MOHS SURGERY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

In the mid 1950s, Dr. William B. Taylor instituted the use of the Mohs Micrographic Surgery technique at the U-M Department of Dermatology and established the U-M Dermatology Mohs Unit for the treatment of cutaneous carcinomas – one of the very first programs of its kind. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Mohs Unit at the University of Michigan and celebrates the successful use of this revolutionary surgical technique for more than half a decade. Mohs surgery is most often used in treating two of the most common forms of skin cancer: basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. This procedure allows trained Mohs surgeons to microscopically identify and precisely remove the entire tumor, leaving healthy tissue unharmed.

Under the direction of Dr. Timothy Johnson since 1990, Dermatology's Mohs Unit has continued to flourish and grow and now treats over 2,500 Mohs cases annually. What began as a one physician and two staff operation has grown into the largest cutaneous surgery and oncology program of its kind with seven clinical attendings, four bench scientists, and roughly 20 professional staff. In addition to the Mohs Surgery technique, Dr. Taylor's legacy is one of quality and compassionate patient care as exemplified by the Mohs Unit's consistently outstanding patient satisfaction ratings. The program truly embraces the fundamental principles of collaboration, department, and teamwork striving to maintain excellence in clinical service, teaching and research.

The cure rate for Mohs Micrographic Surgery is the highest of all treatments for skin cancer - up to 99 percent even if other forms of treatment have failed. This procedure – the most exact and precise method of tumor removal – minimizes the chance of regrowth and lessens the potential for scarring or disfigurement. To learn more about this procedure, please visit the American College of Mohs Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology Website: http://www.mohscollege.org/AboutMMS.htm

AT A GLANCE: OUR NEWEST DERMATOLOGY RESIDENTS

1st Year: Evans Bailey, M.D. Ph.D. is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and completed his internship at the University of Alabama Hospital.
Allen Bruce, M.D. Ph.D. is a graduate of the Washington University School of Medicine and completed his internship at U-M.
Shari Nemeth, M.D. is a graduate of Indiana University School of Medicine and completed her internship at U-M.
Naomi Simon, M.D. is a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School and completed her internship at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ypsilanti.
George Skandamis, M.D. is a graduate of the Medical College of Ohio and completed his internship at U-M.
Dara Spearman, M.D. is a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School and completed her internship at Oakwood Hospital.
Jennifer Vis, M.D. is a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School and completed her internship at Oakwood Hospital.

2nd Year: Ladan Shababi, M.D. is a graduate of U-M and completed her internship at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ypsilanti and one year of Dermatology at Wayne State University.

(I-r) standing: Drs. Allen Bruce, Shari Nemeth, Evans Bailey, George Skandamis, Chief Resident: Dr. Abena Ofori, seated: Drs. Dara Spearman, Jennifer Vis, Naomi Simon & Ladan Shababi
COMINGS & GOINGS

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2005 CELEBRATES

Another year has passed and another house officer class departs. The Class of 2005 farewell reception was held on June 29 at Zanzibar restaurant – with many faculty, residents and staff in attendance. It was an evening celebrating the accomplishments of many years of hard work and commitment. In addition to diplomas for all the graduates, Clinical Research Awards were presented to Drs. Luis Garza and Yolanda Rosi. In turn, the 2005 William B. Taylor Resident Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Lori Lowe from the graduating class in recognition of her dedication and outstanding teaching skills.

Dr. Luis Garza will be joining the dermatology faculty at the University of Pennsylvania.

“I want to thank everybody for a very enriching experience at the U of M. I will try to keep some of the comradery, good will, and sensible judgment (not to mention valuable dermatology knowledge) with me in all my future positions. Who knows, maybe if I am successful enough, I’ll be a faculty candidate in the years ahead! Thanks again!”

Dr. Peggy Liao will be entering private practice in Denver, Colorado.

“Thanks to everyone for being so fantastic, I will miss you all lots! – Go Blue!”

Dr. Wendy Long will begin a Mohs fellowship in Boston, Massachusetts at SkinCare Physicians of Chestnut Hill.

