Fall is here and we have so much to celebrate. The 2014 Play Safe in the Sun service campaign was a tremendous success, with a total of seven events being held across the country. Our focus this year was on increasing awareness for sun protection and skin cancer among all ethnicities, and the results were positive: of the 864 people screened, 32% were individuals with darker skin types. In addition, we distributed close to 6,000 sunscreen samples, and provided sun safety information to thousands through our outreach efforts. My heartfelt thanks to our Service Committee Chairs, Rebecca Tung, MD and Latanya Benjamin, MD, as well as all the dedicated and hard-working WDS members and volunteers from across the country who gave their time to help make a difference.

Elizabeth Martin, MD and the WDS Membership Committee have been diligently working to increase our membership this year, and we’ve already seen a 25% improvement - which means we’re at the halfway point in reaching our goal! A targeted outreach campaign, scheduled to launch in November, will encourage former members to rejoin, while also focusing on prospective members throughout the dermatology community and industry. If you are interested in helping with this campaign and leading your state in recruiting and retaining members, please contact the WDS at wds@womensderm.org and join us.

The WDS reached another milestone this year with the recent launch of the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology (IJWD). Thanks to the vision, hard work and commitment of Jane Grant-Kels, MD, Dedee Murrell, MD and Neil Sadick, MD, this online...
The use of pharmaceutical and cosmeceutical samples in the medical office remains a controversy in dermatology. Some assert that the use of samples creates prescriber bias and most academic institutions have banned all pharmaceutical representative detailing and sample use. Yet, many providers continue to use samples for a variety of reasons. Here, we offer diverse perspectives on the subject from two leaders in our field.

### In Support of Samples:

**Heidi A. Waldorf, MD**

is a strong advocate of product sampling in both her private practice in Nanuet, NY and academic practice in New York City. “Sampling is very important in dermatology,” she said, citing patient tolerance and compliance, the financial cost of medication, and insurance coverage as reasons for incorporating this practice.

“Patients need to try medications before they will fill a prescription,” Dr. Waldorf explained. “Their tolerance to the base [vehicle] is as important as the concentration of the medication.” Dr. Waldorf pointed to acne and atopic dermatitis medications as conditions where this occurs commonly. “Handing the patient a few samples to start,” she said, “ensures it’s a topical or oral medication to which they can be compliant without side effects.”

Insurance coverage is another reason Dr. Waldorf distributes samples to patients. “Medications vary in cost based on the availability of generics and patient insurance coverage,” she said, “and some require prolonged procedures for pre-authorization to be covered. Sampling allows the patient to try the product before spending on it, and start using it rather than waiting for a potentially prolonged insurance approval process.” She considers discount coupons helpful for this purpose and suggests patients look for coupons online if she doesn’t have a particular one.

Providing samples instead of a prescription may be an option if the amount needed is small or for short-term use only. For example, Dr. Waldorf may provide a sample size of a topical steroid to limit how much the patient receives for safety reasons. But a side benefit is that it may save the patient from buying an unnecessary quantity of medication that they don’t need.

### On the Other Hand:

**Frances J. (Fran) Storrs, MD**

became wary of product samples as a resident when a charismatic drug rep convinced the medical center clinic to dedicate an entire room to store samples ... his samples. “It’s not hard to imagine,” she recalled, “the influence that had on the prescribing and suggesting habits of residents and faculty.” Dr. Storrs contrasted that scenario with her VA clinic experience, where samples were not allowed and “we were still able to practice excellent dermatology.”

Dr. Storrs noted instances in which she and other dermatologists took their samples to free clinics, and convinced drug reps to give them full size products for patients. “The pharmaceutical industry was delighted because it gave them an opportunity to influence prescribing habits,” she pointed out, “but I felt it was ridiculous that we couldn’t get money to pay for the medications through other means.”

