



WDS

PHYSICIANS
LEADERS
MENTORS

Women's Dermatologic Society

Awards Program

2018 ANNUAL
REPORT

WOMEN'S DERMATOLOGIC SOCIETY

MEET THE BOARD

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Women's Dermatologic Society aims to be an organization that provides its members with outstanding opportunities to grow in their careers and become the best they can be. Our award programs do just that by supporting experiences that may otherwise be impossible due to funding or distance. In 2018, our 4 award programs connected 42 awardees with mentors, funded 3 unique research projects, and helped 5 women from all over the world attend our Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Thank you to our wonderful sponsors, mentors, and committee members for making these programs possible. You've helped our awardees move one step closer to reaching their full potential as physicians, leaders, and mentors.



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2018 AWARDS RECAP



4 AWARD PROGRAMS

38 MENTORS



42 AWARDEES

Awardees had projects funded in the following areas of dermatology:
Cosmetic and Procedural Dermatology
Dermatopathology
Medical Dermatology
Mohs and Dermatologic Surgery
Pediatric Dermatology



16 STATES



5 CONTINENTS

8 COUNTRIES

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

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ACADEMIC RESEARCH AWARD

The WDS Academic Research Award Program provides funding for residents, post-residency fellows, junior faculty and early-career dermatologists performing basic science or clinical research relevant to the field of dermatology. Awards in the amount of up to \$10,000 are awarded on a competitive basis, and awardees have 24 months to complete their project.

2018 RECIPIENTS



Dawn Eichenfield, MD, PhD
UC San Diego Dermatology
Mentor: Wynn Tom, MD
Title: *Genetic Variations in Non-coding Regulatory Regions in Linear Morphea*

Linear morphea is a chronic inflammatory and pro-fibrotic disease that can be debilitating and disfiguring. It generally presents at an earlier age of onset than other subtypes of morphea. Like other autoimmune diseases, linear morphea presents predominantly in females, has a familial contribution, and has been associated with particular environmental triggers. Beyond this, however, the full pathogenesis of this disease remains unknown. *A more thorough understanding of the causes of linear morphea – genetic and environmental – is the first step toward improved diagnosis and treatment.*



Helena Kuhn, MD
Brown University
Mentor: Kachiu Lee, MD, MPH
Title: *Leprosy Surveillance and Elimination in Kenya*

This project seeks to establish accurate leprosy incidence data for coastal Eastern counties in Kenya known to be endemic leprosy areas. In 1989, Kenya achieved the WHO leprosy elimination target of less than 1 case per 10,000 people. However, since 2012, the number of new leprosy cases in the country has increased by approximately 5%. In addition, the number of counties in Kenya reporting leprosy has increased 3-fold from six in 2012 to twenty in 2016. New cases in children, as well as adults presenting with advanced disease, have alerted health care workers to what appears to be a dramatic leprosy resurgence in Kenya. Six skin camps held Western Kenya in June 2017 discovered seven new cases in a population of 1500 people screened.

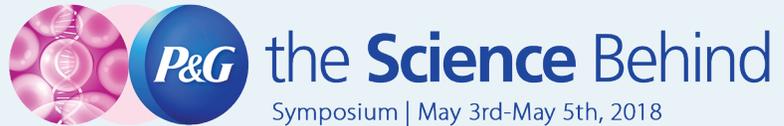


Amanda Marsch, MD
UC San Diego Dermatology
Mentor: Brian Hinds, MD
Title: *Distribution and Clonality of the T-cell Receptor in acute GVHD*

The goal of this study is to investigate how often we admit infants 8 weeks of age or younger (corrected for prematurity) to the hospital for propranolol initiation and evaluate how common side effects occur, specifically low heart rate, low blood pressure, and low blood glucose, as compared to older infants (>8 weeks) who under current consensus guidelines are initiated on propranolol in the outpatient setting. Utilizing a large pediatric database (PEDSnet), this study will gather more information on inpatient initiation in order to help determine the best initiation protocols (e.g. age recommendations for inpatient admissions, length of admission necessary, and how often side effects occur) in order to inform future consensus guidelines and appropriately care for these children. As much of the research in the study of IH (and pediatric dermatology in general) is based on case reports and case series, this study would be a significant advancement in the study of this pediatric disease and could be highly informative for the design of future studies.

PROCTER & GAMBLE MENTORSHIP AWARD

New this year, the Women's Dermatologic Society partnered with Procter & Gamble to offer a new Mentorship program which allowed two mentee & mentor pairs to attend the Procter & Gamble Science Behind Symposium. This gathering of top health professionals with leading industry scientists, researchers, and marketers served to inspire collaboration, innovation, and scientific exchange. Physicians in attendance were guided through the science behind P&G products as well as the latest in skin research coming out of state of the art labs - from anti-aging to sensitivity and everything in between.



EXPERIENCE

Drs. Farhaan Hafeez, Sheila Jalalat, Marlyanne Pol-Rodrigues, and Frankie Rholdon were awarded the P&G Science behind Symposium award which took them behind the scenes of P&G headquarters in Cincinnati, OH on May 3-5, 2018. Friday began bright and early with breakfast at the P&G Mason Business Center and subsequent sessions on the science behind skin care. Attendees were guided through the genetics and ingredient screening labs, the bioenergetics, pollution, and human skin culture lab, and the imaging lab seeing science in action, and even receiving a souvenir gene chip. The afternoon then revolved around the science behind scalp and hair care. Attendees then departed to the P&G general offices to listen to enlightening presentations on ingredient safety. The highlight of the day came next when attendees visited the P&G heritage center and museum, and listened to a spirited presentation about P&G History, connecting their product technologies over time, including a cool piece of trivia on the origins of the term "Soap Opera." Saturday's sessions focused on ethnic hair care and a visit to the hair research labs. The sessions concluded with fun demonstrations on fabric care, rounding out the symposium.