“I really want to thank all the nurses, the ladies “up front” and at “the Joe,” and the ladies and gents “in the back” for their help and support. Also, I feel blessed to have worked with such a great group of attendings and residents; those folks out in Boston have a hard act to follow. On another note, Pizza Bob’s makes the best chipatis, by far, so don’t waste your taste buds elsewhere.”

Dr. Diem Nguyen will be joining the dermatology faculty at the University of North Carolina.

“Thank you for a wonderful 3 years in Dermatology at U of M. I have made lifelong friends here and will miss all of you.”

Dr. Yolanda Rosi will be returning as UM Dermatology faculty in October, 2005.

“Thanks so much to everyone who played a role in making this such a great experience. I can honestly say that I love coming to work every day. I’m so glad that I’ll be able to continue working with all of you.”

PARTING WORDS AND FUTURE PLANS:

Dr. Susan Deramo will be joining the dermatology faculty at Stanford University.

“To all the Derm staff, faculty, and residents…you will be greatly missed. It has been an incredible experience to work with all of you. Thank you! To the incoming 1st years… don’t miss ‘Taste of Ann Arbor’…it was my favorite event!”

Dr. Vassilios “Bill” Dimitropoulos will begin a Mohs fellowship at Rush University in Chicago.

“Three years have flown by and I have had a great experience. I appreciate everybody’s hard work and patience with me. I will miss everyone. Now I am off to Chicago to pursue a Mohs fellowship. Words of advice: always turn off the coffee pot at the end of the day if you want to keep JJV happy, never make eye contact in diagnostic conference, “I don’t know” in conference translates into “please ask me more questions about said unknown topic,” learn how to make fresh coffee, learn how to drink bad fresh coffee, and never, never, let them see you cry.”

Dr. Vassilios “Bill” Dimitropoulos


Former Chief Resident Dr. Sue Deramo presents Professor Lori Lowe, MD with the 2005 William B. Taylor Resident Teaching Award.
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

- **Dr. Andrzej Dlugosz** is recipient of the 2005 SID/Galderma Research Award. The award is given to an investigator, among those worldwide, judged to have published the best paper relevant to acne in the previous 18 months, and is intended to encourage new research in acne. At the award presentation, Dr. Dlugosz lectured on “Hedgehog Signaling and Sebocyte Development.”

- **Dr. Sewon Kang**, director of Dermatology’s Clinical Research Unit, has been elected to the board of directors of the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID).

- **Dr. Lori Lowe** was presented the 2005 William B. Taylor Resident Teaching Award in recognition of her dedication and outstanding teaching skills.

- **Christina Hatfield**, and **Rhonda Peters** of Dermatology’s Cutaneous Surgery and Oncology Division have completed two steps of the Bols Program.

- **Suzan Rehbine** & **Sally Hunter** who both completed the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk on July 15-17.

- **Molly Herndon**, who has served many roles for the department in recent years, graduated from the University of Michigan School of Nursing this spring.

- **Anya King** of the BARA unit will be leaving the department later this summer in preparation to enter graduate school in the fall.

- Natasha Litchinitser and **Misha Nikiforov** are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Alexandra, on June 25, 2005.

- **Jamie & Kathy Keeley** are proud new parents. Their son Hayden was born on July 7, 2005, 7lbs, 10oz and 21 inches

A FOND FAREWELL TO DR. AMY GIRA

A farewell luncheon for departing Mohs fellow, Dr. Amy Gira, was held on June 20th. Many stopped by to say farewell and send Dr. Gira off in style and with their best wishes. Dr. Gira came to U-M Dermatology in 2003 as a graduate of Boston University of Medicine and having completed her residency at Emory University. During her fellowship, Amy was a valued member of the Cutaneous Oncology & Surgery team, having exceptional professionalism, work ethic, intelligence, and compassion combined with her consistent ability to “light up” the clinics and those she worked with by her positive, good-natured outlook. Dr. Gira is relocating to Atlanta where she will pursue a private practice.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**September 8, 2005 - Thursday**
Annual Customer Service Presentation at the Towsley Center

**October 9, 2005 - Sunday**
Dermatology Fall Family Picnic at Montibeller Park in Pittsfield Township, on Ellsworth Road

DR. MA JOINS DERMPATH SERVICE

Linglei Ma, M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Pathology is the newest member of the Dermatopathology Service. Dr. Ma received her training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at Yale University and completed her dermatopathology fellowship training at the prestigious New York University.

