Letter from the Chair

Dermatology Town Hall Meeting
On Tuesday, October 15, 2002, we will replace our regular 8 AM to 9:30 AM Grand Rounds with a Dermatology Town Hall Meeting. We will take this opportunity to show our community many of the exciting activities that are ongoing in our Department. We will have time for your input and suggestions for the future directions. Please join us if you can. The newsletter insert has further information.

Stanford Dermatology Residency
Six new residents were welcomed to our training program on July 1st. Each day that we work with our residents, we are excited about the future of dermatology and the high quality of medical education that continues in the United States.

Connetics Corporation has funded an additional three-year resident position that will start on July 1st, 2003. This position will provide greater flexibility to our residency program and allow individual residents to spend a portion of their effort on basic or clinical research as well as developing new and more effective methods of teaching clinical dermatology.

Eugene M. Farber Endowed Chair
Fund raising continues for the Eugene M. Farber Endowed Chair in Dermatology at Stanford University. At this time we are $300,000 short of the required $3 million. We appreciate all the assistance that many of you have already given to support the programs here.

Gene Therapy
The manufacturing process necessary to precisely make billions of copies of a combination viral vector and corrective gene has delayed the initial clinical trials of gene therapy for epidermolysis bullosa. Each week brings us closer to our goal.

Medical Students
We have a major challenge within our medical school this year because of the success of our teaching program. Nine Stanford students are applying for dermatology residency. It appears that dermatology is currently the most competitive residency to obtain in the United States. According to the Dean’s Office, the very top Stanford students have been motivated to choose dermatology as a career this year. We are working diligently to help them be successful in matching for a dermatology residency. Thank you to all of our Voluntary Clinical Faculty who continue to help in our teaching efforts.

Sincerely yours,
Al Lane

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2002</td>
<td>S. F. Derm Society Conference</td>
<td>UCSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15, 2002</td>
<td>Dermatology Town Hall Meeting</td>
<td>M112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9, 2002</td>
<td>SF Derm Society Conference</td>
<td>Stanford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6, 2002</td>
<td>Stanford Dermatology Holiday Party</td>
<td>Schwab Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 25, 2003</td>
<td>S.F. Derm Society Dinner Meeting</td>
<td>San Francisco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20 – 26, 2003</td>
<td>Pre-AAD &amp; AAD Annual Meeting</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23, 2003</td>
<td>Stanford Reunion at AAD Meeting</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12, 2003</td>
<td>SF Derm Society Conference</td>
<td>UCSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30 – May 4, 2003</td>
<td>Society of Investigative Dermatology (SID)</td>
<td>Miami Beach, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7, 2003</td>
<td>SF Derm Society Conference</td>
<td>Stanford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Faculty Changes

Cory A. Dunnick, M.D., joined the Stanford Dermatology faculty as a Clinical Instructor on February 1, 2002. She obtained her undergraduate degree in biology and medical school training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She then went to Denver for her internship in internal medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Cory completed her dermatology residency at Vanderbilt University in June of 2000 and served as chief resident from 1999-2000. She studied the role of estrogen receptor beta in skin and skin cancer as a Dermatology Foundation Fellow from 2000-2001 and was a member of the Vanderbilt Dermatology faculty. Cory first came to Stanford in the summer of 2001 and started to work as Voluntary Clinical Faculty. She spent some time working for Kaiser Permanente in Redwood City. Her husband is currently a neuroradiology fellow here at Stanford. Cory is interested in all aspects of general dermatology.

David F. Fiorentino, M.D., Ph.D., joined our faculty on July 1, 2002. Before obtaining his MD, David worked for several years studying T cell regulation and cytokines, with much of his work resulting in the initial description of interleukin-10. David obtained his MD, PhD from Stanford University in 1998. His graduate work was in molecular immunology in the laboratory of Dr. Gerald Crabtree. After a year of internal medicine internship at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, David completed his dermatology residency at Stanford in June of 2002 and served as co-chief resident in his final year of residency.

Because of his background in immunoregulation, David has a special interest in autoimmune and connective tissue diseases of the skin. He is developing the Cutaneous Autoimmunity Clinic at Stanford. This clinic will specialize in the management of patients with lupus, dermatomyositis, scleroderma, vasculitis/vasculopathy, Raynaud’s/perniosis, and neutrophilic dermatoses (e.g. Sweet’s syndrome, pyoderma gangrenosum). David will be working closely with Dr. Alexandra Kimball in our clinical trials unit, as he is also interested in providing patient access to novel therapeutics in the context of clinical trials. David welcomes any patients that you may have for referral.