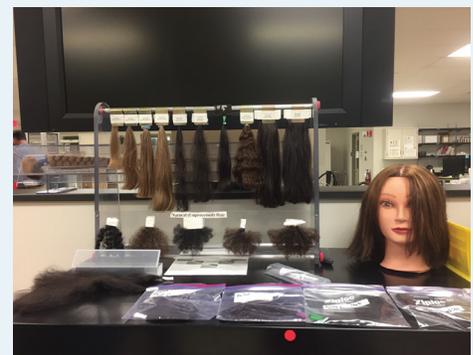
2018 RECIPIENTS

Mentees:

Farhaan Hafeez, MD
Sheila Jalalat, MD

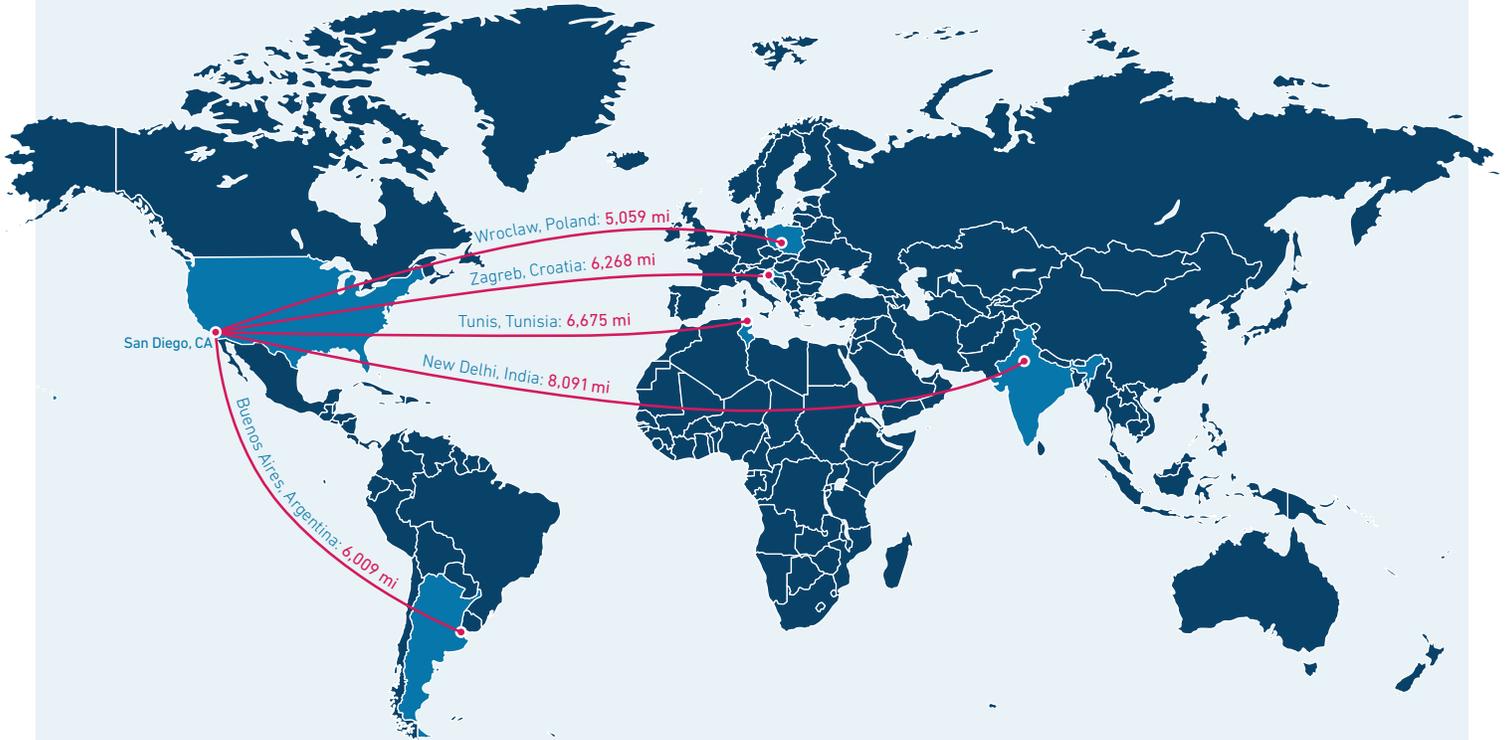
Mentors:

Marlyanne Pol-Rodrigues, MD
Frankie Rholdon, MD



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD

This year award recipients traveled from Argentina, Croatia, India, Poland, and Tunisia. They traveled over 32,100 miles to get to San Diego, California to attend the Annual Meeting!



2018 RECIPIENTS

Anamaria Balic
Croatia

Riti Bhatia
India

Ines Nakouri
Tunisia

Luciana Laura Tirelli
Argentina

Magdalena Zychowska
Poland



MENTORSHIP AWARD

The WDS Mentorship Award Program was created to help promote the concept of mentorship within the WDS by establishing long-term relationships between mentors and mentees.



The purpose of the award is to develop mentoring relationships that might not otherwise be possible due to distance or funding availability. The program helps develop leadership potential in candidates who have shown early promise through exceptional activities, which will enhance their contributions to dermatology and medicine.

2018 RECIPIENTS



Jusleen Ahluwalia, MD

San Diego, CA

Mentor: Jill Waibel, MD

Focus: Laser Dermatology, Scar Therapies

My WDS Mentorship with Dr. Jill Waibel at Miami Dermatology and Laser Institute in Miami was one of my most immersive learning experiences. This opportunity allowed me to understand the fine nuances of cosmetic dermatology, learn the latest advances in dermatology, and help those with full body scars from burns through Dr. Waibel's pro bono work.

