

Updates from the Chair

May, 2010

Rhoda M. Alani, MD

Herbert Mescon Professor and Chair



Dear Colleagues:

May has been another busy month starting with the SID where BU Dermatology was well-represented in both the oral and poster sessions. Detailed information on these outstanding presentations is included below. Several of our faculty also enjoyed an evening of celebration for BMC during their annual Gala event on May 8. The evening was a tremendous success yielding significant funds to support various activities at BMC. We expect the department of dermatology to continue to support this activity and look forward to additional participation in 2011. Most recently we celebrated the achievements of our graduating residents, IGTP trainees and fellows during our graduation dinner held in the BU Trustees Ballroom. It was a glorious evening with many memorable moments including some uncanny impersonations of our faculty and staff. We congratulate all of our graduates and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. We also encourage them all to continue to keep in touch with us and keep us posted on their news. As we look to next month, we are all thrilled to welcome Dr. Deborah Cummins as our new Mohs surgeon at the DOB. Please see below for details. We also bid a fond farewell to Dr. Emily Tierney and thank her for her tremendous dedication to teaching and outstanding clinical care and academic achievements during her tenure at BU Dermatology. We wish her continued success in her new practice.

Graduation

May 26, 2010



The BU Dermatology Class of 2010 celebrated its graduation on May 26 at the BU School of Management. The evening began with cocktail hour on the 8th floor terrace, overlooking the city of Boston. The view combined with beautiful warm weather set the tone for the entire evening. The evening was filled with celebration, gratitude, laughter, and pride for the graduates and their families. It was wonderful to have families and friends from all over the world joining us to participate in this special event. A particularly memorable part of the evening was the presentation on Dr. Demierre and recognition of her outstanding contributions to our department. It was wonderful to have her family join us on this special evening and to have Dr. Demierre's children participate in the presentation of the first annual Marie-France Demierre Award for Humanism in Dermatology to the graduate who best exemplifies the outstanding humanistic approach to clinical care that characterized Dr. Demierre's practice of dermatology. Overall, the evening was a huge success and a wonderful celebration of our BU Dermatology Family.

A special thanks to Cindy Yee and Daniella Adrien for their careful planning and hard work to ensure such an elegant, enjoyable evening.

Class of 2010

Najla Al-Dawsari, MD will be returning to Saudi Arabia to work in a private practice after graduation.

Yuval Bibi, M.D., Ph.D. will be joining the Department as clinical and research faculty as an Instructor of Dermatology.

Yolanda Lenzy, M.D., MPH is planning on working in private practice and staying in the Department on a limited part-time basis after graduation.

Kasia Szyfelbein Masterpol, M.D. will be splitting her time between private practice and BU Dermatology where she will be appointed as Instructor of Dermatology.

Emily Yu, M.D., Ph.D. will be entering into a Procedural Derm Fellowship at the Scripps Clinic in San Diego, California.

Njood Algannas, M.D. will be returning to Saudi Arabia to work as a dermatologist while she explores further training options.

Passaratep Anurukpaiboon, M.D. has decided to continue his training in the Department and will start working on his doctorate degree this July

Ploypailin Jungcharoensukying, M.D. will continue her training in the International Program at the Miami Miller School of Medicine.

Kellen Liu, M.D. plans to pursue residency in Singapore next spring.

Krittaya Loichuen, M.D. will be furthering her training in cosmetic Dermatology in Miami before returning to Thailand where she has secured a position as a dermatologist in a private hospital.

Alaa Naif, MBChB will be returning to Iraq where he will be teaching at the medical college and working as a dermatologist at the general hospital.

Muhammad Nazir, MBBS hopes to obtain a research position at Harvard or BU for one year before returning to Pakistan to teach and to work in private practice.

Anongluck Rattanasirivilai, M.D. will travel around the US before returning to Thailand where she is in the process of securing a position at one of their private hospitals.

Nicha Rungsimanond, M.D. will train in cosmetic dermatology in Miami before returning to Thailand to practice dermatology in a private hospital.

Angela Beckford, M.D., MPH matched with BU for her dermatology residency and will be returning to the Department in July 2011.

Ossama Abbas, M.D. will be returning to Lebanon to join the Dermatology Department at the American University of Beirut Medical Center as an Assistant Professor.

Ron Yaar, M.D., Ph.D. will remain with the Department as an Assistant Professor of Dermatology and Pathology, and will be the director of Dermatopathology training program for the residents and international trainees.