In academics, Dr. Storrs is concerned that residents see physicians learning about medication from drug reps instead of from literature. “It’s as if we’re casting aside our medical school training,” she said, noting that data pertaining to the use of samples in medical practices shows that samples are effective in getting doctors to prescribe these medications, but there is no evidence of better care or improved outcomes.

When it comes to sunscreens, shampoos and lotions, Dr. Storrs observed that dermatologists sometimes put a few of each in a bag for patients to see what works. “This practice,” she points out, “may leave the patient wondering if the dermatologist really knows what they’re doing.”

Dr. Storrs’ opinion does not vary when it comes to topical vs. oral samples. “By providing topical samples,” she explained, “you’re less likely to look at the base and know every ingredient in a product. Many creams contain...
“Still, samples and coupons are not always helpful,” Dr. Waldorf explained. There are additional factors to consider. For example, Medicare patients can’t utilize discount coupons. Some specialty prescription plans restrict which medications can be prescribed, and patient needs must be taken into account. So Dr. Waldorf doesn’t provide samples indiscriminately, and there are products she prescribes frequently that do not sample.

Prescription and non-prescription samples are handled in a similar manner in Dr. Waldorf’s practice, in that they are only provided to appropriate patients. These samples are not placed “in the open” so patients cannot just help themselves. However, when non-prescription items are in abundance, Dr. Waldorf will donate extras to local shelters that may benefit from them.

Dr. Waldorf thinks it is important for dermatology residents to get exposure to branded medications in order to become familiar with the differences in their characteristics (e.g., texture or aroma) and patient tolerability. Residency is an optimal time for this exposure because of the availability of attending staff that can provide additional experience and opinions about the medications.

Some may question whether prescription samples may influence provider prescription patterns. Dr. Waldorf doesn’t think it affects what or how she prescribes, given the uniqueness of each patient and their diagnosis. In her office, pharmaceutical representatives can leave samples and drug information, and are limited in providing extras. They cannot provide meals (just small snacks) and only specific gifts are accepted (those that have educational benefit—like textbooks, or are helpful for patient care—like stress balls). And Dr. Waldorf rarely meets with the reps when they come because she is too busy taking care of patients!

Overall, Dr. Waldorf is an enthusiastic supporter of pharmaceutical samples. She doesn’t see any negatives to the practice, and wishes all medications could be sampled for the reasons stated above.

Dr. Waldorf is Director of Laser and Cosmetic Dermatology at the Mount Sinai Medical Center, Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology at the Icahn School of Medicine of Mount Sinai, and a member of the WDS Board of Directors. She was interviewed by Felisa (Sally) Lewis, MD, Chief of Dermatology at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital in Fort Belvoir, VA.

Dr. Storrs is professor emerita of dermatology at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), an honorary member of the Women’s Dermatologic Society and founder of the WDS Mentorship Award program. She was interviewed by Mary Horner, MD, Dermatology Chief Resident at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, TX.

formaldehyde releasers, and reaching for a sample may expose the patient to an allergy. With samples, you lose your critical eye. Patients want to know what you decide based on the scientific data for that product. They don’t want a bag full of stuff.”

While residents need exposure to branded medications, Dr. Storrs thinks they should be encouraged to look at labels, know which corticosteroid creams contain which preservatives, become familiar with their efficacy, look at the studies and know the cost of each medication, noting that “residents and faculty often have no idea how expensive the products they recommend really are.” She recalled a recent instance in which a resident recommending a benzyl peroxide-antibiotic combination cream to a patient had no idea how much it would cost. “Doctors are obligated to know what’s in a product and how that affects the price,” she said.

Most of Dr. Storrs’ steroid prescriptions are triamcinolone 0.1% in petrolatum ($25 per pound), compared to a fancy fluorinated corticosteroid ($400 per pound).

Asked if she thinks over-the-counter samples should be treated differently than prescription samples, Dr. Storrs said “I think they add to this seduction where you put all these things in a bag and smear the reputation of dermatologists. If I see someone with stasis dermatitis, I recommend that they use petrolatum or Vaseline—a one-ingredient product, without sensitizers.”