Dr. Waibel is an inspiring mensch, not only because of her impactful work within dermatology, but also because of her mentorship style. Dr. Waibel imparted pearls with every patient encounter and thoroughly explained why she recommended a therapeutic option over another. Additionally, Dr. Waibel's passion for her work and her energy were contagious and reviving. Dr. Waibel's charismatic bedside manner and her heartfelt connection to her patients have inspired me to contribute further to my community!

👍 *I highly recommend this opportunity as I had an outstanding experience with Dr. Waibel!* 👍



Audrey Beirne, MD

Coral Gables, FL

Mentor: Sharon Jacob, MD

Focus: Contact Dermatitis

Dr. Jacob has been fantastic in providing me with a solid basis of what it takes to successfully provide thorough management of patients with contact dermatitis. With this experience I will teach our current residents when to refer patients for patch testing, and perhaps more importantly, how to help patients with known allergies in avoidance and treatment of their disease. We are working on strategies to raise awareness about resources for both patients and providers to learn more about allergic contact dermatitis and its management. We plan to work together to write additional articles on allergens that are rising in prevalence in the community.

👍 *Working with Dr. Jacob has been an amazing experience. I was able to see first-hand the process of evaluating a patient with allergic contact dermatitis, from the initial consult to the final read after patch testing. She taught me how to use every clue available to narrow down the etiology of a patient's disease, as well as effectively providing them with a comprehensive management strategy. This experience has not only left me with a strong foundation for building my future career, but also a wonderful mentor to continue to guide me.* 👍

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Anna Cogen, MD
Philadelphia, PA
Mentor: Diana Lockwood, MD
Focus: Leprosy & Leishmaniasis

With the WDS Mentorship award, I was incredibly fortunate to work with Dr. Lockwood at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases (HTD) and London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). During this month, I performed a systematic review on the use of TNF- α inhibitors in leprosy and attended Dr. Lockwood's leprosy clinic. I learned a tremendous amount about treating patients with tropical diseases and the complex care required. Dr. Lockwood's dedication to her patients and to challenging the social stigma of leprosy is truly inspiring. In my career, I look forward to treating tropical diseases and continuing an international partnership with Dr. Lockwood. I am thankful to the WDS for this wonderful opportunity!

“*The WDS Mentorship experience has been extraordinary and I am so incredibly grateful to have had this opportunity! I am inspired to pursue a career focusing on infectious diseases and global health in dermatology through the continued mentorship of Dr. Lockwood. I am so appreciative to the WDS for this exceptional opportunity!*”



Sarah Corley, MD
Chapel Hill, NC
Mentor: Bethanee Schlosser, MD, PhD
Focus: Women's Health as it Pertains to Dermatology

Through the generous award provided by the WDS, I had the honor of working with Dr. Bethanee Schlosser at Northwestern. I observed Dr. Schlosser's expertise in Women's Health, including the diagnosis and management of vulvar dermatology as well as discussing treatment approaches specific to the female population such as spironolactone for acne. Her demonstration of subtle exam findings is something that cannot be acquired by textbook, but rather gained through hands-on clinical experience. Dr. Schlosser was supportive of questions, and additionally provided educational resources to cultivate this niche.

I feel fortunate to have experienced this enriching educational time and gain knowledge beyond my residency training. This opportunity for professional growth has been wonderful, and I am thankful for this mentorship experience.

“*Dr. Schlosser is a wonderful teacher and the enriching educational experience I received during my week at Northwestern is something that cannot be learned in textbooks alone. Learning does not stop after residency ends, and I am grateful to have had this opportunity to continue the learning process with an experienced mentor like Dr. Schlosser.*”

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Carla Cruz-Diaz, MD
Guaynabo, Puerto Rico
Mentor: Kanade Shinkai, mD
Focus: Medical Dermatology, Inpatient Consultative Dermatology, & Medical Education

The WDS Mentorship Award allowed me to spend a month at UCSF where I joined the inpatient dermatology consult team. I saw for the first time cutaneous reactions to novel immunotherapy and learned more about conditions where the dermatologist plays an important role as a member of the inpatient multidisciplinary team. I also had the unique opportunity to attend lectures from world-renowned leaders in dermatology. I wish to become an expert in complex medical dermatology and develop a life-long academic career. Therefore, I couldn't be more fortunate than to have Dr. Shinkai as a mentor, from whom I learned about balancing career, mentoring, and family while also being an excellent clinician and an advocate for patients.

“ The WDS Mentorship Award was an invaluable experience for me. ”



Brittany Dulmage, MD
Chicago, IL
Mentor: Youn Kim, MD
Focus: Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma

During this two-week clinical mentorship experience, I had the opportunity to participate in all facets of Dr. Kim's multidisciplinary cutaneous lymphomas group including clinic, clinical trials, and research meetings. I saw patients will all stages of CTCL undergoing all types of treatment. When appropriate, we collaborated with medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and bone marrow transplant experts to deliver comprehensive care. I had the opportunity to see many clinical trials in action for emerging targeted therapies and immunotherapies.

“ As a resident interested in highly specific area of dermatology, cutaneous lymphomas, I am so thankful to the WDS for the opportunity to spend time working with and learning from a world's expert in the field. ”



Julia Hobson, MD
Rochester, NY
Mentor: Matthew Lewis, MD
Focus: Derm-Rheum

I had the great fortune to work with my WDS mentor, Dr. Matt Lewis and with other excellent physicians at Stanford. Among those physicians were Dr. Bernice Kwong and Dr. David Fiorentino. Dr. Lewis designed an excellent rotation for me to attend multiple subspecialty clinics and inpatient rounds at Stanford. I saw many fascinating and challenging cases of dermatomyositis, systemic sclerosis and the various rashes with chemotherapy and targeted therapies. I was able to ask experts in their field about their work up and management of complex diseases. I am so thankful to have been provided with this opportunity!