Claudine Yap Silva, M.D. will be staying in the Department as the new Dermatopathology Fellow.

Incoming Department Members

Mohs Surgeon Deborah Cummins, M.D.

Director of Mohs and Dermatologic Surgery at Boston Medical Center. She graduated from Brown University and received her M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine with academic honors including membership in Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Societies. She completed her internship in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins-Bayview Medical Center and residency in dermatology at Harvard Medical School-Massachusetts General Hospital. She also received fellowship training in Mohs Dermatologic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology at Tufts Medical Center. She is a member of the American College of Mohs Surgery and the American Academy of Dermatology. Her clinical and research interests include surgical dermatology and skin cancer. She is the author of multiple publications related to surgical reconstruction, basal cell carcinoma, tanning, and melanoma.



Dermatopathology Fellow Daniel Miller, MD

I am currently a 3rd year dermatology resident at the University of California-San Francisco, and am very excited to begin dermatopathology fellowship this July. I attended medical school at the University of Minnesota, during which time I spent a year abroad working in underserved areas and researching topics in dermatology and infectious disease. My interests in dermatology and dermatopathology include inflammatory and infectious skin disease, and cutaneous effects of medications. During my final year of residency I



have published research on skin cancer risk related to voriconazole use, and am traveling to Uganda this spring to assist in the fledgling dermatopathology cooperation between UCSF and several Ugandan hospitals. I very much look forward to working with everyone in BU Dermatology and Dermatopathology!

Skin Oncology Fellow Shannon M. Campbell, DO



I attended Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM) in Athens, Ohio and graduated in 2006. Currently, I am completing dermatology residency training at Ohio University. During residency, I developed a passion for cutaneous oncology due to its advances in therapy and the opportunity to care for patients during a sensitive time. My areas of interest in cutaneous oncology include cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, Merkel cell carcinoma, and the role of viruses in carcinogenesis. In addition, residency also afforded me opportunities to foster an interest in tropical disease. I participated in international electives to El Salvador, Ecuador and most recently, Botswana. I am looking forward to working with the BU Department of Dermatology, becoming active in research and refining my clinical management of cutaneous oncology patients.

SID Annual Meeting Update

Andrey Sharov, M.D., Ph.D.

The 70th Annual Meeting of the Society for Investigative Dermatology in Atlanta was, as usual, a very vibrant meeting with over 900 presentations (talks and posters) covering all aspects of dermatology. It was an excellent opportunity to highlight our research in the department and we are happy that our department was so strongly represented.

Dr. Vladimir Botchkarev delivered two oral presentations. The plenary session presentation entitled **“Genome organizer and special AT-rich binding protein Satb1 controls the establishing tissue-specific chromatin organization during development of the epidermis.”** In this study he uncovered a three-dimensional chromatin structure

in epidermal keratinocytes during epithelial stratification and fundamental significance of Satb1 gene in establishing three-dimensional chromatin structure during keratinocyte differentiation. The second oral presentation entitled **“Lhx2 regulates Sox9 and Tcf4 to supply hair follicle-derived progenitor cells to the wound epithelium”** provided evidence that in heterogeneous Lhx2 knockout mice, the wound healing process was significantly retarded compared to wild-type animals, thus suggesting a contribution of the Lhx2 gene to regeneration of the skin epithelium.

Dr. Meera Mahalingam presented an elegant study **“Frequency of somatic mutations in GNAQ in primary, pigmented dermal melanocytic proliferations”** where she used a modern laser microdissection approach and discovered that about 40% of blue nevi and their variants contained mutations in the guanine nucleotide-binding protein G(q) subunit alpha gene (GNAQ) and the mutation is unique to primary pigmented dermal melanocytosis.

Dr. Thomas Ruenger continues to investigate UVA-induced DNA damage in human skin. The study was entitled **“No formation of DNA double strand breaks and no activation of recombination repair with UVA.”** Dr. Ruenger reported that in primary human fibroblasts, UVA, unlike ionizing irradiation or UVB, does not induce double-stranded DNA breaks, but instead produces single- and tandem base substitution mutations and pyrimidine dimer-type photoproducts.

Dr. Andrey Sharov has delivered a study, **“Stable isoform of the Smad1 protein inhibits melanoma cell proliferation and migration”** which demonstrated that MAPK-mediated SMAD1 degradation promotes melanoma cell survival. Genetic modification of SMAD1 gene that generates a degradation prone form of Smad1 protein with its subsequent delivery produced melanoma cell lines with less aggressive cell phenotype. Dr. Sharov also served as co-author for three additional abstracts presented at the meeting.