In Dr. Storr’s office, samples are placed on a communal table or displayed where patients can take them. She disagrees with this practice and thinks it’s wrong, saying “we’re providing an endorsement and acting as unpaid sales people for the industry.” She also notes that some doctors may feel that in giving samples, they are giving their patient a gift. “If they really wanted to give them a gift,” Dr. Storrs advised, “they would see the patient for free or lower their bill. Instead, they give free drugs … but patients still have to buy them at the drug store.”

Dr. Storrs is professor emerita of dermatology at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), an honorary member of the Women’s Dermatologic Society and founder of the WDS Mentorship Award program. She was interviewed by Mary Horner, MD, Dermatology Chief Resident at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, TX.
The Women’s Dermatologic Society wishes to thank the following companies for supporting the Society in 2014.

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**CORPORATE SUPPORTER PROFILE**

**Meet Galderma’s Todd Zavodnick**

For over 12 years, Galderma Laboratories, L.P. has generously supported the Women’s Dermatologic Society and the Career and Community Advancement Award, encouraging projects focusing on community service, career enhancement and advancement of the specialty of dermatology. Galderma is proud of this long standing relationship, and enjoys participating in the Annual Meeting Luncheon and other WDS events each year.

With the recent acquisition of several key injectable products in the US and Canada, and having gained full rights to commercialize Restylane®, Perlane®, Sculptra®, and Dysport® for use in aesthetic dermatology, Galderma has folded these products into a dedicated Aesthetic & Corrective Business Unit headed up by newly-appointed Vice President & General Manager, Todd Zavodnick.

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Continued from page 1

publication has become a reality and we are now accepting submissions at www.ijwdonline.org. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for more information about the IJWD, and consider contributing to its success by submitting content and spreading the word among your colleagues.

Much excitement and anticipation is brewing about our new WDS website and member database system, which will serve as a useful tool for members and prospective members to find information and support. As we prepare to launch in December, we do hope you enjoy the fresh, new look of WDS! Website Committee Chair, Michael Ming, MD, Communications Chair, Marta Rendon, MD and our headquarters staff have been hard at work on this project, and we are all very eager to share it with you.

We continued to expand our presence in the international dermatology community in June, with a WDS networking reception during the Canadian Dermatology Society (CDA) Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada. WDS President-Elect Kathleen Hectorne, MD greeted over 80 guests and announced plans to host a WDS reception and leadership forum during the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver next year. Please mark your calendar now and make plans to join us there in June, 2015!

It’s hard to believe that eight months have passed already since the beginning of my Presidency, and a new year is just around the corner. I am extremely proud of all that we have accomplished to date, and excited by the many new initiatives on the horizon that we will celebrate at our Annual Meeting in San Francisco. I want to encourage every member - including our residents, international members and corporate partners - to get more involved in WDS. We welcome and value your voice and input. Please join us in continuing to shape and grow a very bright future!

Valerie D. Callender, MD
WDS President, 2014-2015
The WDS Membership and Communications committees teamed up recently to produce a video on the benefits of WDS membership. Featuring members talking about why they joined WDS and why they continue to stay involved, the video was filmed at the American Academy of Dermatology’s (AAD) meeting in Chicago in August and will be used as a marketing tool for member recruitment through the website and social media.

In the video, members cited a number of factors – including mentorship, networking and the potential for leadership development – as the top reasons for renewing their WDS membership.

C. Ralph Daniel, III, MD, said that the “enthusiasm of WDS members and the Society’s mission” are what first captured his interest and have inspired him to remain involved for over 17 years!

New WDS Membership Video

2014 Membership Drive Underway

The WDS Membership Committee, under the leadership of Elizabeth Martin, MD, launched a comprehensive membership drive in October. Focused on reaching out to members who did not renew in 2014 or before, along with several target groups for member recruitment (including hot prospects, state, regional and local society leaders, department chairs and residency program directors), the campaign’s goal is to increase WDS membership by 50%. “Thanks to the WDS leadership, the Membership Committee and others who have volunteered to serve as state chairs for the campaign,” said Dr. Martin, “we fully expect to reach our goal!”

