



Women's Dermatologic Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 2
May 2002

IN THIS ISSUE

Life Beyond Medicine	4
New Website Info	5
Highlights of events in New Orleans	7-8
Activities at the Summer Academy Meeting	8-9
Interview with the WDS Young Physician Representative	10
A Look at the AMA	11
Mentorship Winners	12-13
Leadership and Politics	14-17
Symposium on Women's Health	18

President's Message

It is with great respect and humility that I enter the office of President of the Women's Dermatologic Society. Former presidents have led our organization over 25 years of progress. These women were brave, dedicated, and focused in order to "help all women in dermatology achieve their greatest personal and professional potential." This is the primary focus of our Mission Statement, and still remains our main goal.



Lenore S. Kakita, MD

I am in awe of the women who initially organized and started the Women's Dermatologic Society. They worked hard to become a part of the greater dermatologic community. They helped women succeed in becoming speakers, writers, researchers, members of committees, and officers of various dermatologic organizations. Success and excellence bred greater involvement of women in all areas of dermatology. Women were recognized on their own merits and not on their gender. We are proud of the WDS. Great strides in the advancement of professional women were achieved over the past decades due to the work of our Society.

Although the Society got started with a handful of academicians, the majority of the members now are clinical dermatologists. As a full-time private practitioner, I was initially uncertain about the benefits of being a member of the WDS. However, I was encouraged to join by the noted academician Dr. Frances Storrs who came to UCLA to speak. She requested a dinner of the local

women dermatologists in Los Angeles. With her spirit and friendliness, she encouraged me and a few others to join the WDS. Since becoming a member, it has been a rich and rewarding experience.

Some of my best memories are the WDS Retreats. The Retreats provide an opportunity for members to get to know each other on a one-to-one basis. The warmth and camaraderie among the members is contagious. A number of us had not had many experiences in "women's groups". We definitely did not have time for 'tea and crumpets.' I missed all the meetings of 'mothers of twins.' We were working women, after all. Thus, I was surprised at how enjoyable and meaningful the Retreats were. I am so glad that I have taken the time to develop the personal interactions and friendships with the women at the Retreats. I now feel that I can

call on any member that participated. The value of friendship is the subject of this "Life Beyond Medicine" article.

Dr. Anne Burdick made a poignant comment while speaking to the AAD Past-President, Dr. Ronald Wheeland. She told Ron that the AAD Leadership meeting in January was fabulous. "It was like a Women's Dermatology Society Retreat!" Ron was not sure what she meant, since he had never attended a WDS Retreat. Anne explained that it was the sense of openness among participants and willingness to share personal experiences and motivations that was unique. Next year the 2003 WDS Retreat weekend will be held on June 20-22 in Toronto. We hope to see you there.

We are excited about the WDS's participation internationally. The first recipient of the International Pioneer Award

continued on page 2

New Style for WDS Luncheon a Big Success

Kathryn Schwarzenberger, MD

Balloons, New Orleans jazz, and flaming Baked Alaska set the tone for the 2002 Women's Dermatologic Society's Annual Luncheon Meeting. Over 500 members and guests met in the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Grand Ballroom for what was later described as a "fast-paced and innovative" meeting. Several changes were made in the luncheon in an attempt to increase member interaction and allow people to become better acquainted with each other. First, seating was assigned on a random basis with each attendee drawing a table number from a hat. A few "reunion" tables were offered for those who wanted to sit with old friends.

In a more dramatic departure from WDS tradition, the speaker was replaced by a facilitator, Carole Robin, Ph.D., a professional organizational consultant and senior partner of the Avista Consulting Group. Lisa Garner, MD, Chair of the Annual Luncheon Committee explained the thought behind the change: "We (Drs. Susan Weinkle and Garner) wanted to target the WDS goals of networking and mentoring and felt that if we could provide a situation that would allow members to meet and interact with each other, we would be working toward those goals."

continued on page 2

was Dr. Kazue Ohara from Japan. This Award is presented to an individual who has made a difference for women in dermatology at a global level. The Award will be given concurrently with the World Congress of Dermatology. The First International Women's Dermatology Retreat will be held in conjunction with the World Congress of Dermatology on June 30, 2002 in Paris. Drs. Boni Elewski and Jean Bologna have led our WDS International Affairs Committee in preparation for this Retreat and have worked hard to incorporate many dermatologists around the world in the program.

We all have enjoyed the WDS Annual Luncheon Meetings through the years. It

gives us a chance to renew friendships and to meet and network with new people. We hope that you enjoyed the interactive program at our last Luncheon Meeting in New Orleans. Our objective was to have a program of greater interaction so that everyone would leave the Luncheon Meeting having made new friends. Despite our size, we hoped to have a forum to encourage friendly networking.

I am both delighted and proud that the WDS is involved with Mentorship Awards, the Advanced Career Development Awards, and the International Travel Grant Program. These are some of the tangible examples of assisting others. However, reaching out to assist others reaps greater intangible and satisfying rewards. This is

what so many of our members know and do well.

With the assistance of our industry partners, we have been able to extend opportunities to our members, both near and far. We are appreciative of their support.

This year my goal is to bring unity to our Society, to include diversity on our committees, to reach out domestically and internationally, and to include the young, the spirited, and even the men.

It should be an exciting and productive year.

Kindest regards,

Lenore S. Kakita, M.D.

Lenore S. Kakita, MD

WDS Luncheon continued from page 1

Attendees were paired with others at the table and were asked to describe something that contributed to their personal and/or professional development. Each person then shared this information with the rest of the table. Members of the WDS Executive Committee, Board of Directors and others served as volunteer table facilitators. A lively (and in some cases, loud!) and meaningful discussion resulted at most tables.

An informal survey of participants after the luncheon elicited overwhelmingly positive comments. Many responders felt the exercise allowed them to meet people they might not have otherwise. One person commented that the random seating "made the meeting inclusive, not exclusive." When asked what could have made the session better, the most frequent response was "more time." One self-professed introvert admitted she felt the exercise was intrusive and uncomfortable. Some people missed the usual luncheon speaker. Overall, however, most polled enjoyed the experience.

Dr. Robin felt the exercise was a "big success". She commented: "I (also) commend the WDS leadership in trying something new and different at the Annual Luncheon. This choice reflects a desire to grow and advance the WDS in innovative and creative ways, and it reflects a value that is fundamental to any thriving and vital organization."

The annual business meeting was conducted during the luncheon. Seventy-two new members were welcomed, bringing to active

WDS membership to 854. Several Bylaws changes were approved. The 2002 Mentorship Award Winners were announced; 21 mentorships were funded this year. The recipients of the 2002 International Travel Awards and 2001 Career Enhancement Awards were recognized, and the 2002 slate of candidates for WDS Officers and Board of Directors was presented for membership approval.

The highlight of the business meeting was presentation of the annual WDS awards. Nia Terezakis, M.D. was honored with the 2002 Rose Hirschler Award. This annual award recognizes a physician who has made significant contributions to medicine and dermatology, and who has enhanced the role of women in dermatology. Dr. Terezakis, who has a lengthy list of accomplishments in dermatology, received the award in her hometown, where she is in private practice.

A new WDS award recognizing an individual who has contributed to the success of women in dermatology at the global level was presented for the first time. Japan's Kazue Ohara, M.D., Ph.D. was awarded the International Pioneer Award for Distinguished Women in Dermatology. Dr. Ohara's many accomplishments as a dermatologist and mentor were cited.

Two discretionary awards were presented to WDS members of note. June K. Robinson, MD was awarded the Wilma Bergfeld, MD Visionary and Leadership Award. This award is given at the



Dr. Terezakis receiving the WDS Rose Hirschler Award

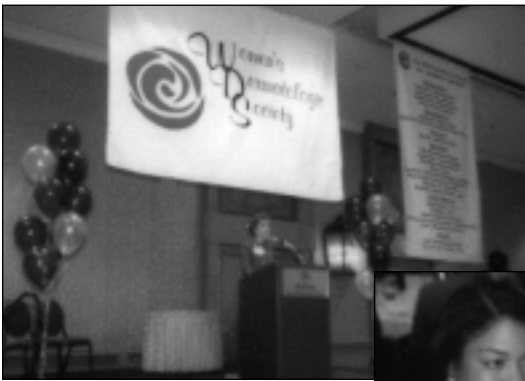
discretion of the Awards Committee and Board of Directors to an individual felt to have been a trailblazer for women in dermatology. Dr. Robinson was honored for her academic achievements, as well as for her leadership in the WDS and other organizations in dermatology.

