Updates from the Chair

August, 2010

Rhoda M. Alani, MD
Herbert Mescon Professor and Chair

Dear Colleagues:

Although August is traditionally the month when things slow down for vacations and time away, the month of August was surprisingly busy for BU Dermatology as we welcomed several new faculty members to the department and worked to expand clinical and research programs on many fronts. The most recent addition to our “team” is Dr. Rutao Cui who joins us from Tufts University School of Medicine. Please read more about Rutao’s interests below and be sure to introduce yourself to him when you see him around 609 Albany Street.

With the addition of so many new faculty we have also been sprucing up our workplace with some much-needed renovations at 609 Albany Street and a beautifully designed renovation at our 930 Commonwealth Avenue practice. Please be sure to drop by and take a look at what’s new at these two locations. We have also installed a new flatscreen console in the lobby of 609 Albany Street which will display important news and events for the department. Please be sure to send any important announcements for posting in the lobby to Jacy Bernal (jlondon@bu.edu).

Other news includes several important publications from department faculty as well as the launch of our new Alumni Association (see below). For current and former faculty members and trainees within the department, we hope you have all received an invitation to our upcoming alumni event on September 21st. This will be a great time to catch up with old friends and learn about what’s new at BU. The venue should be delightful as we enjoy an evening of food and drinks under the stars overlooking the Charles River, Fenway Park, and downtown Boston. We hope you will be able to join us for this exciting event and look forward to catching up then.

Comm Ave Updates

Emmy Graber, M.D.

The Cosmetic and Laser Center is undergoing some very exciting changes. Our waiting room is being given a very nice “facelift” with modern styling and décor that significantly enhances the feel of our office. The paint and new flooring have been completed and we are awaiting furnishings to complete the new look. With our new space will come new directions for our practice including the availability of several new cosmetic procedures. A brochure and poster as well as postcard mailings covering our new services will be available soon. Please also look for us on Facebook and through our completely redesigned website which should be launched within the next few weeks.

We have a brand new state-of-the-art fractionated CO2 laser called the Ultrapulse. This is a great device for treating acne scars, traumatic scars, wrinkles and sun spots. A new permanent filler, Artefill, is also now available at the Cosmetic and Laser Center. This can be used for deep wrinkles and folds (such as the nasolabial folds) and can also be used for some acne scars.

Feel free to have patients call to set up a consultation; we are happy to see them. 617-414-6760.

New Department Members

Rutao Cui, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Rutao Cui received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Shanghai Medical University in China. He practiced clinical medicine as a gastroenterologist in China for a few years before coming to the United States to pursue postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Dr. David Fisher at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Dr. Cui was previously on the faculty at Tufts University School of Medicine in the Departments of Medicine and Genetics. His primary research interests include:
understanding molecular mechanisms of melanoma development, defining the molecular effects of UVB radiation on melanocyte growth and differentiation; and developing murine genetic models for human melanoma.

Dr. Cui is the author of over 30 publications including seminal work defining the mechanism of UVB effects on melanocyte growth and the tanning response. Dr. Cui’s work is supported through funding from the National Institutes of Health as well as several private foundations. Please join me in welcoming Rutao Cui to BU Dermatology!

Boston University Dermatology Alumni Association (BUDAA)
Kavitha Reddy, M.D.

We are proud to announce the formation of the Boston University Dermatology Alumni Association. This is a non-profit organization formally serving the needs and promoting the interests of former Boston University Dermatology residents, trainees, and fellows. We will be hosting a kick-off celebration September 21st, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, at the terrace of 595 Commonwealth Avenue. We are looking forward to this special event and hope it will be a great opportunity for our alumni to connect with one another and discuss the directions we can take as a group.

The Alumni Association is currently collecting the contact information of our past graduates and staff. Please email any updates to your contact information to budermalumni@gmail.com so that we can keep you updated on the activities of the association. We are also proud to mention brief alumni updates and announcements in our newsletter. If you have any news to share or would like to let friends and colleagues know how you are doing, please email us. Photos are encouraged and we will publish some of these in the newsletter.