If you have any questions regarding your WDS membership, please contact our headquarters office toll free at 877-WDS-ROSE (937-7673) and our staff will be happy to assist. If you know someone who is interested in membership, please forward their contact information to wds@womensderm.org and we will follow up with them.

Gold Rose Award Deadline is December 31!

The WDS is pleased to continue its recognition of excellence in health and beauty journalism with the Gold Rose Awards, to be announced February 1, 2015 and presented at the WDS Annual Meeting Luncheon (during the American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting) on March 22, 2015 in San Francisco. The submission deadline is December 31, 2014 and there is a $50 entry fee per award submission. For additional information, including award categories, guidelines and application details, please visit: www.womensderm.org/goldrose.
It’s official! After much planning and preparation, the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology (IJWD) is up and running - thanks in large part to the efforts of Jane Grant-Kels, MD, Dedee Murrell, MD and Neil Sadick, MD. According to Dr. Murrell, “Already we have an international editorial board, reviewers, a web page and at least two papers submitted!”

During the 2013 Annual Meeting, Dr. Murrell suggested that the Women’s Dermatologic Society (WDS) start a journal to help raise funds and increase the Society’s profile. “Some liked the idea, while others were skeptical, and we were asked to look into publishers and costs,” she recalls. Dr. Murrell met with two publishers at the EADV and obtained cost estimates from several others, while Dr. Grant-Kels followed up with a number of contacts and Dr. Sadick offered advice on production costs and fundraising.

Through a series of conference calls, the team worked to develop the idea and presented their proposal to the WDS Board of Directors in August. A vote was taken to move forward, with Drs. Grant-Kels and Murrell serving as Co-Editors, and Dr. Sadick assisting with fundraising for advertising (as well as providing editorial assistance with surgical/cosmetic articles). “I’ve been involved with editorial boards in launching multiple journals,” said Dr Sadick, “and the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology will no doubt help to advance the image of WDS and educate women around the world concerning health needs.”

The online publication (http://www.ijwdonline.org) is a refereed journal, designed to meet the continuing education needs of Women’s Dermatology Society members and the entire dermatologic community. The Journal bases its policies on the guidelines set forth by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, and all articles are open access and freely available to all readers.

While sub-section editors have been named to the Editorial Board, the IJWD is in need of reviewers and, of course, submissions. The IJWD aims for rapid peer review from the academic leadership of the WDS, as well as experts throughout the world. Those who wish to assist in reviewing submissions are asked to send an e-mail to Managing Editor Rachel Rose (rrose@uchc.edu), with their contact information and area of expertise.

“This will only be successful if the WDS membership gets behind the journal,” noted Dr. Grant-Kels. “It has taken a ton of work to launch this, but without submissions we will fail … and I know that all of us HATE to fail. Tell all your friends and colleagues about OUR new journal,” she urged, “submit articles, and say ‘Yes’ when asked to review! If you attend an interesting conference and hear a great lecture that would be of interest to our membership, please encourage the speaker to submit the lecture as a paper to our journal.”

The IJWD is published by Elsevier, the same publisher for other journals that WDS members are familiar with (including JAAD). Prospective authors are encouraged to visit http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/home#submit-paper for information and tutorials about the Elsevier submission system. In addition, an ‘Authors’ section of the IJWD website provides a wealth of information, guidelines and a list of topics for which submissions are being accepted. There is even an English Translation service available for those who might wish to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and conform to correct scientific English. According to Managing Editor Rachel Rose, “this system is user-friendly and each step will provide information on what is needed.”