Special recognition went to Sandra I. Read, MD, an active member of the WDS and editor of the newsletter. Dr. Susan Weinkle presented Dr. Read the WDS President's Award in recognition of her efforts on behalf of the Society.

Members were asked at the end of the Luncheon what the WDS should consider in planning future luncheons. Most who responded supported continuing the interactive format. Some recommended that more directed discussion topics, such as business topics, time management, etc. be offered. Another member requested time to hear more about activities of the WDS. One comment seemed to sum up the overall feeling of the luncheon and suggested that the "experiment" was a success: "This was a great idea. Do it again-make us meet each other!" ©

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

2002 WDS ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING



LIFE BEYOND MEDICINE

WOMEN, MEN, AND APPROACHES TO STRESS

Submitted by Roberta Sengemann, MD

Friend. The research is just catching up with what we already know to be true!

Here's a very interesting study on women and stress. It highlights the importance of making and maintaining friendships-and making them a priority! — Roberta Sengemann, MD

A landmark UCLA study suggests that women respond to stress with a cascade of brain chemicals that cause us to make and maintain friendships with other women. It's a stunning finding that has turned five decades of stress research-most of it on men-upside down. "Until this study was published, scientists generally believed that when people experience stress, they trigger a hormonal cascade that revs the body to either stand and fight or flee as fast as possible," explains Laura Cousino Klein, PhD, now an assistant professor of biobehavioral health at Pennsylvania State University in State College and one of the study's authors. It's an ancient survival mechanism left over from the time we were chased across the planet by saber-toothed tigers.

Now the researchers suspect that women have a larger behavioral repertoire than just "fight or flight." In fact, says Dr. Klein, "It seems that when the hormone oxytocin is released as part of the stress response in a woman, it buffers the fight or flight response and encourages her to tend children and gather with other women instead. When she actually engages in this tending of befriending, studies suggest that more oxytocin is released, which further counters stress and produces a calming effect. This calming response does not occur in men, says Dr. Klein, because testosterone-which men produce in high levels when they're under stress-seems to reduce the effects of oxytocin. Estrogen," she adds, "seems to enhance it."

The discovery that women respond to stress differently than men was made in a classic "aha!" moment shared by two women scientists who were talking one day in a lab

at UCLA, "When the men were stressed, they holed up somewhere in their own. I commented one day to fellow researcher Shelley Taylor that nearly 90% of the stress research is on males. I showed her the data from my lab, and the two of us knew instantly that we were onto something." The women cleared their schedules and started meeting with one scientist after another from various research specialties. Very quickly, Drs. Klein and Taylor discovered that by not including women in stress research, scientists had made a huge mistake: The fact that women respond to stress differently than men has significant implications for our health.

It may take some time for new studies to reveal all the ways that oxytocin encourages us to care for children and hang out with other women, but the "tend and befriend" notion developed by Drs. Klein and Taylor may explain why women consistently outlive men. Study after study has found that social ties reduce our risk of disease by lowering blood pressure, heart rate, and cholesterol. "There's no doubt," says Dr. Klein, "that friends are helping us live longer." In one study, for example, researchers found that people who had no friends increased their risk of death over a 6-month period. In another study, those who had the most friends over a 9-year period cut their risk of death by more than 60%. Friends are also helping us live better. The famed Nurses' Health Study from Harvard Medical School found that the more friends women had, the

less likely they were to develop physical impairments as they aged, and the more likely they were to be leading a joyful life. In fact, the results were so significant, the researchers concluded, that not having a close friend or confidante was as detrimental to your health as smoking or carrying extra weight! And that's not all: When the researchers looked at how well the women functioned after the death of their spouse, they found that even in the face of this biggest stressor of all, those women who had close friend and confidante were more likely to survive the experience without any new physical impairment or permanent loss of vitality. Those without friends were not always so fortunate.

Yet if friends counter the stress that seems to swallow up so much of our life these days, if they keep us healthy and even add years to our life, why is it so hard to find time to be with them? That's a question that also troubles researcher Ruthellen Josselson, PhD, coauthor of *Best Friends: The Pleasures and Perils of Girls' and Women's Friendships* (Three Rivers Press, 1998). "Every time we get overly busy with work and family, the first thing we do is let go of friendships with other women," explains Dr. Josselson. "We push them right to the back burner. That's really a mistake, because women are such a source of strength to each other. We nurture one another. And we need to have unpressured space in which we can do the special kind of talk that women do when they're with other women. It's a very healing experience." ©

— WebMD/Lycos Article <http://webmd.lycos.com/content/article/1728.6148>

Don't forget to Register for the International Women's Dermatology Retreat!

There is still time to register for the International Retreat being held on Sunday, June 30, 2002 in Paris, France, the day before the start of the 20th World Congress of Dermatology. The Retreat will be held at the Paris Marriott Champs-Elysées and will focus on the challenges facing women dermatologists from countries around the world.

All attendees will be asked to complete a questionnaire prior to attending the Retreat. A summary of responses and trends will be shared with all attendees. See the brochure enclosed in this newsletter for more details or to register. If you have questions, contact the Headquarters office at womensderm@aad.org or 847-330-9830.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW WEB SITE

A NEW ERA FOR THE WDS WEBSITE

Karen Vigeland, MD

The WDS is launching a completely redesigned website (www.womensderm.org) in May 2002. If you haven't seen it yet, we invite you to take a look. The site has an all-new appearance and navigation scheme, together with updated information on all WDS activities such as the International Retreat in Paris in June 30, 2002 and the 2003 Renewal Weekend. The site will feature down-loadable WDS membership and award/grant applications. The latest newsletter will be online together with PDF downloadable files for access to past issues. We hope to make this a very active site with photos from recent gatherings of WDS members all over the world!

Many of our members are unaware that WDS has had a website (www.telemedicine.org/WDS/women.htm) designed by WDS member Robin Travers as part of her mentorship. As a Resident in Dermatology,

Robin was excited to learn how to use the Web to the best advantage, and she applied to work with Rhett Drugge, MD. Dr. Drugge was one of the founders of the Internet Dermatology Society. During her mentorship, she mastered the art of creating the WDS website, which was hosted under the (telemedicine.org) umbrella. In addition to the technical side, Dr. Drugge stated that the mentorship "had everything to do with the philosophy and future vision of the potential of the Internet for dermatologists." Since completing her residency Robin has practiced Dermatology with Skin Care Physicians of Chestnut Hill.

With the hope of creating our own domain (womensderm.org), and making information on all of the programs and activities of the WDS available on the internet, the WDS Board voted to search for a website design and hosting firm. We are working with



www.womensderm.org

TCM & Associates (www.tcmnet.com) and will now have the ability to continue to expand the site regularly with new events, programs and updates.

We would love to receive your suggestions and ideas, so send us an e-mail from the new website (www.womensderm.org). ☺

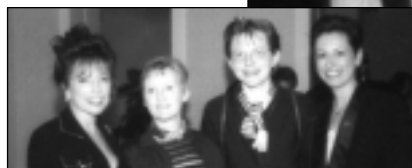
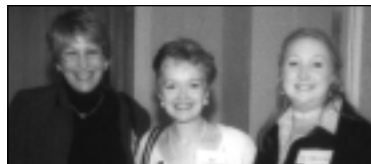
MORE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

PROMOTING NETWORKING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

The WDS has received funding from Dermik to promote networking activities at the local level. Individuals or groups who wish to host a networking event may request funding from the WDS. The networking events can include a variety of activities. For example, a faculty member may wish to invite residents to lunch or dinner to

discuss professional development; a private practitioner may wish to host a reception at his or her office; an individual may host a networking reception in conjunction with a State Society or specialty society meeting. You may also request assistance with another networking idea that will promote the mission and vision of the WDS.