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Mamta Jhaveri, MD, MS

Bethesda, MD

Mentor: Reena Rupani Goyal, MD

Focus: Integrative Dermatology

The goal of my mentorship experience was to spend time with Dr. Reena Rupani at Mount Sinai to develop my integrative dermatology clinic and research. During my time with Dr. Rupani, I observed how she integrates oral and topical herbal recommendations and dietary modifications into her academic clinical practice. She also reviewed how she collaborates with other integrative providers and pharmacies in the area to improve her patient care, and how to use similar skills in my area. She also helped strengthen my connections within the field for future research projects. The mentorship provided me with the opportunity to expand my integrative dermatology repertoire and solidify my vision for my clinic and future research.

“ The WDS mentorship experience was empowering. It was an honor to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Rupani and inspirational to see how she’s balanced her research, clinical practice and family life. I look forward to her continued mentorship throughout my career, and I am so grateful to the WDS for enabling this mentorship. ”



Nour Kibbi, MD

New Haven, CT

Mentor: David Brodland, MD

Focus: Melanoma in Situ & Mohs Micrographic Surgery

The WDS elective with Dr. Brodland was an incredible opportunity to learn about Mohs for melanoma and the role of gene expression profile in risk-stratifying melanomas of different thickness. These are evolving areas of research, and we can expect to learn a lot in the near future. In addition, I learned about the role of CK5/6 staining during Mohs for SCC, and in one illustrious example of SCC with single-cell invasion, we found immunohistochemistry to be essential for achieving margin control. Apart from broadening my horizons, the elective provided a foundation for a mentorship relationship for which I am very grateful. Thank you WDS for the opportunity!

“ The WDS elective provides residents an opportunity to work closely with a mentor outside their institution. I had actually already matched into Mohs fellowship, and was hoping to broaden my horizons related to the ways “things are done” at other institutions. Thank you WDS for this amazing experience! ”

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Walter Liszewski, MD
Minneapolis, MN
Mentor: Nasim Fazel, MD
Focus: Mucosal Diseases (Oral & Genital)

The mouth is unfamiliar territory for most dermatologists. Early in residency, I developed an interest in oral mucosal diseases, however, there were few educational resources available. Through WDS, I was awarded a mentorship award to spend two weeks with Nasim Fazel, MD, DDS, at UC Davis. As both a dermatologist and dentist, Dr. Fazel provided me with countless pearls on the management of oral mucosal diseases, including oral lichen planus, burning mouth syndrome, and tongue disorders. I also had the opportunity to practice oral biopsies and learn how to communicate technical details to dentists and oral surgeons. I am grateful to Dr. Fazel, WDS, and the dermatology department at UC Davis for this fantastic opportunity.

“*Dr. Fazel has an incredibly busy practice, and I feel so fortunate she was willing to take time to teach me about oral medicine. As a dentist and a dermatologist, I have benefited from her tremendous experience. I am excited that we are planning to conduct research in the future, and I truly appreciated that she is interested in helping me advance my career in academia.*”

This was an absolutely incredible and life changing experience. I am so grateful to WDS for giving me this opportunity”



Alicia Little, MD, PhD
New Haven, CT
Mentor: Libby Edwards, MD
Focus: Vulvar & Mucosal Dermatology

I was privileged to spend almost two weeks with Dr. Libby Edwards at her practice in Charlotte, NC, learning vulvar dermatology from an outstanding dermatologist and preeminent vulvologist. Dr. Edwards was incredibly gracious in sharing her time and expertise, and I learned so much during my mentorship experience. I saw an incredible variety of patients, each of whom provided a wonderful opportunity to observe Dr. Edwards' approach to vulvovaginal disease. In addition to receiving unparalleled practical training in the relevant history, physical exam techniques, wet mounts, cultures, counseling, and management for a variety of conditions, I also benefited from Dr. Edwards' career advice and mentorship, and I hope to continue to do so in the future.

“*I am so grateful to the WDS and Dr. Edwards for this mentorship opportunity. Dr. Edwards is not only a renowned leader in the field of vulvar dermatology, but she is also an incredibly compassionate physician and a dedicated mentor.*”



Ashley Lundgren, MD
Austin, TX
Mentor: Nina Botto, MD
Focus: Occupational & Allergic Contact Dermatitis

I had an incredibly productive, enriching and positive experience with Dr. Botto at Contact and Occupational Dermatitis Clinic at UCSF. I learned more about ACD in a week than I had during 2.5 years of residency, despite this being an area of interest for me throughout residency. Dr. Botto is an incredible mentor-- warm, funny, smart and very welcoming. I am planning on practicing in eastern Washington--an area of the country that has a paucity of dermatologists with patch testing/ACD interest, and my time with Dr. Botto has given me the skills I need to provide access to patch testing and ACD work-up for this community. educational experience.

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Oluwatobi Ogbechie-Godec, MD

New York, NY

Mentor: Amy McMichael, MD

Focus: Hair & Scalp Disorders

From the inception of the WDS mentorship award, I began working closely with Dr. McMichael to formulate a project that not only related to both our interests, but would also be impactful to the literature. The clinical pearls that I have gleaned are invaluable. In addition to the technical aspects of dermatology, Dr. McMichael taught me the humanistic side of being a clinician. Her demeanor with her patients makes her so loved and well-respected within her community and internationally. Her practice and style are certainly ones that I hope to emulate in the coming months. This was an amazing experience that I have already highly recommended to my colleagues.