All WDS members are asked to help spread the word throughout the dermatology community, and consider submitting an article. There is no page limit, no fee per page, no figure limit, and the turnaround will be short. There is, however, a fee to publish - as is the case for direct access journals – but the cost is less than most, and profits from the IJWD will help strengthen the WDS financially as well as academically, allowing the Society to continue its commitment to research, mentorship and networking.
For more than 40 years, the Women’s Dermatologic Society (WDS) has been helping women in dermatology realize and fulfill their greatest potential. Now is the perfect time to contribute to the Legacy fund to help build a solid future for the WDS. Make your pledge today!

The WDS Legacy Council wishes to recognize and thank the following donors who have made contributions through August, 2014, with their cumulative rose designation.

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Susan Marie Poelman, MD
Miriam Keltz Pomeranz, MD
Rainer Pooth
Helene & Mark Popovskvy, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Jennifer Levin Popovskvy, MD
Vera H. Price, MD
Phoebe E. Rabin, MD
Sharon Smith Raimer, MD
Vidyas Raghu, MD
Anne Ramsdell, MD
Ines Verner Rashkovsky, MD
Desiree Ratner, MD
Parisa Ravanfar, MD
Kelley Pagliai Redbord, MD
Paul Rehder, MD
In honor of Patricia Walker, MD
June & Jay Reich, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Amy Reisenauer, MD
In honor of Frances Starrs, MD
Marta Rendon, MD
Zakiya P. Rice, MD
Phoebe Rich, MD
Joyce Rice, MD
Brent Roberts, MD
Janet Louise Roberts, MD
Heather Dawn Rogers, MD
Nicole Rogers, MD
Susan S. Roper, MD
Diane Rose, MD
Marjorie Rosenbaum, MD
Karla Rosenman, MD
Amy Ross, MD
Elizabeth Faircloth Rostan, MD
Peter & Jane Rubin, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
San Luis Dermatology
Kathleen Sawada, MD
In honor of Mary Sawada
Larissa Scanlan Zaulyanov, MD
In honor of Tina Alster
Julie Schaffer, MD
Lori Scarafioti
Mimi Schatzberg, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Cynthia Schlick, MD
Adriana Schmidt, MD
In honor of Sandra Read, MD and 
Michel McDonald, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Donna Zinman, MD
Avis Yount, MD
Jane Y. Yoo, MD
Inia Yevich-Tunstall, MD
Cyndi Yag-Howard, MD
Jane Wolf
Katy Lynn Witt, MD
Jill Javahery, MD
Jane Y. Yoo, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Mary Williams, MD
Jill Waibel, MD
In honor of Florence Berson
Marcia Wade, MD
In honor of Memory of Marie Kasma
Margaret Whitfeld, MD
John Williams
Mary Williams, MD
Katy Lynn Witt, MD
Jane Wolf
Cyndi Yag-Howard, MD
Inia Yevich-Tunstall, MD
Jane Y. Yoo, MD
Avis Yount, MD
Donna Zinman, MD
The WDS wishes to thank the following donors who have made contributions through August 31, 2014.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Record-breaking Event in St. Louis

Each year, St. Louis, Missouri plays host to one of the largest breast cancer fundraising events in the United States, and the 16th annual Susan G. Komen St. Louis Race for the Cure® was no exception. On June 14, as tens of thousands of people came together to Race for a World Without Breast Cancer, the WDS was on hand to offer free skin cancer screenings, sunscreen samples and information. M. Laurin Council, MD and Ilana Rosman, MD led an awesome team of volunteers in screening 199 participants. Many thanks to La Roche-Posay for their ongoing support.

Playing Safe at the LPGA

Karen Beasley, MD from Maryland Laser, Skin & Vein Institute chaired the WDS Play Safe in the Sun event in June at the inaugural LPGA International Crown golf tournament in Owings Mills, MD.

WDS President Valerie Callender, MD joined residents from Howard University, University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University in greeting attendees, handing out sunscreen and encouraging everyone to have a free skin cancer screening. In all, 152 attendees were screened. The WDS is grateful to La Roche-Posay for their sponsorship of this event.