To request funding for an event, please submit the following information: your name, the number of anticipated attendees, the amount requested, the activity planned, and a brief statement of your goals or what you hope to achieve by this networking activity. Your request can be e-mailed to womensderm@aad.org or faxed to 847-330-1135, attention Kim Hoarle. ☺



Photos from Networking Reception in New Orleans, sponsored by Ortho Neutrogena

EXPERIENCING THE CAREER ENHANCEMENT AWARD

TWO AWARD WINNERS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES

Ellen Mooney, MD & Anagha Dudhbhate, MD

Buffers, Solutions and Dilutions Enhances Career for Icelandic Doctor

*Ellen Mooney, MD
Reykjavik, Iceland*

Last year I was honored to receive the WDS Career Enhancement Award. I made use of the Award by spending time at the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in December. My objective was to review the pathology of soft tissue tumors as well as immunohistochemistry (IHC) techniques and applications, especially in the diagnosis of neoplasms.



Ellen Mooney, MD

During my stay, I had access to the extensive specimen and literature files on soft tissue tumors that are maintained by Scott E. Kilpatrick, MD, who is a well-recognized expert on soft tissue and bone tumors. Dr. Kilpatrick was kind enough to, not only give me access to his slide collection, but also discuss differential diagnoses and cases which I felt I needed some clarification. We also discussed the application of IHC stains to the various tumors and he recommended some preferred textbooks and atlases. Dr. Kilpatrick is currently in the process of writing a textbook and I encouraged him to give courses or symposia to dermatopathologists on the subject of soft tissue tumors.

I also consulted with William Funkhouser, MD, PhD, who is Director of the Special

Procedures Laboratory that performs state-of-the-art IHC on a broad array of neoplasms and other diseases. We discussed which antibodies would be practical for me to purchase in setting up an IHC laboratory in my own dermatopathology practice. At his suggestion, I spent considerable time consulting the special technician in the department, Jeni Sciarrotta, who develops the techniques for the different IHC methods and tests the antibodies (for buffers and dilutions). She is extremely knowledgeable and gave me numerous tips not only on buffers, sources and dilutions for antibodies, but also on gadgets, products and companies as well as useful websites.

All in all, it was a very worthwhile stay and an excellent opportunity, for me for which I am very grateful. ☺

My Experience as a Career Enhancement Award Winner

*Anagha Dudhbhate, MD
Pune, India*

At the outset I want to thank the WDS for giving me the opportunity to enhance my dermatological skills. I used the career enhancement award to study with Drs. Paller, Wagner, Mancini and Chamline at Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago. This has enriched me professionally for a lifetime.

In India my experience in Pediatric dermatology was insufficient. The career enhancement award significantly increased my exposure to pediatric dermatology. The many clinical studies and fellows from various countries all added to my experience. Despite the patient load, the attendings were available to spend time teaching. At divisional meetings and grand rounds I came into contact with

many people from other institutions where the interactive discussions about the many cases were wonderful learning opportunities.

Because Children's Memorial is a referral center I had the opportunity to see many difficult and challenging cases. I now have knowledge of diseases as well as experience to carry back to my practice. This memory is going to serve me and my patients for a long time.

The role modeling of Drs. Paller and Wagner was an exceptional opportunity for me. Their experience, compassion and dedication made an undeniable impression on me. I have taken away from this experience many things. In my hospital outpatient department, we plan to study pediatric skin disorders this year.

I wish, once again, to thank the WDS for giving me this opportunity. I also hope that the WDS

will continue to give this award to dermatologists for enhancing their skills. I look forward to my continued association with the WDS. ☺

ADVANCED CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsored by Galderma, the WDS Advanced Career Development Awards (previously Career Enhancement Awards) allow practicing Dermatologists to expand their clinical, academic or technical acumen. Awards are granted throughout the year which allows flexibility with your current work schedule. If you are a WDS member and are at least three years post-residency then this definitely could be the opportunity you have been looking for.

For information about the Advanced Career Development Program, please contact the WDS headquarters at (847) 330-9830 or email womensderm@aad.org. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

R & R AT THE WDS CENTER

WDS CENTER AND FIRESIDE CHATS

Sandra Read, MD

The WDS Center at the AAD meeting in New Orleans provided a much-needed refuge from the usual hectic pace of the academy meeting. The center, hosted by Olay, provided a welcome private and pleasant meeting space for WDS members. The room was available exclusively for WDS members at the Hilton for committee meetings and social gatherings. WDS members enjoying a respite with

delicious refreshments frequently filled the room to capacity.

It was also the of our first Fireside Chats. This new program provided WDS members the opportunity to meet with both old and new members in an intimate and personal setting. Friday evening, Drs. Wilma Bergfeld and Wendy Roberts hosted the lively chat. Saturday evening,

Drs. Lynn Drake and Lisa Garner were the hostesses.

WDS members enjoyed a welcome and restful place at the WDS Center in New Orleans.

We hope to see you at the WDS Center in New York City, during the summer meeting. It will be in Concourse G of the New York Hilton and will be open Friday, August 2 and Sturday, August 3. ☺



SPEECH BY KAZUE OHARA, MD

WINNER OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL PIONEER AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED WOMEN IN DERMATOLOGY

Kazue Ohara, MD

Thank you to Dr. Johnson, for the kind introduction! Dear President, distinguished guests, and members of the AAD and WDS!

May I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for your kindly giving me this International Pioneer Award.

At first, let me introduce to you my personal history in dermatology. You will be surprised to hear that it is more than 65 years ago when I started my training as a dermatologist at the Kyoto Imperial University Hospital after graduating from the Osaka Women's Medical College. At that time, Japan was such a male-dominated country and no females were permitted to attend the medical schools at the Imperial Universities. You cannot believe but at that time I was strongly reminded by the chairman, Professor Shinichi Matsumoto, that all I had to do was just studying hard and not to behave badly by being unnecessarily intimate with any of the male colleagues. So, I have honestly followed this advice and now I realize that I have remained unmarried even until this age.

Just after World War II, I was appointed to be an associate professor in the department of dermatology of my alma mater and 14 years later became professor and chairman as the first female chairman in the field of dermatology in Japan. Although the school later became co-educational to be the Kansai Medical University, I have dedicated my life to the education of many medical students and doctors. I also had a chance to conduct research with these doctors despite the difficulty of getting research funds, because Japan was still a poor country.

In 1956 and in 1967, I twice made the long journey to Europe and the United States. At that time, for us Japanese, it was so difficult to travel abroad, because the value of Japanese yen was so low.

In the US, Dr. Ada Chree Read of New York, the past-president of American Medical

Women's Association, asked the members who lived in several cities to help. Then, many American Women Doctors kindly took care of me to inspect many universities



Dr. Ohara receiving the Pioneer Award

and clinics. They kindly provided me with warm bed and meals. All of them supported me both physically and spiritually. But now, most of them have passed away and there is no way to share today's great joy with them.

In my long life, I have met so many unforgettable people. But today I would like to mention the names of just two persons. Dr. Hachiro Tagami, professor at the Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan and Dr. Boni Elewski. First I met Dr. Tagami in Philadelphia in 1967, when I visited various medical schools in Europe and the United States. At that time I also visited the University of Pennsylvania. Dr Tagami was a research fellow there. He not only took me to the unique laboratory in a prison, but also invited to his small apartment room where his young wife treated me to meal. We have talked and talked and since then we have become lifetime friends.

