. Bethanee Schlosser**
- 4: Dr. Kim Nussbaum, Dr. Adelaide (Beeta) Hebert, Dr. Mark Gendleman**
- 5: Mrs. Schultz, Dr. David Woodley, Dr. Bryan Schultz, Dr. Amy Paller**

Genodermatoses Part 1 Conference

On March 16, 2011, we held our annual *Genodermatoses* teaching seminar for the Midwest region residents, fellows and attendings, in the Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Feinberg Pavilion Conference Center. This is a three part series which provides each resident a complete review of genetic skin disorders during their three years of training.

The presenters for this year's seminar were Amy S. Paller, MD of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and Jonathan A. Dyer, MD of University of Missouri School of Medicine. The conference was a huge success, with 120 in attendance.

The next conference, Genodermatoses Part 2, will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012. ■

volunteerism



Many Dermatology department faculty and residents continue to make a difference in serving patients with skin disease without easy access to medical care. Spearheaded by

Dr. Simon Yoo, head of our Volunteer Committee and a Mohs surgeon in our department, department members staff a dedicated dermatology clinic monthly on Saturday mornings for underserved patients at the Westside Community Health Clinic. Each session is attended by a faculty member, resident, and often a student.

CommunityHealth has been recognized as a leader among free clinics nationwide, both in budget and scope of services. It is the

largest free clinic in Illinois. Community Health seeks to serve Chicago's uninsured and underserved by providing free primary and specialty care, along with education, outreach, and advocacy.

Kudos to Connie Lemar, Clinical Practice Supervisor of Dermatology, who master-minded an incredibly successful Bake Sale effort in August 2011. The proceeds were donated to the World Food Programme, an organization that helps raise funds for the millions of people affected by the famine and draught in Africa.

Almost 100% of the department contributed baked goods, leading to \$1,125 in donations which will pay for 4,500 cups of food.

We thank everyone who donated and participated in touching the lives of many through this heartfelt event. ■

18th Annual Cancer Survivors' Celebration and Walk Event

On June 5, members of the Dermatology Department supported the 18th Annual Cancer Survivors' Celebration and Walk of the Robert Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University by volunteering at a water tent. We distributed water, sunscreen packets, sun protection information and ever popular leis in every color of the rainbow.

Dr. Joan Guitart (left) and Dr. Amy Paller (center) distributed information to some of the 4,000 walkers.

Drs. Simon Yoo and Jonathan Cotliar assisted at the water table. (right) ■



If you have any updates, news information, please forward to Nilda Reyes at nilda.reyes@nmff.org or via fax at 312-695-0664. Thank you.

www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/depts/dermatology



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