Departmental Kudos

Teachers of the Year

Lynne Goldberg, M.D. (BU)

Hee-Young Park, Ph.D. (BU, International Program)

Marie-France Demierre Humanism Award

Angela Beckford, M.D.

Outstanding Service Award

Carol Williams

Chief Awards

Kasia Szyfelbein-Masterpol, M.D.

Najla Al-Dawsari, M.D. (Academic)

Passaratep Anurukpaiboon, M.D.

BU Dermatology Research Scholar Awards

Thomas Ruenger, M.D., Ph.D

“Characterization of intracellular lysosomal collagen degradation in dermal fibroblasts”

Yuval Bibi, M.D.

“Melanocytic microbial sensory mechanisms and behavior as a means to understanding melanocytes as cellular stress-response mechanisms”

Presentations/Lectures

On May 11, **Rhoda Alani, M.D.** gave the inaugural Graduate Student Professor of the Year Lecture at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in the Department of Cancer Biology.

On May 19-20 **Barbara Gilchrest, M.D.** served as visiting professor at Washington University, St. Louis, MO, and gave the Morris Marcus Memorial Lecture.

Other Departmental News

The National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention's annual Don't Fry Day was dedicated to **Dr. Marie-France Demierre** (please see flyer on last page of this newsletter).

Jaime Zagami and her team “No Man Left Behind” participated in the 9K Run to Home Base on Sunday, May 23. Her team raised over \$36,000, only beaten by Jerry Remy's team and the Red Sox Foundation's team. On May 22 the Boston Globe featured a story on her and her brother which you can be accessed at the Boston Globe Online.

Thanks to those of you who donated to support her and this very special cause.

Notes:

We will be taking our group faculty/trainee picture at 9:15 on Wednesday, June 2. **Please be sure to wear your white coats.**

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE/JULY 2010

GRAND ROUNDS

PLACE: DOCTORS OFFICE BUILDING, 9TH FLOOR

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 8:00 – 11:00

FIRST ANNUAL G. ROBERT BALER LECTURE

PLACE: FGH CONFERENCE ROOM, 1ST FLOOR

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 11:00 – 12:00

LECTURE: “MY SIX DECADES IN DERMATOLOGY” BY DR. G. ROBERT BALER LUNCH TO FOLLOW (12:00 – 1:30)

GRAND ROUNDS

PLACE: DOCTORS OFFICE BUILDING, 9TH FLOOR

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 8:30-11:45 AM

LECTURE: TBA

FACULTY MEETING

PLACE: 609 ALBANY STREET, 4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 12:00 – 1:00 PM







National Council on
Skin Cancer Prevention

SUNAWARE

Avoid unprotected UV (sun or tanning bed) exposure anytime and seek shade.

Wear sun protective clothing including hats and sun glasses.

Apply sunscreen with an SPF ≥ 30 , 20 minutes before UV exposure and reapply every two hours while exposed.

Routinely check your whole body for changes in your skin and report suspicious changes to a healthcare provider.

Educate your family and community about sun protection.

The Friday before Memorial Day is

Don't Fry Day

www.skincancerprevention.org

This Don't Fry Day is dedicated in memory of Dr. Marie-France Demierre, M.D.

PROTECT YOUR SKIN TODAY
AND EVERY DAY

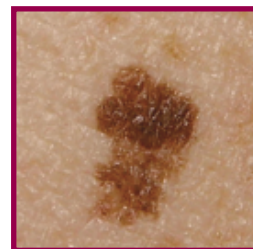
- There will be over two million new cases of skin cancer in the U.S. this year.
- Skin cancer is preventable and easily recognizable.
- One American dies every hour from skin cancer.
- Melanoma is the leading cause of death from skin cancer.
- Melanoma is the 2nd most common cancer in young, white women.

Anyone can develop skin cancer anywhere on the body

Report new and changing spots that are:



Persistent
Easily irritated
Enlarging
Recurrent



A - Asymmetrical
B - Border irregular
C - Color variable
D - Diameter enlarging
E - Evolving

Brought to you by an educational grant from the Children's Melanoma Prevention Foundation.

Boston University School of Medicine
Boston Medical Center - Department of Dermatology
720 Harrison Ave, DOB915, Boston, MA 02118
tel. 617.638.7420