Then, just 8 years ago, I had the chance to meet Dr. Elewski, who was invited as a guest lecturer to the annual meeting of the Japanese Mycology Association. I am an honorary member of this society. At the party of this meeting, I very much enjoyed talking with Dr. Elewski and her husband. Dr. Tagami also met them there. Later she was the person who had spared no efforts to have strongly recommended me to be awarded this wonderful prize. Therefore, can

continued on page 19

WDS Schedule of Activities Summer Meeting, New York City

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2002

Practice Enhancement Reception

5:30pm - 7:00pm

Office of Dr. Neil Sadick

772 Park Avenue

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2002

WDS Center

8:00am - 8:00pm

Concourse G

Sponsored by Olay

Practice Marketing

Coaching Sessions

8:00am - 5:00pm

WDS Center

Sponsored by Allergan

Fireside Chat — Presentation Skills

5:00pm - 6:00pm

WDS Center

Sponsored by Elan Pharmaceuticals

Board and Leadership Dinner

8:00 pm

Home of Dr. Karen Burke

SATURDAY, AUG 3, 2002

Board of Directors Meeting

7:00am - 9:00am

Concourse A

WDS Center

8:00am - 8:00pm

Concourse G

Sponsored by Olay

Making Presentations:

Individual Coaching Sessions

8:00am - 5:00pm

WDS Center

Sponsored by Elan Pharmaceuticals

Networking Reception

5:30pm - 7:00pm

New York Suite

Sponsored by Ortho Neutrogena

SUMMER IN THE CITY

WDS ACTIVITIES AT AAD'S ACADEMY MEETING

Sandra Read, MD

The Women's Dermatology Society is pleased to announce that "The Practice Enhancement Reception" will be hosted by Dr. Neil Sadick during the Summer AAD meeting in New York City. Dr. Sadick, a member of the WDS, has graciously invited the WDS and its members to visit his office at 772 Park Avenue (Corner of Park and 73rd), New York City. Dr. Sadick has a very active general and cosmetic practice in The Big Apple. This is an opportunity not to be missed. So, Save the Date, Thursday August 1, 2002, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

A special evening awaits the Board of Directors, WDS Committee Chairs and Past Presidents at the home of Dr. Karen Burke during the summer Academy Meeting in New York City. She will host us at her home on Friday, August 2, 2002 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. We look forward to dining with Dr. Burke and her husband, Mr. Peter Goulandris.

These personal and generous events hosted by WDS members are one of the wonderful aspects of WDS membership and involvement. We thank Drs. Sadick and Burke. ☺



Photos from the Practice Enhancement Reception at the office of Dr. Nia Terezakis in New Orleans

Presentation Skills Fireside Chat

Elan Pharmaceuticals will host a Fireside Chat on Friday, August 2, 2002 from 5:00 to 6:00 pm in the WDS Center. The presentation will focus on fundamentals of improved speaking skills. The goal will be to assist attendees with developing skills to improve the structure and content of presentations, connect with the audience, find a comfortable mix of mediums to present with (PowerPoint®, flipcharts, etc), develop awareness of body language-purposeful movement and improve verbal skills.

On Saturday, August 3rd, a professional trainer will offer optional one-on-one coaching sessions on speaking as well as presentation design/format.

Finance & Practice Management

Allergan will be sponsoring individual consulting sessions in the WDS Center on Friday, August 1, 2002. WDS members will be able to sign-up for a brief session to meet with a professional consultant. Topics for discussion include: financial benchmarking and norms associated with a dermatology practice; managing the accounts receivable process; how to build a cosmetic practice; addition of physician extenders or new associates; general human resource issues; patient flow and efficiency.

More information on how to sign-up for one of these sessions will be sent to all members and will be available on the WDS Web site (www.womensderm.org).

INTERVIEW WITH HAN LEE, MD

WDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS YOUNG PHYSICIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Michael Ming, MD

Han Lee is our Young Physician Representative to the WDS Board of Directors. She is currently a Clinical Instructor and the Mohs Fellow at Oregon Health and Science University. Han was born in Korea and immigrated to the United States along with her family when she was one year old. She grew up in Southern California as the daughter of a post office clerk and a mechanic. Han is the first member of her extended family to go to college. Her younger sister followed in her footsteps and is also a college graduate. She currently works as a pediatric occupational therapist.



Han Lee, MD

Although her parents have always been very supportive of Han, they did not push her

towards secondary education, much less a degree in medicine. When she began her undergraduate education at Stanford University, her initial intention was to become a television anchor woman. However, while there, she found that she enjoyed studying biology as well as volunteering at the local children's hospital. She decided to become a physician, and entered medical school at the University of California, Irvine. In medical school, she discovered the wonderful specialty of dermatology. She was attracted to both the surgical component, which would involve her being able to create using her hands, as well as a medical component. She became a dermatology resident at Oregon Health and Science University, and she is currently in a Mohs surgery fellowship at OHSU. In addition to her interest in cutaneous surgery, Han also has an interest in contact dermatitis. She has worked with Frances Storrs on a project that found a high cross-reactivity between epoxy resins and the newer epoxy resins.

In her spare time, Han enjoys old foreign films, trying exotic foods, and spending time with her family and friends. She is enthusiastic about her specialty and about the Women's Dermatologic Society. "I am very excited about being in dermatology," Han says. "I feel fortunate that I have found a career that I really enjoy." Han first became interested in the Women's Dermatologic Society through attending the Annual Luncheon as well as through Frances Storrs, one of her mentors and role models. Han has found that becoming involved in the Women's Dermatologic Society has helped her to learn more about how different people have different viewpoints. "When I meet accomplished women, it gives me new perspectives. I have found that the Women's Dermatologic Society is an excellent avenue towards becoming more involved in dermatology and is a great forum for meeting and learning from other women in the field." ☺

EXCERPT FROM SPEECH BY JUNE ROBINSON, MD

WINNER OF WDS WILMA BERGFELD, MD VISIONARY & LEADERSHIP AWARD

June K. Robinson, MD

Susan, Diane, members of the Board of Directors and members of the Women's Dermatologic Society, thank you for honoring me with this award. Over many years of my service to the profession, I have been impressed by the timeless selflessness of medicine embodied in people like you who went into medicine with a yearning to serve, a compassion for people and a desire to help people.

As dermatologists, we have a unique responsibility to advance our specialty by expanding our knowledge and sharing it with the next generation of dermatologists. Women dermatologists have a special responsibility. At the time of my entry into the specialty more than 25 years ago, women were few in number, thus, it became the

responsibility of each of us to help each other succeed.



Dr. Robinson receiving the Visionary & Leadership Award

By virtue of our small numbers, women dermatologists know each other very well. We are fortunate to have spent the better part of our professional lives working with our

friends on programs and projects that were important to us. While the programs we made may have been great in their time, they were not nearly as important as the process of working on them. The day-to-day process of creating the program with others was, and remains, the true enjoyment of life. To work at things you love or for those you love is to turn work into play and duty into privilege.

I have been privileged to work with the best dermatologists and the administrative leaders of the Academy, at their best; as we were united with a common purpose of educating future generations of dermatologists and the public. Thank you for affording me the privilege of working with you over the years and for honoring me with this prestigious award. ☺

HOW STRONG ARE WE?

A LOOK AT OUR PROFESSION AND OUR AMA

Cyndi Yag-Howard, MD

As physicians practicing in the United States of America, we are approximately 800,000 strong. Strong in number, yet how strong are we in our abilities to stand up for the rights of our patients and our practices?

How strong are we when we are forced to make medical decisions based on the requirements determined by non-medical employees of third party carriers? How strong are we when our colleagues retire early because they cannot afford to give quality medical care because their medical malpractice fees are increasing as rapidly as reimbursement rates are decreasing?

The adage, there is strength in numbers, may be true for physicians if only we found a way to band together to ensure that we maintain control over the destiny of our own profession.

The American Medical Association (AMA) is the largest national organization of physician members; and its purpose is to serve as the voice of patients and physicians. However, our AMA suffers from a devastating problem-lack of membership. Today, only about 30 percent of all physicians in the United States are members of the AMA. The reason for this membership lull has been a much-debated topic in the organization. Likewise, it is a threat to the livelihood of what is currently the only unified voice of physicians.

Our AMA has been criticized as well as praised for various reasons. While everyone has their own opinions about the organization, it is hard to refute that the AMA, or another such organization that would represent our profession, is the best way to stand up against the pressures that threaten the way we practice.

Dermatology is represented in the AMA by several delegates and alternate delegates who annually attend two week-long, national AMA meetings to support the AMA's purpose and advance its advocacy efforts. Your representatives are the following:

- **DIANE R. BAKER, MD**
(AADA Delegate, Chair of the Dermatology Section Council)
- **CYNDI YAG-HOWARD, MD**
(AADA Delegate, Vice Chair of the Dermatology Section Council)
- **ANDREW P. LAZAR, MD**
(AADA Delegate)
- **ROBERT D. GREENBERG, MD**
(AADA Alternate Delegate)
- **DANNY K. MCCOY, MD**
(AADA Alternate Delegate)
- **JACK S. RESNECK, JR., MD**
(AADA Alternate Delegate)
- **ALEXA BOER-KIMBALL, MD**
(AADA Young Physicians Delegate)
- **SMIR B. PATEL, MD**
(AADA Resident/Fellows Delegate)
- **BEVERLY B. SANDERS, JR., MD**
(ASDS Delegate)
- **DUANE C. WHITAKER, MD**
(ASDS Alternate Delegate)
- **MARGARET E. PARSONS, MD**
(ASDS Young Physicians Delegate)
- **IRWIN M. FREEDBERG, MD**
(SID Delegate)
- **ZOLTAN TRIZNA, MD**
(SID Alternate Delegate)

Recent and current issues that we have been addressing include covering the uninsured, patient safety, Medicare physician payment, and HIPAA compliance. The AMA's web site discusses these and other issues that the AMA is tackling. For instance, there is information on how physicians can actively oppose the Medicare payment cuts and make an impact. Also available are AMA draft forms for Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance and information on HIPAA in general. The AMA's web address is www.ama-assn.org

and the phone number is 1-800-262-3211.