YOU’RE SUPER!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr. Chris Bichakjian</th>
<th>Shalimar Goble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bolang</td>
<td>Tonya Guerra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Clark</td>
<td>Ryan Holzwarth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mickie Cole</td>
<td>Mary Beth Lawler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constuela Bejan</td>
<td>Peggy Liao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayme Couch</td>
<td>Sharon Niebylski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sue Deramo</td>
<td>Abena Ofori</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Drue</td>
<td>Kristi Robson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber Fowler</td>
<td>Jessica Stodart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lana Fulgham</td>
<td>Mary Jo Tate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Galazka</td>
<td>John Voorhees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsha Gamble</td>
<td>Suzanne Wheeler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW EMPLOYEES

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evans Bailey, MD PhD.</th>
<th>Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martha Boggs</td>
<td>BARA Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Bruce, MD PhD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LingLei Ma, MD</td>
<td>Dermpath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shari Nemeth, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladan Shababi, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi Simon, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Skandamis, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dara Spearman, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Vis, MD</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VOORHEES RECEIVES SID ROTHMAN AWARD

Dr. John Voorhees, Duncan and Ella Poth Distinguished Professor, is the 2005 Stephen Rothman Memorial Award recipient. This award was presented to Dr. Voorhees on May 6th at the 66th Annual Meeting of the SID in St. Louis, Missouri. Presented annually since 1967, by the Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID), the Rothman Award honors individuals who have distinguished themselves by exceptional contributions to the field of investigative dermatology. The Rothman Award is the highest honor conferred by the SID, both nationally and internationally within the field of Investigative Dermatology.

Dr. Voorhees is internationally known for his work describing psoriasis as a disorder driven by the immune system; and as well for directing research elucidating the molecular and biological mechanisms and processes involved in both aging and photoaging in human skin. His publications have been quoted in medical literature more often than any other dermatologist in the world (data contained in Stern, RS and Arndt, KA: Top Cited Authors in Dermatology).

As Chair of the U-M Department of Dermatology since 1975, Dr. Voorhees is one of the longest serving Chairs in U-M Medical School’s history and quite possibly the longest serving Dermatology Chair in the US.

MEET THE “DTC”

The Dermatology Treatment Center, better known as the DTC, is a leader among only a dozen such programs in the US. Established at the Med-Inn building in 1987, this unique and comprehensive program is UM Dermatology’s premier effort in the treatment of psoriasis and other inflammatory skin conditions. The DTC provides patients with intensive dermatologic therapy and special services for a single daily rate. Patients admitted to this program, receive therapy similar to that provided within the University of Michigan Hospitals Inpatient Service. However the DTC program allows patients the option of returning home at night or staying on-site at the Med-Inn, depending on their distance from home.

Two major advantages of the DTC program are its convenience and emphasis on wellness. All treatment is provided within the DTC, in a fully equipped, self-contained suite that allows for privacy and individualized patient care. All patient care is provided by nursing personnel and physicians specializing in the treatment of psoriasis and other inflammatory skin conditions. Patients are treated six days per week (Monday through Saturday) for an average of two to four consecutive weeks. Each daily session requires six to eight hours of treatment.

The Dermatology Treatment Center uses the modified Goeckerman regimen to treat skin disorders. This includes topical creams and medications, scalp treatments and ultraviolet light therapy. Excellent improvement of the skin is typically seen by the end of the third week of treatment. A unique benefit of this program is the ability of staff to develop a rapport with patients and see daily improvement in their patient’s skin condition. Most patients can expect remissions of several months to a year following treatment.