Friends,

The trees are blooming in mid-Missouri and the dogwoods are beautiful! We expect the dermpath equipment to arrive any day now and are excited about building our own dermpath lab and service. Faculty recruitment for dermpath is ongoing.

We are putting the final touches (with Rhonda’s help) on our new Harry A. and Delores M. Deeken Library and Learning Center. This was made possible by a generous gift from Dr. & Mrs. James Deeken. It will house books, journals, video, and on-line resources.

The medical school and hospital system are doing well even in these difficult financial times and we have strong support from our leadership. The future for MU dermatology remains bright!

We also love to see our alums. Please let us know when you will be in town. Karen

**OUR MOHS SURGEON HONORED BY AAD**

Ronald Wheeland, MD, professor in the Department of Dermatology and chief of dermatologic surgery, has been selected for an honorary fellowship in the American Academy of Dermatology. He was one of six physicians chosen for this honor nationwide. The academic’s board of directors bestows this honor to members who demonstrate outstanding leadership and service. Dr. Wheeland has demonstrated his leadership skills and volunteer service to the organization as a past president of the 14,000-member academy and with service on multiple committees and work groups.

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**DERMATOLOGY PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECT**

On November 7, 2008, faculty and staff from our department took part in the annual Campus Facilities Wellness Fair. This is a multiple vendor and health services fair providing screening, assessments, and health information for MU facilities and maintenance employees. This year we performed skin cancer screenings on over 95 employees. Of these, 17 were referred for further dermatological care and 5 were recommended to have biopsies due to probable skin cancer. One person was found to have melanoma. During the one-day wellness fair various patient screenings discovered skin cancer, osteoporosis, diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and even a tumor in some of the MU employees. While this isn’t good news, it confirms how important this Wellness Fair is to our fellow employees. Early detection at the fair last year helped many receive the proper health care they needed.

The dermatology department faculty and staff also annually attend the Missouri State Fair in August to provide skin cancer screenings and skin cancer prevention information to the general public.
MATCH DAY 2009
The National Resident Matching Program held the annual "Match Day" on March 19, 2009. Candidates who were recruited to the Dermatology Residency Program here at the University of MO are: LeAnna Lane—graduate of the University of Missouri School of Medicine in Columbia, MO; Ross Reule—graduate of the University of Missouri School of Medicine in Columbia, MO; and Dan Skinner—graduate of the University of AZ College of Medicine in Tucson, AZ. Drs. Lane and Reule will be completing internships at the University of MO School of Medicine in Columbia. Dr. Skinner will be interning at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. We will welcome them in July, 2010, to our residency program.

GUNN LECTURESHIP ON MAY 21
The annual Gunn Lectureship will be held on May 21, 2009. The featured guest this year will be Lee T. Nesbitt Jr., MD. He is the Henry Jolly Professor and Head of the Department of Dermatology, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, New Orleans, LA. His presentation will be “Severe Drug Reactions” and will be held in conjunction with Internal Medicine Grand Rounds. The lecture will be from 12:00—1:00 pm in Acuff Auditorium, MA 217, in the School of Medicine. Lunch will follow in the Dermatology Department for guests and alumni. For more information, contact Rhonda Forrest-Rodgers by calling (573) 884-3180, or email to: ForrestR@health.missouri.edu

RESIDENTS & FACULTY PRESENT AT NATIONAL MEETINGS
Nick Golda, MD, and Holly Hare, MD, have both presented at the Zola Cooper Clinical and Dermatopathologic Seminar in 2007 and/or 2008. Jenny Swearingen, MD, presented a poster entitled “Photoacoustic distinction among melanin, hemoglobin, and exogenous pigment in skin lesions in vivo” at the International Investigative Dermatology Meeting in Kyoto, Japan, in May 2008. Holly Hare, MD, presented two posters at the Annual AAD Conference in San Francisco in March, 2009, entitled “Acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis following loxosceles envenomation” and “Noonan-like features with loose anagen hair—a new genetic link?”. Several presentations were made by each of our faculty members Dr. Karen Edison (health literacy, teledermatology), Dr. Jon Dyer (mosaicism, genodermatoses), and Dr. Ron Wheeland (appropriate laser uses, advanced laser home devices for hair removal) at the AAD meeting as well.