WDS Goes to the Beach!

Rachel Pritzker, MD (Event Director) and Rebecca Tung, MD were among 60+ volunteers from the WDS, the Chicago Dermatologic Society and the Chicago Park District at ‘sunsmart chicago’ on August 2nd at the North Avenue Beach. A record-breaking 647 people were screened during the event, which also provided education and awareness for individuals and families about safe sun practices, along with kid’s crafts and giveaways. Our sincere appreciation to Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for their enthusiastic and generous support of this and other WDS events.

‘Smart Girls’ Build Self-Esteem

While a resident at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jane Yoo, MD learned of the Dove Movement for Self-Esteem and contacted Christy DeSantis at Unilever for help in getting started. “Christy put me in touch with the ‘Smart Girls’ program at the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club in the Bronx,” Dr. Yoo recalls, “where we’ve held several events with teenage girls on topics that included acne and skincare, what it means to be beautiful, self-esteem and confidence, inner vs. outer beauty and ways to respond when they or a friend are being put down. Sarika Khanna, MD, a 2nd year resident at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, will continue working with the girls now that Dr. Yoo has moved on to a Mohs fellowship at Yale.

To find out more about this opportunity and how YOU can get involved, please visit: www.womensderm.org/selfesteem.
Women Dermatologic Surgeons Luncheon at ACMS

The Women Dermatologic Surgeons committee hosted a luncheon on May 3rd for 55 attendees at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge in Scottsdale, AZ during the American College of Mohs Surgery annual meeting. Participants engaged in lively conversation on topics that included work/life balance, the merits of an academic career in Mohs vs. private practice, and ways to increase Mohs mentoring opportunities. The WDS would like to thank our co-chairs Eva Hurst, MD and Deborah MacFarlane, MD, for organizing this event, along with George Tiemann & Co. for their sponsorship support.

Women in Dermatology History

Long time WDS members and dear friends Gloria Graham, MD and E. Dorinda Shelley, MD met in September at Dr. Graham’s home in North Carolina to continue work on their historical perspective about women in dermatology. To date, Drs. Graham and Shelley (both of whom served as WDS President) have collected a staggering 80 biographies from their interviews and hope to publish the collection in book form. We look forward to hearing more about their work and seeing the finished product!

Academic Derm Luncheon at SID

Female faculty chairs from diverse perspectives served as panelists at the Society for Investigative Dermatology / Women’s Dermatologic Society Academic Dermatologists Committee Luncheon on May 9th in Albuquerque, NM. Jenny Kim, MD, PhD, Alexa Boer Kimball, MD, MPH, Molly Kulesz-Martin, PhD and WDS Immediate Past President Amy Paller, MS, MD provided the 40 attendees - many of them early-career dermatologists - with an overview of their research and areas of interest, the importance of mentorship in their careers, tips on balancing life and work, and a number of career ‘pearls.’ Our thanks to event host Aimee Smidt, MD of the University of New Mexico.

Women Dermatologic Surgeons

(F to R): Co-hosts Eva Hurst, MD and Deborah MacFarlane, MD at the Women Dermatologic Surgeons luncheon at ACMS.

Academic Dermatologists Committee luncheon.

Taking a break from their work on a book project are E. Dorinda Shelley, MD (left) with Gloria Graham, MD at Dr. Graham’s home in Pine Knoll Shores, North Carolina.

WDS President Valerie Callender, MD and Past President Amy Paller, MD were ‘wrapped up’ in work at the Board of Directors meeting in Chicago. The scarf was a gift from Dr. Callender to Dr. Paller.
Through the generous support of Medicis, the WDS offers grants for residents and early career dermatologists to spend time away from their home institution or practice, learning new areas of dermatology and developing leadership potential. Here are some highlights from recent WDS Mentorship award recipients.