“ This was an absolute highlight of my dermatology training. Being able to have the support from the WDS provided me with the pathway to spend some meaningful time with Dr. McMichael. There is no doubt that this experience has shaped (and is still shaping) my future practice. ”



Vanessa Pascoe, MD

Seattle, WA

Mentor: Joanna Badger, MD

Focus: Vulvar Dermatology

I am creating a vulvar dermatology presentation to give to my residency program. I spent 2 weeks with Dr. Badger, in and out of clinic, learning from her extensive knowledge of vulvar dermatology. She was an excellent teacher and role model, and I am so grateful for the experience



Hyemin Pomerantz, MD

Great Neck, NY

Mentor: Edward Cowen, MD

Focus: Inflammatory Dermatoses, Cutaneous Drug Reaction

APECED, TRAPS, and Deigo's disease are a few conditions I encountered in my first day at the NIH mentorship. I learned from the patients how their conditions initially presented. Physicians at the NIH thought about their patients outside the box, and there was a fluid application of bench science knowledge translated to clinical care. Most importantly, the rotation helped me put a face to rare conditions that existed in abstract terms previously. The patients inspired me with their stories of resilience and optimism and their altruistic cause for participating in clinical trials. I'm truly humbled by the opportunity to learn from these patients, albeit a short period of time.

“ I greatly appreciate the mentorship I was able to receive from Drs. DiGiovanna, Nagao, Brownell, Cowen, Pichard, and Lee. I thank them for their teaching and sharing their ingenuity in taking care of complex patients. I would continue to stay in with Dr. DiGiovanna, as we plan on a paper as described above. After the rotation, I became familiar with studies going on at the NIH and I would contact them if I have a patient who may be qualified to be enrolled in one of the NIH trials. And I certainly feel comfortable reaching out to them with questions that may arise in my future practice. ”

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Brittney Schultz, MD

Minneapolis, MN

Mentor: Donna Culton, MD

Focus: Autoimmune Blistering Disorders

I had a truly wonderful time at the University of North Carolina with Dr. Donna Culton cultivating my interest in autoimmune blistering diseases (AIBDs). I spent time in Dr. Culton's and Dr. Luis Diaz's specialty clinics, learning how to care for patients with pemphigus and pemphigoid. Dr. Culton and I also spent time together learning how to read immunofluorescence and how to clinically correlate these findings. I attended the International Pemphigus and Pemphigoid Foundation Annual Patient Conference, where I was able to present at the meeting and network with other experts in the field. Finally, I had many guiding conversations with Dr. Culton that will no doubt shape my future career and life goals.

“ My experience with Dr. Culton was one of the most formative experiences of my residency training! I learned so much working with her in clinic and reading immunofluorescence. She also helped open several doors for me and welcomed me into the AIBD community. Equally as valuable as our experiences at work, this mentorship allowed for opportunities outside of work where we had numerous conversations on career goals, life goals, and work-life balance. Dr. Culton is the consummate mentor and I am so thankful to the WDS for fostering this opportunity. ”



Pooja Shah, MD

Rochester, NY

Mentor: Joseph Jorizzo, MD

Focus: Complex Medical Dermatology

I had the extensive opportunity to network with many excellent leading physicians in medical dermatology (nail disorders, inpatient hospital dermatology, complex medical dermatology) at NYP-Weill Cornell Medical Center through my mentorship experience with Dr. Jorizzo. Working with talented physicians such as Dr. Joanna Harp, Dr. Richard Scher, Dr. Shari Lipner, and Dr. Andrew Avarbock has provided inspiration for me to pursue and establish my own specialty niche, and I am grateful to have the connections in academia to help guide me in the process as I further explore my particular interests in medical dermatology. I plan to build a career in academic dermatology and will certainly be in steady communication with these mentors for their expertise as I work to establish myself as a reputable physician and educator in the field.

“ I am immensely grateful for the mentorship experience that the WDS has provided me with Dr. Joseph Jorizzo and Dr. Joanna Harp. I had the opportunity as a young physician to hone my skills in systematic decision-making via recognition of distinct morphologic patterns and the potential influence of cognitive biases on diagnostic accuracy and medical errors. Furthermore, I have been inspired to pursue my own specialty niche in medical dermatology, and I am truly thankful for the guidance I have received so far. Dr. Jorizzo and Dr. Harp both have a remarkable interest in enriching healthcare provider education and I hope to collaborate with them on multiple platforms – locally, nationally, and globally. ”

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Bridget Shields, MD

Madison, WI

Mentor: Nicole Fett, MD

Focus: Rheumatology-Dermatology, Complex Medical Dermatology, & Inpatient Care

During my experience I had the opportunity to care for patients with a broad spectrum of autoimmune and connective tissue diseases within one of the most robust dermatology-rheumatology services in the country. I was intimately involved in examination, diagnosis, and treatment decisions and was included in weekly dermatology-rheumatology conferences and clinics. Dr. Fett was a phenomenal mentor and spent time answering questions, reviewing cases, and talking through challenging management choices. Dr. Fett was an equally wonderful research mentor. We spent time outlining, developing, executing, and completing a project looking at the previously reported association of celiac disease with dermatomyositis, cutaneous, and systemic lupus erythematosus which we are currently writing for publication.



Cristina Thomas, MD

Boston, MA

Mentor: Toby Maurer, MD & Aileen Chang, MD

Focus: Global Health Dermatology

I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Aileen Chang and Dr. Toby Maurer, both experts in global health dermatology at UCSF and San Francisco General Hospital. While there, I experienced both the challenges associated with caring for vulnerable populations and the inspiring dedication of the providers caring for them. In addition to general dermatology clinic, I participated in the unique weekly HIV dermatology clinic, teledermatology service, and inpatient dermatology consult service. Finally, Dr. Chang and Dr. Maurer continuously offered their expertise in creating sustainable clinical partnerships with institutions abroad, an important skill in practicing global health. This experience has provided me with invaluable perspective and skills that will bolster my future career.