The future path our profession will take is not certain, for many of the decisions that are made regarding the way we practice seem out of our control. In order for us to maintain some control over our profession, it would seem that, now, more than ever, we could use the strength of our numbers. We need a renewed commitment to organized medicine and a willingness on the part of physicians to become part of the process, so that someday we may be able to say, "Look how strong we are!" 🌟

WDS BOOK CLUB Reader Recommendations

We would like to start a WDS book club. Members are invited to contribute their recommendation to the Editor. Please list book, author and 2-3 sentences why you are recommending this book.

THIS SIDE OF DOCTORING, REFLECTIONS FROM WOMEN IN MEDICINE
by Dr. Eliza Lo Chin

Wonderful anthology of reflections of experiences in the lives of women doctors. There is also a contribution by a WDS member. There will be a unique opportunity to submit questions or comments to Dr. Chin. She will be interviewed in the next WDS Newsletter, and the answers to your questions will appear in the September issue. Please submit questions ASAP to womensderm@aad.org.

- Recommended by Sandra Read

FAST FOOD NATION, THE DARK SIDE OF THE ALL-AMERICAN MEAL
by Eric Schlosser

It will be difficult to stomach a Happy Meal again after reading this book.

- Recommended by Sandra Read

WDS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WDS MENTORSHIP AWARDESS

The WDS Mentorship Program awards individuals the opportunity to develop their professional skills in dermatology. The program was developed to enhance mentoring relationships and leadership potential in candidates. The 2002 WDS Mentorship Program winners were announced at the 2002 WDS Annual Luncheon in New Orleans, LA on February 24, 2002.

The deadline for 2003 Mentorship Awards will be December 1, 2002. For more information, please contact Barbara Paez at the WDS headquarter office at 847-330-9830 or womensderm@aad.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2002 WINNERS!

ELIZABETH ALVAREZ, MD, a resident at University of Minnesota — To study Pediatric Dermatology with Mary K. Spraker, MD, at Emory University, Atlanta, GA.



LYNDA KAULS, MD, a resident at Yale University School of Medicine — To study Atopic Dermatitis with Jon M. Hanifin, MD, at Oregon Health Sciences University.

GEETA M. SHAH, MD, a resident at Case Western Reserve University — To study Laser Dermatology with Tina Alster, MD, at Washington Institute of Dermatologic Laser Surgery.

KAREN B. NERN, MD, a resident at University of California, San Diego — To study Dermatopathology with James Fitzpatrick, MD, at University of Colorado.

ATHANASIA D. SYRENGELAS, MD, PHD, a resident at Yale University — To study Teledermatology with Anita Licata, MD, at University of Vermont.

NANCY CHEN, MD, a resident at University of California, San Diego — To study Dermatopathology with Jennifer Haley, MD, at University of California, Los Angeles.



DEIRDRE O'BOYLE HOOPER, MD, a resident at Louisiana State University Health and Sciences Center — To study Pigmentary Disorders with Pearl Grimes, MD, at Dr. Grime's office, Los Angeles.

HEATHER WOOLERY-LLOYD, MD, a resident at University of Miami — To study Disorder of Pigmentation in Ethnic Skin with Pearl Grimes, MD, at Los Angeles, CA.

JOANNA MCCORMICK BURCH, MD, a resident at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center — To study Pediatric Dermatologic Surgery with Annette Wagner, MD, at Northwestern Children's Memorial Chicago.

GABRIELE WEICHERT, MD, a resident at University of British Columbia — To study Vulvar/Genital Dermatology with Libby Edwards, MD, at Charlotte, NC.

MARYANNA C. TER POORTEN, MD, a resident at Medical University of South Carolina — To study Pediatric Dermatology with Neil S. Prose, MD, at Duke University Medical Center.

ALICE N. LEE, MD, a resident at University of Chicago — To study Medical Dermatology with Victoria Werth, MD, at University of Pennsylvania.

JUDY NG, MD, a resident at University of Illinois at Chicago — To study Treatment and Approach to Asian Skin with Lenore Kakita, MD, at Glendale, CA.

DEBBIE M. JIH, MD, a resident at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine — To study Dermatopathology with Philip LeBoit, MD, at University of California, San Francisco.

KRISTINA SHAFFER, MD, a resident at University of Minnesota — To study Hair Biology with Vera Price, MD, at University of California, San Francisco.

JULIE ANNE CROWDER, MD, a resident at University of California San Francisco — To study Rheumatologic Dermatology with Joseph L. Jorizzo, MD, at Wake Forest University.

SHEILA AU, MD, a resident at University of British Columbia — To study Genodermatoses and Pediatric Dermatology with Virginia Sybert, MD, at University of Washington.

ANNELI RIRIE BOWEN, MD, a fellow at University of Utah — To study Dermatopathology with Philip LeBoit, MD, at University of California, San Francisco.

PAYAM TRISTANI-FIROUZI, MD, a resident at University of Utah Health Sciences Center — To study Laser in Dermatology with Christopher Zachary, MD, at University of California, San Francisco.



ERIC LEIF HANSON, MD, a resident at University of North Carolina Hospital — To study Clinical Trials with Dedee Murrell, MA, BMBCh, FAAD, at UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

CAMILLE I. ROBERTS, MD, a resident at Howard University College, Washington — To study General Dermatology with Deepak Modi, MD, at University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. ©

WDS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

WHAT THE RECIPIENTS HAVE TO SAY

2001 Award Winners



Dear Mr. Greathouse,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous grant in supporting Women's Dermatologic Society Mentorship. With your generosity, I am able to further sharpen my dermatopathology skills with Dr. Jennifer Haley at UCLA.

Thank you for supporting and participating in the educational process of future dermatologists.

*Yours,
Nancy Chen, MD*

"...I would again like to express my sincere gratitude to the Women's Dermatologic Society for generously helping me to have this mentorship experience. I feel confident that this experience will contribute to my career in the future, as well as establishing the professional connections which enable us to practice dermatology in the current 'global village.'"

Stephen Tan, MD

Dear Mr. Greathouse,

I would like to thank you and Dermik laboratories for supporting the Women's Dermatologic Society mentorship program. I am grateful to receive a grant that will allow me to study atopic dermatitis with one of the country's clinical leaders in the field. I hope to use this experience as a way to develop my skills in the tertiary treatment of this disease as well as an exposure to clinical research. Undoubtedly, this month will provide valuable guidance in order to prepare me for a successful career in academics.

I truly appreciate and admire Dermik's commitment to this unique and valuable program — thank you again!

Sincerely, Lynda Kauls, MD

To begin, I would like to express my profound gratitude and appreciation toward the Women's Dermatologic Society, for allowing me the opportunity to expand upon my experiences as a dermatology resident, by working with Dr. Frieden.

Working with Dr. Frieden was an invaluable experience. It confirmed my desire to complete a pediatric dermatology fellowship. Dr. Frieden is a wonderful person with unbelievable knowledge in our field. Watching her interact with children and their parents was truly rewarding to me.

She was also a great mentor who gave me insight and guidance in the application process for my upcoming fellowship.

In addition, being able to work within a residency program other than my own, gave me a chance to meet fellow resident colleagues, gain from their expertise as well as make new contacts.

During my month as UCSF, I was able to collect data for a paper Dr. Frieden and I are currently working on. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of many common projects we will work on.

I hope one day to be able to give back to the dermatology community what I so graciously received. Thanks so much!