Caitlin Fink, DO
Mentored by Elizabeth Tanzi, MD

In April, 2013 I had the honor of being mentored by internationally-renowned cosmetic and laser surgery dermatologist Elizabeth L. Tanzi, MD in Washington, DC. This was my first experience with body contouring treatments, and I tried to absorb as much as possible on the use of neurotoxins and fillers.

Dr. Tanzi demonstrated the highest standard of care, compassion, patience and kindness, putting her patients at ease by explaining exactly what was happening in a very down-to-earth manner. She answered every question I had about lasers during clinic and continues to do so. It’s good to know that she is only an email away! Following my mentorship, I instituted a “Cosmetics Boot Camp” for first year residents at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and I am still just as excited about lasers today as I was then.

I am so thankful to Dr. Tanzi, WDS, and our award sponsor for this opportunity, which inspired me to better my craft as a dermatologist, follow Dr. Tanzi’s example with regard to patient care and someday become a WDS mentor in order to pass on the knowledge and insight I’ve gained.

Markus Boos, MD
Mentored by Anna Bruckner, MD

I had the pleasure of working with Anna Bruckner, MD in the multi-disciplinary Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) clinic at The Children’s Hospital of Colorado. There, I saw firsthand how a multi-disciplinary approach to patient care involving a dermatologist, dentist, physical therapist, social worker, mental health professional and wound care expert provides optimal support for this complex and difficult condition. Caring for patients with EB in the inpatient setting was an important adjunct to my learning experience, and the benefits of multi-disciplinary care were reinforced in Dr. Bruckner’s Genodermatoses and Tuberous Sclerosis clinics.

I am very grateful to the WDS and our sponsor for supporting this endeavor, which allowed me to take part in specialty clinics currently unavailable at my home institution, while also expanding my clinical acumen by seeing how Dr. Bruckner, her colleagues and the awesome residents at the University of Colorado manage common conditions in a different patient population (not to mention a much drier climate!). Perhaps the most durable benefit of my experience, however, is that I have a new mentor and friend for life.

Please visit our website at www.womensderm/grants for further information on this and all WDS award/grant opportunities, including criteria, applications and updates on submission deadlines.
communities and provide dermatology services where none existed, while educating patients about skin disorders.”

Her mission has already been successful: to date, she has trained and mentored 20 dermatologists, many of whom continue to provide dermatology services in the public sector. At the same time, she has worked with university faculty in compiling patient education pamphlets and posters to be made available in all major hospitals and clinics. The initiative, aimed at empowering patients to learn more about their skin conditions, has received strong support from the Department of Health.

Among Dr. Dlova’s many professional interests are ethnic skin and hair, general dermatology, teledermatology, and HIV and skin. She is the author of *A Clinical Atlas of Skin Conditions in HIV/AIDS: An Illustrated Management Guide for Healthcare Professionals* (Health and Medical Publishing Group, South African Medical Association; ISBN 1-875098-40-2 2010). Dr. Dlova has written for and published collaborative research in international journals, serves as a reviewer for several medical journals, is an invited lecturer around the world and is involved in several dermatology-related research trials.

Along with her academic pursuits, Dr. Dlova is actively involved in a number of professional societies, including the Dermatology Society of South Africa (President of the organizing committee for the Combined Continental Congress of Dermatology); the American Skin of Color Society; the International Society of Dermatology (Maria Duran Executive Committee member); and the newly-formed African Society of Dermatology and Venereology (Executive and Planning Group member). In addition, Dr. Dlova serves as an Executive member of the L’Oreal Ethnic Skin and Hair Scholarship Committee, and in 2013 she chaired and organized a College of Dermatology workshop aimed at standardizing fellowship exams in South Africa.

When asked how she manages to juggle the demands of work and family, Dr. Dlova gives credit to her extremely supportive husband, Themba (a family doctor) and son, Wakithi (a first year medical student at the University of Cape Town). “We all help one another with household chores,” she says, “and my helper Phili makes our lives easier by assisting with the running of our household.”