As a future alumnus, I am excited about this venture and I know that our alumni are an amazing group with much to contribute to one another and dermatology. We hope to continue planning events for major dermatology meetings and other get-togethers, and to help to implement the ideas of our members. A Board of Trustees that will regularly rotate will help organize the group. However all alumni are encouraged to participate. The association belongs to each of you and we will each be stronger with one another’s support. Please email us at anytime if you are interested in contributing or have any suggestions for how we can assist our alumni. We hope to see you in September!

With best wishes for all of our BU Dermatology Family.

Alumni Profile of the Month:
Jag Bhawan M.D.
Class of 1983

Dr. Jag Bhawan has been a member of our Boston University faculty since 1986, and a strong presence in the national dermatopathology community. He is board certified in Pathology, Dermatology, and Dermatopathology, and served as a past president of the American Society of Dermatopathology. We took a few minutes to get to know his “alumni” side.

What do you remember fondly about residency?
I always enjoyed interacting with my fellow residents and faculty.

Where did you send your pathology as a resident?
We had BU Dermpath service.

What advice do you have for residents and alumni?
I would advise them to remember to keep the patient's interest as the top priority and to continue to adhere to the highest ethical standards.

What do you like to do outside of work?
I enjoy traveling and seeing different parts of the world.

What is the most fulfilling aspect of your career?
Working with residents, fellows and students, and also making a difference in patient diagnosis and management.

What would you like to see the new alumni association achieve?
I would love to see the department of dermatology and alumni come closer together. I hope we can have greater interaction between each other.

Our thanks to Jag for sharing his time with us. Please email us at budermalumni@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in the profiles section or sharing news with colleagues!
Outreach to Pakistan  
Muhammad Nazir, MD

Dear all,

I am writing you this email as your urgent help can make people’s lives better in flood-affected areas of my country, Pakistan. Since late July, heavy monsoon rains have triggered flash floods and river flooding in Pakistan, affecting millions of people. Most of the affected people are now homeless. This video shows us just a glimpse...

They need your help and your little contribution can make a major difference. You can help them by any means! As an example here are links of few international American agencies.

1) UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

2) MSF, Medicines San Frontiers (Doctors without Borders)

3) Red Cross
https://american.redcross.org/site/Donation2?idb=48164971&df_id=4932&4932.donation=form1&gclid=CPaNzeuA6aMCFeQD5Qodm16i0w

More information about the floods in Pakistan can be obtained by following this link:

Departmental Kudos

Publications

Byers HR, Boissel SJ, Tu C, Park HY. RNAi-mediated knockdown of protein kinase C-alpha inhibits cell migration in MM-RU human metastatic melanoma cell line. Melanoma Res. 2010 Jun;20(3):171-8


DOB Featured Staff Member

Latasha Anderson

After completing her education at the Salter School in Malden, Tasha joined Boston Medical Center in January 2008 in Primary Care. In January 2009 Latasha joined the Department of Dermatology as a Practice Assistant. Tasha enjoys listening to Hip Hop, R&B and Socca. Her favorite food is curry chicken and rice.

Brockton Featured Staff Member

Bridget Kelly

After working several years in Boston at a law firm, she returned to school at CEI, now Lincoln Tech, to study medical office administration. Bridget joined our group about four years ago and works at the front desk as our check-out person. With a quiet, friendly demeanor, she is very successful asking for and collecting co-pays and outstanding balances.

She is a self-described shy person—except when she is on stage. Bridget studied acting at Capachione in East Bridgewater for a couple of years and absolutely loved performing. She has performed in Les Miserables and A Chorus Line. Her aspiration is to return to school to study music. She loves going to plays and attending concerts. She recently traveled to New York to catch a Liza Minnelli concert and a couple of plays.

Bridget recently vacationed in Puerto Rico and has also traveled to Florida, New York, and South Carolina. Her local haunts include day trips to the Cape and Foxwoods. She chuckled as she mentioned Foxwoods and said that the trips are not often and she is conservative. In the future, she is looking forward to adding cruising to her travel experience.

Bridget enjoys entertainment of all sorts—watching the Celtics and Red Sox games, movies, concerts, TV, and listening to music. She loves attending family gathering and being around her little niece and five nephews. “Oh, and I love shopping too,” she added with a laugh.