“ I am thankful to have been mentored by Dr. Aileen Chang and Dr. Toby Maurer. Both are exemplary role models in global health dermatology and embody true patient-centered care. The experience I gained through the WDS Mentorship Award reaffirmed my interest in serving marginalized populations locally and abroad. I am excited to continue to learn and collaborate with these life-long mentors throughout my career. ”

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Christine Totri, MD
Brooklyn, NY
Mentor: Alan Menter, MD
Focus: Psoriasis

After spending a week with Dr. Menter in his practice in Dallas, Texas, my motivation to better understand the pathophysiology of psoriasis and the treatment for this complex disease has strengthened. Dr. Menter has noted that among the thousands of patients he has treated with psoriasis, he has seen an increase of psoriasis in specific subsets of patients. Most notably, there may be an increase in incidence in psoriasis in patients with Down syndrome. This increase in prevalence has not been documented in the literature. Dr. Menter and I hope to write this up in the near future and submit it to a dermatologic journal.

“ The time I spent with Dr. Menter was fantastic. Not only was I able to get a better understanding of the use of biologics in psoriasis, but I was also able to witness his exemplary bedside manner. Dr. Menter truly cares for his patients and the disease of psoriasis, and my experience with him was definitely inspiring. I will take this experience with me and implement what I have learned for my own patients. ”



Cesar Villarreal, MD
Monterrey, Mexico
Mentor: Dedee Murrell, MA, BM, MD, FRCP, FACD
Focus: EB & Pemphigus Management

During my stay at Prof Murrell clinic I got to see patients with her on her private practice. I got to see a lot of blistering diseases patients and other autoimmune diseases that are treated with biologic therapies and clinical trials that she is currently running. I have seen how that makes a big difference to their lives.

“ During this month with Prof Murrell I had the chance to learn a lot about blistering diseases and clinical trials that Dedee. She is the best mentor that I could have asked for, very dedicated to what she does and always willing to teach and help me to learn everything. I am sure that this was a life changing experience that will help me in my future career as a dermatologist and I will be forever thankful with Dedee and the WDS! ”



Elizabeth Wallace, MD
Boston, MA
Mentor: Emma Guttman-Yassky, MD
Focus: Atopic Dermatitis

Through the WDS mentorship award, I had the honor of working with Dr. Emma Guttman in her Eczema Center of Excellence at the Mount Sinai Medical Center. This mentorship experience included learning how to treat severe cases of atopic dermatitis as well as collaborating on a research project examining ocular manifestations associated with dupilumab treatment. Dr. Guttman was able to provide invaluable career guidance to me as I prepare to begin my academic dermatology career at the University of Colorado. Dr. Guttman is an amazing mentor, fantastic role model, caring physician, and international leader in her field. I am grateful to the WDS for this mentorship opportunity and thankful for Dr. Guttman's guidance and support.

MENTORSHIP AWARD



Carina Woodruff, MD

San Francisco, CA

Mentor: Bethanee, Schlosser, MD, PhD

Focus: Vulvar & Women's Dermatology

The WDS mentorship award enabled me to spend a month exploring the area of vulvar and women's dermatology via electives with both Dr. Rachel Kornik at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Dr. Bethanee Schlosser at Northwestern University. At the University of Wisconsin, I attended several dedicated vulvar clinics, in addition to multi-disciplinary urogynecology clinics and pelvic physical therapy sessions. My time with Dr. Schlosser nicely complemented these experiences; I spent time seeing patients in vulvar dermatology and general dermatology clinics, in addition to a urogynecology clinic run by a nurse practitioner with decades of experience and a pelvic floor dysfunction clinic run by a physician with training in physical medicine & rehabilitation.

“ This women's health elective, funded by WDS, was truly a transformative career experience. I had the opportunity to work closely with experts in the neglected field of vulvar dermatology, and in doing so, was able to gain an understanding of the complexities of diagnosis and management of patients with complex mucosal and hormonal diseases. I also gained a strong understanding of the diagnostic and therapeutic techniques that providers in the closely related fields of urogynecology, PM&R, and physical therapy employ in the multi-disciplinary care of these patients. Finally, I was able to establish relationships with two wonderful mentors whom I hope I can turn to for collaboration and additional mentorship moving forward. ”



Saranya Wyles, MD

Rochester, MN

Mentor: M. Peter Marinkovich, MD

Focus: Skin Regeneration

Through the WDS mentorship award, I had the incredible opportunity to work with Dr. M. Peter Marinkovich at Stanford University. It was a great experience to learn from an academic practice with strong focus on epithelial biology and regenerative sciences. I aim to pursue a career in academic dermatology and this award allowed me to learn about cutting-edge treatment options including topical gene therapy for epidermolysis bullosa. I also had the opportunity to visit the Stanford Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine and meet Dr. Helen Blau, a strong female leader and pioneer in this field. I would like to thank WDS as well as Ortho-Dermatologics for sponsoring this opportunity.

“ WDS mentorship award was a phenomenal opportunity to build your career interest during residency training. I would highly recommend to all dermatology residents. It is an opportunity to explore a specific interest that may not be covered otherwise during training. It also helps build a mentorship outside of your current practice and diversify your network as well as knowledge base. ”

ROTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019



Lori Fiessinger, MD
Minneapolis, MN
Mentor: Allan Halpern, MD
Focus: Melanoma

After graduation, I will be joining the department of dermatology at the University of Minnesota. Our department has the exciting opportunity to start a new interdisciplinary melanoma clinic. Coordinated care for melanoma patients is needed more today than ever before due to the rising incidence of disease and rapid growing number of treatment options available. Involvement of many different medical specialties in making consensus treatment decisions is needed for optimized care. This is best accomplished through an interdisciplinary melanoma clinic with involvement of a tumor board to review each patient's data and determine a personalized care plan. Setting up a new clinic model is no small undertaking. Over many years, Dr. Halpern and colleagues have fine tuned their approaches and established a highly regarded interdisciplinary approach to melanoma care. I am confident that with Dr. Halpern's mentorship, I can lead a similar model at the University of Minnesota.