Aside from her busy career and time with her family, Dr. Dlova enjoys reading, cycling and travel. “I think travel is a great eye-opening experience,” she observes, “that widens one’s horizons.” Dr. Dlova also enjoys working with children, and is fascinated by the human brain. Considering other career possibilities, she says, “If I had not specialized in dermatology, I think I would have ended up being a pediatrician or psychiatrist!”

Two years ago, Dr. Dlova attended a WDS networking reception during the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) meeting and was inspired to join WDS after meeting and speaking with Dedee Murrell, MD, Susan Taylor, MD and Amy McMichael, MD. She has enjoyed getting to know other members, and is excited to learn more about the work being done throughout the WDS - particularly with regard to mentorship. “Our junior residents and consultants would like to spend time abroad,” Dr. Dlova notes, “learning aspects of dermatology that are not covered during their training due to limited resources. Through the WDS, we can establish links for an exchange program.” She has already been approached by WDS members who would like to visit South Africa and spend time in her department – something she looks forward to, as “we have amazing times with international colleagues!”

Continued on page 15
WDS Reception in Toronto

The Fairmont Royal York was the setting for the WDS reception at the Canadian Dermatology Association (CDA) Annual Meeting on June 27th in Toronto. More than 80 guests enjoyed refreshments, networking and a short presentation from WDS President-Elect, Kathleen Hectorne, MD, who spoke about the work being done by WDS members and gave a sneak preview of the WDS reception and leadership forum scheduled to take place during the World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver, BC in June, 2015.

“I would very much like to thank our fantastic hosts in Toronto for inviting us,” said Dr. Hectorne, “and am excited to explore the possibility of future partnerships with our Canadian colleagues!” The WDS would like to thank Galderma for their generous support of this event, along with Chantal Courchesne, CEO of the Canadian Dermatology Association, and Afsaneh Alavi, MD for their assistance in coordinating the logistics.

WDS Reception/Leadership Forum Planned for 2015 World Congress

Building on the success of the WDS Member Enrichment and Leadership Development (MELD) forum last fall, a WDS International Leadership Forum is now being planned in conjunction with the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver, BC, Canada next June. On Sunday evening, June 7th at 6:30 pm, the WDS International Committee will host a welcome reception and we encourage all World Congress attendees to join us for refreshments, networking and catching up with old friends. The leadership forum, taking place on Monday, June 8th, will feature guest speakers, panel discussions and opportunities for open dialogue. Both the welcome reception and leadership forum will be held at the Fairmont Pacific Rim, and Monday’s program will conclude in time for attendees to enjoy the ILDS World Congress Opening Ceremony that evening. Keep an eye on the WDS website and the winter 2015 newsletter for further details and registration information, and we’ll look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

Dr. Ncoza C. Dlova

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A few months ago, the Dermatology Registrar Forum of South Africa (DRASA) – consisting of residents, academics and private dermatologists - was formed to create mentorship and networking opportunities, establish research collaboration and address topics that may not be covered in mainstream congresses. Dr. Dlova hopes to invite WDS members to present at this forum, usually a half day, pre-congress activity. At the same time, DRASA members will be encouraged to join WDS in order to open up networking opportunities and learn from WDS members around the world.
• Congratulations to WDS Service Committee Co-Chair Latanya Benjamin, MD and Joseph, proud parents of Hayley-Analyn, born July 18!

• Our thanks to Jane Grant-Kels, MD, Dedee Murrell, MD and Neil Sadick, MD for their tireless efforts in making the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology (IJWD) a reality! More information - including submission details - can be found on page 7 of this issue.

• Based on the outcomes of the WDS Industry Visioning Work Group (IVWG) forum held earlier this year, the IVWG Council – chaired by Wendy E. Roberts, MD – has completed both an abstract and a journal article for publication. The abstract will appear in the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology, and the article has been submitted to the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology (JAAD).

Note: Bold font in newsletter articles indicates membership/sponsorship in The Women’s Dermatologic Society.