*Best Regards,
Catherine Maari, MD*

"This mentorship was a truly invaluable experience that I believe has enhanced my abilities and knowledge as a dermatologist."

Neha Shah, MD

AAD LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

JANUARY, 2002 PRESENTATION

Lenore S. Kakita, MD

Motivations to participate in leadership roles are varied. For me the advent of managed care organizations was of paramount concern. I was concerned not only for myself but also for my patients as to how to have a voice and be heard in this new medical experimental environment. Would physicians have the ability to provide quality care to patients and retain decision-making roles in regards to our patients' care? Twenty years ago, managed care in Minnesota seemed to be imposing and growing rapidly. The physicians seemed to go along with the new system of managed care without too much of a fight. I did not like what I saw. I wanted to

My goal remains the same, namely, to provide the best quality care to my patients.



Dr. Kakita at AAD Leadership Conference

be able to voice what was the best for my patients, and thus, I became active in various organizations affecting managed care and the healthcare of the future.

Since I was the mother of three sons, I first had to get the consent of my husband to participate in various organizations and their committee work. These included my local city, county and state medical and dermatologic associations. I participated in the Los Angeles Dermatologic Society and the Los Angeles Medical Association, the state dermatologic groups, the Congress of California Dermatologic Societies and the California Medical Association as the Dermatology Specialty Delegate, the state Medicare California Advisory Committee, and the American Academy of Dermatology.

After five years, my husband stated that it would be wise to spend my time in either the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association or the specialty organizations of the California Congress of Dermatologic Societies and the

American Academy of Dermatology. With family commitments, there had to be a focus of the expenditure of my time commitments. I chose dermatology.

In the Academy, I volunteered for the Bylaws Committee, thinking at the time it was going to be rather boring. After all, my interest was to protect the practicing clinician and push for quality care for patients. However, I soon learned a great deal as to how to get things done in the Academy. It was pointed out to me through this committee that in the 70's and 80's, bylaws amendments for the Academy required only five names of members. Later, this was changed to the current 50 names required to submit bylaws changes for a vote by the membership. California became very active, especially during and after I was President of the Congress of California Dermatologic Societies. We were interested in having a presence and a voice as practicing clinicians in the Academy. Remember, the Academy was started mainly as an educational and research organization. Over the years, changes occurred. In the 80's, the Academy made a commitment to participate in the political and economic aspects of dermatology. This commitment required that practitioners also have a role in the decision-making process. It took several years, but the practitioners finally obtained a vote on the Board of Directors by the way of the Advisory Board Chair. The Advisory

Board is the practicing practitioner's arm of the Academy. Through the Advisory Board Chair, the practitioners would now have an opportunity to speak for the practitioner, participate on committees of the Board, and to actually have a meaningful vote.

My goal remains the same, namely, to provide the best quality care to my patients. Throughout these years, I have never joined an insurance company program for managing the care of my patients. I am fortunate to be able to practice medicine in an optimum environment that gives the patient and myself great satisfaction. More recently, as a representative to the Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee in California, I was in a position to voice my concerns regarding the proposed actinic keratosis coverage. Enlisting patient and physician participation in the middle of summer, along with sustained support from the California Dermatology Society, we were able to put great pressure on our medical carrier directors who finally agreed on a very reasonable and fair actinic keratosis policy for California, which ultimately affected ten western states.

Through all my areas of participation, another focus has been to allow equality between academicians and practitioners; equality for physicians dealing with closely controlled organization(s), and for equality to allow active participation of minorities and women in medicine. Whenever inequalities existed, I have worked toward changing the system so as to allow freedom of speech and expression by these individuals.

As I told my family, friends, and patients, I had to be a part of organized medicine to provide a voice for my patients and for private practitioners of dermatology. I feel that I have succeeded, at least in a small part, in my goals during my participation and activities in dermatology for the past two decades. ©

Whenever inequalities existed, I have worked toward changing the system so as to allow freedom of speech and expression by these individuals.

WOMEN IN POLITICS

WOMEN RUNNING (FOR OFFICE AMONG OTHER THINGS)

John Farner, Specialist, Political and Grassroots Affairs, AADA

Every two years, Americans are called upon to go to the polls to choose who would best represent them in the United States Congress. This year, the candidate field is represented by some of the strongest women candidates the American political process has ever seen. Some of these candidates are in very close races and are friends of the medical community.

One of these targeted elections is the race for the 5th district of New Jersey. This Northern New Jersey District is considered a "swing district" (voting for either Republicans or Democrats depending on the candidates) and is one of the richest congressional districts in America.

Anne Sumers, MD, an ophthalmologist, is running for this seat being vacated by Representative Marge Roukema (R). Dr. Sumers is a moderate Democrat who is no stranger to the political system. Her grandfather was a congressman and her great grandfather was governor of Massachusetts. As a doctor running for Congress she relates to the needs of physicians and patients. The polls show her neck and neck with her opponent. This is an instance when the medical community will step forward and make a difference in this campaign. More information about Dr. Sumers can be found at <http://www.sumers2002.com>.

North Carolina is in the midst of a national spotlight campaign it has not quite seen before. Elizabeth Dole, former president of the American Red Cross and wife of former Senator and Presidential candidate Bob Dole, has begun her push for the open US Senate seat in North Carolina. Ms. Dole has also served as Deputy Assistant to President Nixon for Consumer Affairs, Secretary of Transportation under President Reagan and Secretary of Labor under President George H.W. Bush. In 1999, Mrs. Dole became the first viable woman candidate from a major political party, which in turn attracted

thousands of first-time voters into the democratic process. Elizabeth Dole is in a tough race this election cycle against former White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles. Mrs. Dole's fundraising has helped her so far for this election, but with all of the national media attention on this race, this election will be very expensive. More information about Elizabeth Dole's campaign can be found at <http://www.elizabethdole.org>.

Another Senate race that is sure to attract national attention is in Missouri. During the 2000 senatorial campaign, Jean Carnahan's husband, Governor Mel Carnahan, was running for the Senate

This year, the candidate field is represented by some of the strongest women candidates the American political process has ever seen.

against incumbent Senator and now Attorney General John Ashcroft (R). Just before election day, Governor Carnahan died in an airplane crash while on the way to a campaign event. The Governor still won the election (due to Missouri law, it was too late to remove his name from the ballot) and the governor of Missouri appointed Jean Carnahan to fill the first two years of the term until a special election in 2002. Republicans are targeting this race to win back this senatorial seat. Former US Representative Jim Talent has announced his challenge to Senator Carnahan and is in a statistical dead heat according to the latest poll. Senator Carnahan is one of three incumbent women senators up for reelection this year, but is in by far the closest race of the three. More information about Senator Carnahan can be found at <http://www.jeancarnahan.com>.

Though only three races were highlighted in this article, there are many races across the nation that are very close and very important. *If you are interested in finding out more information or in getting involved in any of these campaigns, please contact John Farner in the American Academy of Dermatology Association's Washington, DC, office at jfarner@aad.org or 202-842-3555.* ©

Contributors

The Women's Dermatologic Society wishes to acknowledge those organizations for their support of the Society's 2002 programs and events at the following contribution levels:

ANGEL

Dermik Laboratories

SUSTAINER

Fujisawa

Galderma Laboratories

Ortho Neutrogenal

BENEFACTOR

Allergan Skin Care

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE UPDATE

UPDATE ON MEETING AND COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

CALL TO ORDER

Susan Weinkle, MD, President, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF SUMMATION REPORTS

Dr. Hickman reviewed the Summation report from the July 29, 2001 Board meeting as well as Executive Committee Summations from October 1, December 3, and January 14, 2002. She also reviewed the results of the January 23, 2002 fax vote of the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dr. Mathes reported that the Society is in good financial standing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE

Dr. Garner presented an overview of what to expect at the Luncheon on Sunday at noon which would include a facilitated session that would encourage interaction among attendees.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Dr. Olsen presented the report of the Audit Committee. It was recommended that the Audit be prepared before the Spring Board meeting in the future. It was also recommended that monthly statements be forwarded to the Chair of the Audit Committee as well as the treasurer each month.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The report highlighted the award recommendations the Committee had made in the past year. It recommended that guidelines be developed for the WDS awards, the Board agreed that this was appropriate.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Dr. Olsen noted that several changes that had been approved by the Board would be



voted on by the membership at the business meeting. She stated that guidelines relating to how nominees are informed of their nomination will be submitted for review at the Summer Board meeting. She also noted that the Bylaws state that there should be five members of the Nominating Committee, but the Administrative Regulations state that there are six members. The Board agreed that six was preferable because two could be added each year. This will require a change in the Bylaws.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Dr. Vigeland presented the report of the Communications Committee and reviewed the site map for the updated Web site that was currently being designed by TCM. She noted that the Web site, www.womensderm.org should be completed within the next month.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Dr. Read noted that the list of articles for the May 2002 Newsletter was included in the Board book. She stated that the new Editorial Board had met in the WDS Center and had a lot of great ideas for the next three issues. She also highlighted the change in design of the newsletter and welcomed comments. Dr. Weinkle commended her on the excellent job she had done on the redesign.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Dr. Kakita presented the report of the Committee. She stated that Drs. Helen Torok and Patricia Farris would take over as Co-Chairs of the Committee for 2002-03.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dr. Bolognia presented the report of the Committee. She noted that the travel award winners were very pleased to have been accepted. Plans were moving forward for the International Retreat in Paris. A survey was being developed to send to all attendees prior to the meeting. Also, the ISD had developed a fellowship named for Maria Duran to allow women dermatologists to attend the ISD meetings.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dr. Sidhu-Malik presented the report of the Committee which recommends including "Fellows" in the membership category of "Graduate." This will require a change in the Bylaws.

The Board approved the following for Life Membership in the Society: Marilyn C. Koehn, MD; Emma Jane Yoho, MD; and Carol S. Stern, MD.

It was also noted that in the Bylaws it states that Life members do not receive the periodicals of the WDS. In practice, they have been receiving the Newsletter. The

continued on page 7

Board agreed that they should continue to receive the newsletter and that a change should be made to the Bylaws to ensure this.

A membership drive was also discussed. Only approximately 28% of eligible women who are members of the AAD are members of WDS, the membership Committee needs to look at this and encourage more members.

MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE

Dr. Paller presented the report of the Committee. She noted that 21 of 31 applicants were funded for mentorships in 2002. The Committee would like to



continue with the December 15th deadline to receive applications and all promotional material should reflect this date. The Committee recommends that all applicants be invited to the Annual Luncheon. They also recommend an update to the mentorship brochure. It was suggested that guidelines for potential mentors be developed to include the statement that a mentor cannot have more than two mentees in a single year. Another suggestion was made that a mentor's forum be held in the WDS Center in 2002.

NETWORKING COMMITTEE

Dr. Weinkle noted that there were many successful networking receptions held in 2001. In addition, Dermik had given additional money that the Networking Committee would be offering for use at the local level for small networking gatherings. The Committee will be working to develop guidelines and an application form.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Graham reported that the Nominating Committee met in the WDS Center and recommended that the WDS nominate and send letters of support for the following people for AAD offices:

AAD President

Boni Elewski, MD

AAD Vice President

Barbara Reed, MD

AAD Board of Directors

Patricia Farris, MD

Susan Weinkle, MD

TASK FORCE ON 2003 RETREAT

Dr. Weinkle informed the Board the 2003 Renewal Weekend would take place June 20-22, 2003 at the Old Mill Inn in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Suzanne Olbricht has accepted appointment as chair of the Task Force and would welcome any input.

CAREER ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Dr. Roberts presented the Career Enhancement Program Task Force report. A mission statement was developed and an application packet to promote the Program was created and mailed to WDS membership. Dr. Roberts reported that Galderma has become the exclusive sponsor of the Career Enhancement Task Force Program.

It was the consensus of the Task Force that applications be accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed quarterly. The Task Force met during the Academy meeting to review criteria and selection guidelines. The criteria and selection guidelines will be presented to the Board of Directors at the next meeting. A listing of Peer Experts and Apprentices is in development.

NEW BUSINESS

CHANGES IN COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The Board approved changes to the structure of several committees, as proposed by Dr. Kakita. Changes include: the Web Site Task Force and Career Enhancement Task Force will become standing committees; the Communications Committee mission statement will be changed to focus on the image and identity of WDS; the Fundraising Committee Chair and Newsletter Editor shall serve as Ex-Officio members of the Executive Committee; and an International Representative shall be added to the Board of Directors (non-voting).

STATUS OF WOMEN IN DERMATOLOGY

Dr. Kakita presented an outline for a new project on the Status of Women in Dermatology.



WDS CENTER

The Board discussed the great success of the WDS Center and the Fireside Chats. They agreed that this should continue and could be expanded upon by having specific topics for Chats in the future. ☺

The WDS Would Like to Congratulate the Following Newly Elected Officers & Directors

WDS PRESIDENT

Lenore Kakita, MD

WDS VICE PRESIDENT

Marianne O'Donoghue, MD

DIRECTORS

Pearl Grimes, MD
Mary Maloney, MD
Richard Odom, MD
Wendy Roberts, MD

HISTORIAN

Dorinda Shelley, MD

SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHT

Joyce Rico, MD

The 7th Symposium on the Dermatologic Health of Women Patients was held on March 23, 2002 in New Orleans, LA. Dr. Barbara Reed reviewed the history of isotretinoin use with particular emphasis on the continued concern of pregnancy in women receiving this drug. Despite educational initiatives of the manufacturer and the AAD, pregnancies continue to occur in women; with 85% of the pregnancies occurring in women who were prescribed the drug by a dermatologist. The FDA and manufacturer (Roche) have recently announced the S.M.A.R.T. program. Physicians wishing to prescribe isotretinoin must register, and must affix a label to all prescriptions indicating they have performed necessary testing and counseling for all women receiving a prescription. The FDA will be monitoring the success of this program and information on this program has been mailed to all members of the AAD and can be found at: www.aadassociation.org/IsoIndex.html. Dr. Reed chairs the AAD Task Force on isotretinoin. Recommendations from a recent consensus conference on the use of isotretinoin will be submitted to the AAD Board of Directors and ultimately disseminated to the AAD membership.

Dr. Patricia Engasser provided additional information on selecting sunscreens. She highlighted studies showing that adolescents continue to engage in unprotected sun exposure, reviewed the controversy over sun screen usage and skin cancer, and discussed a recent report on the estrogenic effects of sunscreens.

Dr. Marc Blackman, Clinical Director and Chief, Laboratory of Clinical Investigation at the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) of the National Institutes of Health provided an update on CAMs used to treat symptoms of menopause. Despite tremendous use of CAMs by the general population, little scientific data supports their use. The increasing longevity of women results in women spending approximately 40% of their lives post-menopausally. Less than 20%

of women continue long-term (1-2 years) estrogen replacement therapy with attendant concerns for heart diseases and osteoporosis. Processing of soy to produce tofu and soy milk inactivates phytoestrogens and isoflavones postulated to act as natural estrogen replacements. NCCAM and NIMH have just completed a large multicenter controlled trial on the benefits of St. John's wort in depression. Results will be published in April, 2002

Dr. Joyce Rico discussed drug metabolism in women, noting that women are at increased risk of adverse reactions due to their increased drug use, as well as pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetics differences between men and women. Of particular note to dermatologists is the recent AMA Council on Scientific Affairs report with recommendations on the concurrent administration of oral

contraceptives and antibiotics published in the November, 2001 issue of *Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

Dr. Cindy Loomis discussed gene imprinting and x-inactivation in dermatology. Both of these unique molecular mechanisms are postulated to be involved in dermatologic diseases including incontinentia pigmenti, carriers of anhidrotic ectodermal dysplasia, and McCune-Albright Syndrome.

Finally, Dr. Tina Alster presented a clinical update on the combined use of lasers, fillers, peels, and other cosmetic agents for optimizing results in the care of the aged face. Her practical approach highlighted the need to match therapeutic interventions with the patient's objectives in accomplishing age-appropriate results. ☺

“DUEL IN DERMATOPATHOLOGY”

Dermatology & Pathology Resident Forum

\$300 Award for 1st Place

\$200 Award for 2nd Place | \$150 Award for 3rd Place

The American Society of Dermatopathology (ASDP) is sponsoring a "Duel in Dermatopathology" competition for dermatology and pathology residents to take place on Thursday, October 10, 2002, the first evening of the ASDP 39th Annual Meeting being held in Phoenix, Arizona.