In addition to their advanced interdisciplinary approach to melanoma, Dr. Halpern's department is on the cutting edge for use of technology in melanoma care. The department has the only 3D total body imaging system in the United States. Several studies have shown the benefit of combining digital photography and dermoscopy in identifying early melanomas. While I have extensive dermoscopy training, my use of total body photography during skin checks has been limited to paper photographs thus far. New digital technology now allows for quick, standardized digital imaging and provides software that is capable of analyzing serial images from changes in nevi. I hope to learn from Dr. Halpern how to best use new technology in daily practice to provide the best care for my melanoma and high-risk patients with pigmented lesions.



Amrita Goyal, MD
Minneapolis, MN
Mentor: Ellen Kim, MD
Focus: Cutaneous Lymphoma

Due to my love of cutaneous lymphoma and complex medical dermatology I hope to pursue a career in academic dermatology with a focus on cutaneous lymphoma. I plan for my practice to include clinical work, research, and teaching. Although research and study of the literature is necessary, observation of the clinical practice of a seasoned expert in the field would be a career-shaping experience. In the dermatology clinics of the University of Minnesota I have seen many patients with cutaneous lymphoma, primarily mycosis fungoides. However, I feel that more focused observership and mentorship in this field is necessary to further my development into an expert clinician and researcher.

As a part of the WDS Mentorship Award, I would like to spend a month at the University of Pennsylvania with Dr. Ellen Kim to learn more about her practice of managing cutaneous lymphoma. This month would be comprised of shadowing in her cutaneous lymphoma and general dermatology clinics. I would specifically like to learn more about her diagnosis, work-up, and treatment of common forms of cutaneous lymphoma including mycosis fungoides and CD30+ lymphoproliferative diseases, as well as gain further exposure to rare lymphomas including Sezary syndrome and the B-cell lymphomas. As a part of this mentorship, I would also like to write a brief summary of the history of mycosis fungoides for publication in a major dermatology journal. I plan to address its discovery by Alibert in 1806 and describe the evolution of diagnosis and treatment over the last two hundred years. I have already secured permission from the University of Adelaide to reprint a colorized version of the first illustration of tumor stage MF from Aliberts 1806 work *Description des maladies de la peau observées à l'Hôpital Saint-Louis, et exposition des meilleures méthodes suivies pour leur traitement*.

ROTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019



Thy Huynh, MD

Ridgeland, MS

Mentor: Emma Guttman-Yassky, MD

Focus: Atopic Dermatitis in Translational Science & Clinical Trials

Dr. Emma Guttman-Yassky is a forefront leader as clinician for inflammatory skin disorders like atopic dermatitis and investigatory in translational science research with the development of dupilumab from her studies on atopic dermatitis. She is the perfect mentor to help me understand how to balance running clinic, setting up clinical trials, and collaborating with investigators to further research in atopic dermatitis and other inflammatory skin conditions in adult and children. This experience will enhance my skill set in treating patients with inflammatory disease to see how she approaches these patients and also analyze specific aims and data in clinical trials research.

My long-term career goal is to become a clinician scientist after completing dermatology residency at the University of Mississippi. I plan to pursue this goal by jointly pursuing a pediatric dermatology along with translational science/clinical scholars fellowship. I will return and join the faculty at University of Mississippi in Jackson so that I can care for the underserved population and ultimately open a clinical research unit to expand dermatology research in the deep South. There is a huge unmet need for more dermatologic care in both the adult and pediatric population in Mississippi. We do not have a single pediatric dermatologist in the entire state, and research in dermatology for this population is also severely lacking. A majority of patients with chronic skin disorders do not have access to necessary medications (not to mention the new cutting-edge medications like dupilumab or even other biologics). Opening a clinical research unit would promote research and also provide access to those in need. While the Dermatology Residency program is still in its infancy since its start in July 2013, I would like to contribute to the program by innovating, teaching, and mentoring future students and residents. Ultimately, having grown up in Alabama, I hope to become one of the leading clinical researcher-physician in the South.



Yasmeen Kabir, MD

Northridge, CA

Mentor: Jennifer Choi, MD

Focus: Medical Dermatology

I have always had a passion for medical dermatology. Coming from a refugee family from Afghanistan and volunteering in the camps on the borders of Afghanistan and Pakistan, I have learned how incredibly fortunate I am to be able to obtain an education and have the opportunity to give back to others. I initially pursued a residency in Internal Medicine because of my passion for general medicine. What fascinated me most was how patients in our county hospital would present only when they had cutaneous manifestations of their systemic disease. I witnessed this in my lupus, dermatomyositis, sarcoidosis, and even HIV patients presenting with severe seborrheic dermatitis or eczema. This interest created a drive in me to further my training and pursue dermatology. My career goals both encompass my passion for international medicine and treating oncodermatology/medical dermatology patients in an academic center. My goal is to give back not only to my patients, but also to teach other residents who share the same interests of medical dermatology. I feel that this mentorship with Dr. Choi will give me the opportunity to learn from a role model who practices the same passion. My passion has always been to focus on the systemic disease behind cutaneous manifestations.

ROTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019



Christina Kraus, MD

Irvine, CA

Mentor: Libby Edwards, MD

Focus: Vulvovaginal Dermatology

In exploring my career goals, I have decided to practice general dermatology and pursue a career in academia upon graduation from residency, but more specifically I plan to specialize in vulvovaginal dermatology. While it is a small subspecialty, vulvovaginal disease is common and associated with multiple challenges which include the wide range of normal findings, the varying morphology of skin lesions presenting on the vulva, the lack of regular self-examination of female genitalia, the complexity of differential diagnoses, as well as the cultural and emotional factors associated with vulvovaginal disease that affect quality of life and may even prevent women from seeking medical care.