Comm Ave Featured Staff Member

Cullen McManus

Cullen is Commonwealth Avenue's new part-time medical assistant. He recently graduated from a Medical Assisting program at Kaplan Career Institute with plans to pursue a nursing degree next year. He studied at the Hudson Valley Community College, majoring in Bioethics/Genetics and has worked at the Parsons Child and Family Center in Albany, New York, in therapeutic crisis intervention. Since 2008 he has been involved in a variety of projects geared towards improving health care. In his free time he likes to study genetics, build websites, play Xbox 360, and go skimboarding.

609 Albany Street Featured Staff Member

Daniella Adrien

Daniella has been employed by BU Dermatology since 2005. She was hired as an assistant to David Goukassian, and is currently the coordinator for the International Dermatology Training Program and the administrative assistant for Drs. Amit Garg, Amal Kurban and Thomas Ruenger. Daniella also coordinates the Dermatology Elective for the medical students. Prior to joining BU, Daniella worked for the U.S. Department of Transportation for a short period, and for Standish, Ayer and Wood as a desktop publisher and client service assistant and for Bain & Company for several years. Daniella enjoys reading and spending time with her family. She lives in Dorchester with her husband, Juneau and three kids, Marcus, Alex and Jenna.
Notes:

The deadline for posting entries on the Marie-France Demierre online guestbook and having it included in the bound book is September 14. If you have not done so already, and would like to contribute, please do so at: http://www.legacy.com/guestbook/bostonglobe/guestbook.aspx?n=marie-france-demierre&pid=141838992&cid=full

I hope you enjoyed this latest edition of Dermatology Updates.

Please keep me posted on your news and feel free to send your suggestions for future topics and features to budermnewsletter@hotmail.com.

Don’t forget to also visit us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Boston-MA/Boston-University-and-Boston-Medical-Center-Dermatology/243883552117

Best regards,

Rhoda
Please join the Boston University Department of Dermatology for a meet and greet

Inaugural Reception
Boston University Dermatology Alumni Association

Tuesday, September 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:30 in the evening
The Terrace at BU School of Management*
595 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA

Join your colleagues as we catch up with old friends, reminisce about the past, and learn about what's new at BU

Kindly RSVP by September 10, 2010
617-638-5500 or dern@bu.edu

*Parking is available in the garage beneath the School of Management. Please be sure to use the EAST ELEVATORS in order to access the terrace.
Save the Date

A Celebration of the Life of
Dr. Marie-France Demierre

Monday, November 1, 2010
4:00 PM

Boston Medical Center

Please join us in remembering our dear colleague and friend. There will be speakers, music, pictures, and other tributes to the things she loved, as well as a lecture by Dr. Howard Koh, Assistant Secretary for Health in the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Full invitation to follow at a later date
Special Benefit Concert

dedicated to Dr. Marie-France Demierre, M.D.
Saturday, September 25th, 6:30 pm
Roy Campus Center at Derby Academy
Hingham, Massachusetts

The Children’s Melanoma Prevention Foundation invites you to a special performance by the Neponset Valley Philharmonic Orchestra.

The evening will include cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and a silent auction, followed by the concert and dessert.

All proceeds will support the Children’s Melanoma Prevention Foundation’s SunAWARE Program and the Demierre Family Fund.

To reserve tickets, visit www.melanomaprevention.org or call 781-875-1SPF (1773)
Special Benefit Concert  
dedicated to Dr. Marie-France Demierre, M.D.  
Saturday, September 25th, 6:30 pm  
Roy Campus Center at Derby Academy  
Hingham, Massachusetts

CONTACT INFORMATION
Name: 
Address: 
City: State: Zip: 
Phone: Email: 

PAYMENT INFORMATION
Enclosed check payable to Children’s Melanoma Prevention Foundation. Please charge the following credit card: □ Visa □ MC

_____________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
 card number expiration date cvc code

_____________________________ name as it appears on card (please print)

Though unable to attend, I/we wish to contribute to: □ CMPF □ Demierre Family Fund (please check)

Total amount enclosed $ 

Email to maryellen@melanomaprevention.org or fax to 781-875-1773

☐ General Admission $100 ☐ Supporter (Preferred Seating) $250
☐ Patron (Very Preferred Seating) $500 ☐ Demierre Circle of Friends $500

To reserve tickets, visit www.melanomaprevention.org or call 781-875-1SPF (1773)

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