A \$300 grand prize will be awarded for the best clinical pathological case study. \$200 will be awarded for 2nd place and \$150 will be awarded for 3rd place.

This resident forum will consist of succinct 5-minute presentations in a format similar to the Gross and Microscopic Symposium at the American Academy of Dermatology. The presentations will be judged on content, form, and instructive value to dermatopathology.

Abstracts selected to compete in the "Duel in Dermatopathology" will be published in the *Journal of Cutaneous Pathology*.

All contestants will be required to register at the ASDP Annual Meeting (resident fee is \$140.00) and are invited to participate in all the other aspects of the meeting.

For official rules and an abstract form, please contact the Society headquarters at:

The American Society of Dermatopathology
930 East Woodfield Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173 USA
Phone: 847-330-9830
Fax: 847-330-1135
E-mail: info@asdp.org
Web site: www.asdp.org

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

WDS BOARD, AWARD, & LECTURESHIP NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The WDS Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the slate of candidates who will take office in March 2003. Positions to be filled include: WDS Vice President, Treasurer, and three Directors positions. In addition, they are always seeking volunteers and nominations for committee members and there will also be a Resident and Young Physician Representative appointed to the Board.

If you would like to recommend someone, please contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Dr. Anne Lucky (annelucky@fuse.net) or one of the members of the Committee: Drs. Wilma Bergfeld, Toni Hood, Mary Spraker, Nia Terezakis and Susan Weinkle. Or send a letter or e-mail to the Headquarters office (womensderm@aad.org).

AWARDS & LECTURESHIPS

The WDS will be sending letters of nomination and recommendation for the following awards and lectureships: WDS Rose Hirschler Award; Fox Lectureship; Finnerud Award; Practitioner of the Year; Montagna Lectureship. Qualifications are listed below, if you would like to recommend someone for nomination, please contact the Chair of the Awards Committee, Dr. Richard Odom (rbodom@orca.ucsf.edu) or one of the members of the Committee: Drs.

Boni Elewski, Barbara Gilchrest, Maria Hordinsky, Marie-Louise Johnson, and Mark Lebwohl. Or send a letter or e-mail to the Headquarters office.

ROSE HIRSCHLER AWARD

Given annually to honor physicians who have made significant contributions to medicine and dermatology and who have served to enhance the role of women in dermatology.

AAD EVERETT C. FOX, MD LECTURESHIP

This award is given annual to honor an outstanding clinical dermatologist. The selected lecturer will receive a cash award of \$10,000 and present a lecture of approximately 30 minutes at the summer meeting of the Academy.

Criteria Include: The individual selected must be a dermatologist. The awardee will be an acknowledged, expert clinician. Emphasis will be placed on selecting a practicing clinical dermatologist regardless of his or her area of practice. There will be no emphasis on any particular age group. The awardee must have proven communication skills.

DERM FOUNDATION'S CLARK W. FINNERUD AWARD

This award is given to honor an individual who has devoted extraordinary time and talent as a part-time teacher and clinician.

DERM FOUNDATION'S PRACTITIONER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award honors an individual for exemplary service as a practitioner of dermatology.

Criteria Include: The quality of dermatologic practice as measured by the duration of practice, receipt of continuing education awards, citation of any recognition by hospitals or patients. Participation in medical teaching at any level (undergraduate, medical, nursing, graduate, postgraduate). Participation in research. Participation in other professional societies, especially dermatologic organizations. Publications. The major criteria for selection should be consideration of the contributions made by the individuals as a clinical practitioner. All things being equal, the more senior candidate would receive the award.

SID'S WILLIAM MONTAGNA LECTURESHIP

The purpose of this award is to honor and reward young, active investigators. The lecturer receives an award of \$1,000, complimentary hotel accommodations and registration at the Annual Meeting, and a certificate. The Journal of Investigative Dermatology may publish the lecture. Primary emphasis is given to researchers in skin biology. ☺

Speech by Kazue Ohara, MD continued from page 8

you believe that just these two unexpected meetings have produced such a dramatically important event in my life now?

Thousands of emotions come on me when I look back on these many American friends who have given me the American spirit.

Now I am so grateful to this wonderful occasion that I can meet you here today. It has also enabled me to visit this old southern exciting city of New Orleans to hear street jazz. Without your kindness I would never have such a wonderful chance. Thank you very much. ☺

11th Annual Mentorship Award

The Women's Dermatologic Society is pleased to announce the 11th Annual Mentorship Award Program. This program is designed to encourage the professional development of individuals in dermatology, especially those early in their career. The WDS encourages long-term relationships between mentors and their protégés and promotes projects with a clearly discernable plan supporting career development. The program has been a great success, and we have funded well over 100 grants in the last ten years.

The mentorship program is open to WDS members and member applicants who are third year dermatology residents, dermatology fellows, or dermatology junior faculty members. If you would like the opportunity to participate in this program and study with a dermatologic mentor, please contact Barbara Paez at the Society headquarter office: 847-330-9830 or by e-mail at bpaez@aad.org. The application deadline for the 2003 WDS Mentorship Award is December 1, 2002.

PLEASE FORWARD INFORMATION ABOUT NEW AND/OR EXCITING THINGS YOU OR YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE DOING TO WOMENSDERM@AAD.ORG

Rose Hirschler Award

The Rose Hirschler Award is named in honor of Dr. Rose Hirschler, the first known female dermatologist in the United States. This award is presented annually by the Women's Dermatologic Society to a physician chosen for having made significant contributions to medicine and dermatology and who has enhanced the role of women in the dermatologic specialty.

- 1988 MIRIAM CHANCY REED, MD
- 1989 NANCY BURTON ESTERLY, MD
- 1989 MARGARET GRAY WOOD, MD
- 1990 WALTER B. SHELLEY, MD
- 1991 FRANCES J. STORRS, MD
- 1992 STEPHANIA JABLONSKA, MD
- 1993 MARIE-LOUISE JOHNSON, MD
- 1995 RICKY K. SCHACHTER, MD
- 1996 WILMA F. BERGFELD, MD
- 1997 VERA PRICE, MD
- 1998 ANTOINETTE F. HOOD, MD
- 1999 INGA SILBERBERG-SINAKIN, MD
- 1999 G. JEANETTE THORBECKE, MD, PHD
- 2000 BARBARA A. GILCHREST, MD
- 2001 RUTH FREINKEL, MD
- 2001 GLORIA GRAHAM, MD
- 2002 NIA K. TEREZAKIS, MD

Newsmakers

Compiled by Zoe Draelos, MD

SUSAN BOIKO, MD, has been elected for a three-year term as co-chair of the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention. In addition, she is co-chairing a conference entitled, "From The Guidelines to Action: Skin Cancer Prevention in Schools." This conference will disseminate information regarding school skin cancer prevention guidelines and will be published in the April 2002 MMWR. Congratulations Susan!

MARY RUTH BUCHNESS, MD, announces the birth of her son on November 30, 2001. Boys are wonderful!

MELANIE APPELL, MD, is chairing a gala for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in Birmingham with the theme "If Looks Could Cure." What a great idea!

KATHERINE RENEE HAMLET, MD, shares a moment of reflection. She has a son who just turned 5 and a grandmother who reached the age of 95 in April. She comments that "the beauty of young and old should be recognized as different but equally significant in our society!" A thought for the day.

JUDY WILLIAMS, MD, who specializes in pediatric dermatology has moved to West Virginia.



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Lenore S. Kakita, MD, *President*
Sandra Read, MD, *Newsletter Editor*
Kimberly A. Hoarle, *Executive Director*

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MISSION STATEMENT

- To help all women in dermatology achieve their greatest personal and professional potential.
- To foster, promote and support women's issues in dermatology.
- To identify, train and recognize women leaders in dermatology.
- To provide a forum for developing relationships.

VISION STATEMENT

- WDS envisions a professional environment which recognizes the unique contributions by women in dermatology.
- WDS strives to ensure that women in dermatology have full access and opportunity for professional advancement.
- WDS focuses on balancing the diverse demands of medicine, family and community.
- WDS encourages and supports women to maximize their personal and professional potential and to contribute to our specialty and society.