MO DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING IN OCTOBER 2009
The Missouri Dermatological Society's Annual Meeting will be held in Kansas City at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, October 9 & 10, 2009. To make reservations please call the hotel directly at: 816-421-1234 or 800-233-1234.

CHIEF RESIDENTS DEPART IN JUNE
Nick Golda, MD, will be completing a year-long American College of Mohs Surgery Fellowship at the Laser and Dermatologic Surgery Center in St. Louis, MO. Dr. George Hruza is the fellowship director. Jenny Swearingen, MD, will be moving to Detroit, MI. She will be in joining the faculty at Wayne State University. Michelle Wanna, MD, will be moving to Sioux Falls, SD. She will be joining three other dermatologists at Avera Dermatology & Laser Center. In addition she has applied to join the clinical faculty in the Department of Internal Medicine at the Sanford School of Medicine at the University of SD.

DERMATOPATHOLOGY EDUCATION PROJECT
Jeff Graves, 2nd year resident beginning in July, has initiated a project developing a dermatopathology teaching tool for dermatology residents and medical students. The project is to develop a computer-based basic dermatopathology course that includes high resolution photographs of both clinical and histological cases along with explanations and teaching points. A future goal for the project is the development of a nationwide pathology photo database that is linked between all dermatological academic centers. This database would be linked to the teaching course to provide learners with unlimited examples of each disease. A future goal is to develop an interactive free website for learners that could allow interaction/blogging between residents and faculty across the country. Dr. Beth Ruben, MD, of UCSF will be working on the project with Dr. Graves.

FAREWELL PARTY AT DR. EDISON’S HOME
Faculty and staff will be saying good-bye to the chief residents at a party in their honor at Dr. Edison’s home on June 21, 2009 from 4:00—7:00 pm.
NEW PUBLICATIONS by RESIDENTS and FACULTY


Clinical Projects

JON DYER, MD, DIRECTOR OF TELEDERMATOLOGY INITIATIVE

Faculty member Jon Dyer, MD, is a member of the board of directors for the Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types (FIRST) and also serves on the scientific advisory board. In a new Teledermatology Initiative project, he and other members of the FIRST advisory board will serve as expert consultants regarding disorders of cornification. In collaboration with Dr. Chi-Ren Shyu, Dr. Jianlin Cheng, and Mitch Rowlison from the MU Informatics Institute, Dr. Dyer has designed and is implementing a web-based store-and-forward web portal which will allow other dermatologists to consult with these experts about their ichthyosis cases. The web portal has been designed for HIPAA compliance and to protect patient confidentiality. The project is undergoing final beta testing and will be launched in May.

ATOPIC DERMATITIS HEALTH LITERACY PROJECT

Gretchen Carlisle (RN), Kari Martin (2nd year resident), and Holly Hare (chief resident), will begin a study in May of health literacy in pediatric atopic dermatitis patients and their caregivers. They will evaluate how well 25 newly diagnosed AD patients and their families are able to internalize information and implement treatments after the first clinic visit. Patients and their families will return to clinic in 2 weeks following the initial visit for a study visit where a questionnaire is administered. The goal is to improve provider education and simplify treatment options so that patient and caregiver disease knowledge and medication compliance is optimized.

WORKFORCE STUDY SHOWS WHERE RESIDENTS PRACTICE

A survey of the 107 dermatologists who completed residency at the University of MO between 1964 and 2008 was recently conducted. It shows that 34% of responding alums (n = 82) continue to work in MO today; 57% currently work in the Midwest region; and 63% currently work within 500 miles of MU. These figures help dispel the myth that our residents predominantly move to the US coasts to practice dermatology.
Have a wonderful summer!

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