In an effort to become well-versed in the diagnosis and management, and to have a greater understanding of the psychological impact, of vulvovaginal disease, I plan to rotate with Dr. Libby Edwards. Dr. Edwards is an expert and a leader in the field of vulvovaginal dermatology. I had the unique opportunity to rotate with Dr. Edwards as a fourth-year medical student which was an invaluable experience and strengthened my interest in this subspecialty.



Uchenna Okereke, MD

Iowa City, IA

Mentor: Sanusi Umar, MD

Focus: Hair Restoration

My career goals include becoming an expert in common conditions effecting patients with skin of color, with a focus on hair and scalp disorders. As hair and scalp disorders are becoming more prevalent in this population, it will be increasing important to solidify not only my understanding of these conditions, but also effective treatment modalities. I hope to contribute to this not only with early clinical diagnosis, but with additional training in hair restoration.

As Lenzy et al recently reported hair loss as an epidemic in this population, it will be critical to broaden the armamentarium for treatment. My goals during this mentorship program with Dr. Sanusi Umar is to become proficient in modernized techniques that can handle even the most tightly curled hair as found in individuals with Afro-textured hair. I hope to apply these techniques in the appropriate patients with central centrifugal cicatricial alopecia, traction alopecia, and androgenetic alopecia, with the goal of potentially improving their quality of life.

ROTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019



Maryam Safaee, MD
Seattle, WA
Mentor: William James, MD
Focus: Medical Education

Through this mentorship I hope to gain tools regarding resident teaching and adult learning which will help build my foundation in medical education which I know will be invaluable in my future career in academic medicine.

Cathryn Sibbald, MD
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Mentor: Tina Alster, MD
Focus: Laser Procedures

This experience would give me the opportunity to learn more about the use of lasers for a wide spectrum of congenital and acquired conditions from a leader in the field of lasers. Although I will be getting experience in the use of vascular lasers in my pediatric dermatology fellowship, I will have less exposure to the full range of uses of lasers for other indications and across older populations. As well, Dr Alster has extensive experience with the use of lasers, including in various presentations in the pediatric population and the knowledge and skills that I would learn from her would be invaluable.

Another key goal of this rotation would be to produce a thorough review article on the use of lasers in pediatrics. The review would cover vascular, verrucous and pigmented lesions amenable to laser treatment in congenital and acquired presentations as well as in common syndromes. We would also review some key unique considerations to using lasers in children. Dr Alster has already provided me with some material for this review. Not only would the writing of this review be a valuable learning experience, but it would then serve as a valuable reference for others in the field.



Johanna Song, MD, MS
Cambridge, MA
Mentor: Stefanie Takahashi, MD
Focus: Caring for Children with Chronic Skin Disease

The goals of my mentorship include: (1) Learning about caring for children with skin disease through participating in Camp Wonder in Livermore, California, a camp for children affected by skin disease, (2) Learning about the logistical and administrative tasks associated with Camp Wonder, (3) Developing a mentorship relationship to learn about challenges in a career in academic pediatric dermatology.

Camp Wonder is a week-long camp for children around the country with chronic and life-threatening skin diseases where they can be "part of the crowd" and share similar experiences with other children. I will be involved with many tasks before Camp Wonder starts, including reviewing camper applications and reviewing medical student volunteer applications. At Camp Wonder, Dr. Takahashi and I will be part of the medical staff involved in helping children with their skin/wound care and medical issues. Additionally, I will have the opportunity to also spend time with the campers during the day.

ROTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2019



Erica Tarabdkar, MD

Seattle, WA

Mentor: Youn Kim, MD

Focus: Cutaneous Oncology, CTCL

Prior to starting Dermatology residency, I had the privilege of working with Dr. Paul Nghiem as a clinical research fellow studying Merkel cell carcinoma. My experience in clinical research and clinical trial design, in a multidisciplinary academic practice was extremely rewarding. It was this fellowship where I developed my passion for cutaneous oncology and gained a foundation in clinical research. Throughout residency, my interest in cutaneous oncology has been reinforced by caring for patients with hematologic and solid organ malignancies and cutaneous malignancies, like cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL) while working alongside Dr. Michi Shinohara at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. My ultimate goal is to provide care in a multidisciplinary setting managing patients with CTCL and participating in clinical research focusing on treatment and improving quality of life.



Allison Weinkle, MD

Tampa, FL

Mentor: Suzanne Kilmer, MD

Focus: Lasers & Procedures in Dermatology

At the University of South Florida, I benefit from significant support within the world of Mohs surgery through the guidance of our program director and fellowship trained Mohs surgeon, Dr. Basil Cherpelis. However, cutting edge training in lasers and procedural dermatology are at times lacking in our local community. As this is my primary interest and something I would like to incorporate into my future armamentarium, I have searched for national experts in the field in hopes of lifelong mentorship.

Dr. Suzanne Kilmer, past president of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery, provides a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise that would not only jumpstart my career, but provide a priceless mentorship relationship. Not only does Dr. Kilmer practice Mohs surgery, she leads the field in procedural dermatology with a focus on laser medicine. I know my mathematical inclinations and interest in procedures will flourish with the guidance of such an amazing female mentor. I will work towards completing publications along with Dr. Kilmer during my time in California and will follow-up with her afterwards.

MENTORSHIP SNAPSHOTS

One of the pillars of WDS is its focus on Mentorship. Award recipients form lasting relationships with their mentors while gaining experiences that may otherwise be unavailable to them. Take a look at the photos below to see WDS mentorship in action.

*Dr. Christine Totri
with her Mentor Dr.
Alan Menter.*



*Dr. Jusleen
Ahluwalia with
her mentor Dr. Jill
Waibel.*



*Dr. Cesar Villarreal
with his mentor Dr.
Dedee Murrell*





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