Mark W. Sornson, M.D., Ph.D., joined our faculty on July 19, 2002. He obtained his MD, PhD at the University of California at San Diego. For his PhD research, Mark discovered the cause of a type of genetic dwarfism in mice and humans, and investigated the embryonic development of the pituitary gland. He completed a one-year transitional internship at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego. Mark then came to Stanford University, where he completed his residency in dermatology and research fellowship in June of 2002.

Currently, Mark is a postdoctoral research fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Matthew P. Scott, where he is studying differences in healing between fetal and adult mouse skin. As fetal skin heals without scars, a better understanding may provide methods of improving adult healing. Mark is also a part-time clinical faculty member, and welcomes patients for referral.

Karen Y. Nishimura, M.D., has relocated to the Sacramento area and is now practicing dermatology at Sutter Medical Group in Roseville, California. Karen is greatly missed by Stanford dermatology faculty, residents, and staff.
**New Residents**

**Ellen de Coninck** is a graduate of UC Riverside and attended medical school and did her internship at Stanford. Since starting residency, Ellen has been busy studying and getting settled into her new place in downtown Palo Alto. She looks forward to getting back into salsa dancing, reading murder mysteries, and starting up with projects which were postponed during internship. She is from Southern California and keeps finding new and exciting things to do in the Bay Area. Ellen is looking forward to getting to know her colleagues as she finds her niche in Dermatology.

**Howard Liu** is originally from Virginia, attended undergraduate school at UC Berkeley, medical school at UC Davis and did his internship at Stanford. Prior to starting his residency, Howard was a Cutaneous Lymphoma Fellow for a one year. He believes the dermatology residency program will provide him with a broad learning experience from the strong teaching credentials of the attending faculty and the extensive research opportunities within the department. Howard’s derm interests are cutaneous lymphoma and general dermatology and personal interests include music and drama.

**Ngoc Pham** was born in Vietnam and came to the United States at age 8. She lived in Texas and went to Rice University as an undergraduate, then to Stanford University for medical school. She went to Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara for her first year post-graduate studies. Her hobbies include flag football and golf. Ngoc is extremely excited on starting her dermatology residency and hopes to have a strong clinical knowledge of skin diseases.

**Stefan Weiss** is originally from Florida and studied philosophy at Yale as an undergraduate. During medical school at Duke, he completed a fellowship in bioethics at the NIH and earned a master’s degree in clinical research. The focus of his research was assessing the quality of life of patients with psoriasis. Stefan’s interest is in health policy and he has spent summers on Capitol Hill and the Department of Health and Human Services. He is hoping to weave together a career that allows him to blend his interests in clinical dermatology with his interests in policy and clinical trials. Stefan is looking forward to taking advantage of his time in California by kayaking, hiking and biking.

**Samantha Wyatt** moved to Palo Alto last year for her internship in internal medicine at Stanford. Prior to the move she and her husband lived in Birmingham, Alabama where she attended medical school at University of Alabama. They enjoy the Bay Area and are looking forward to the next three years and raising their first child, due in January, who will hopefully be a great surfer. Sam has found the first two months of dermatology training challenging but very enjoyable. She is looking forward to continued stimulating clinics, grand rounds, journal clubs, and the opportunity to get to know everyone!

**John Williams** joined Stanford's Dermatology program this year as a third year "visiting" resident from Harvard's program. Having short-tracked into research, he choose to work in the laboratory of Dr. David Relman in the Department of Infectious Disease at the VAPAHCS. He hopes to redefine the composition of "normal" skin flora and identify infectious causes of known skin diseases. This past year has been quite an adventure for John and his spouse, from relocating cross-country (which included driving a 20 foot truck with a car in-tow), to having their first child, to changing training programs. Having been here for just over two months, they know they made the right choice.
**2002 Residency Graduates**

Kristine Ahern, M.D. is practicing at the Camino Medical Group in Sunnyvale, California. During her residency she focussed her training at pediatric dermatology and lectured on topics like "Systemic Medications in Dermatology" and "Basic Morphology".

David Fiorentino, M.D., Ph.D. is a full time faculty member at the Stanford Dermatology Clinic and directs the Cutaneous Autoimmunity Clinic. See Faculty Changes section on Page 3.

Kimberly Horii, M.D. is now an assistant professor of pediatrics (section of Dermatology) at the University of Missouri at Kansas City at Childerns Mercy Hospital. During her residency Kim participated in a research study comparing adolescent and parental health state utilities for "Acne vulgaris". She was a co-author of the Dermatology chapter in *Pediatrics for Medical Students* and an article for *Newborn Infant Nursing Reviews* entitled "Evidence-based use of emollients in neonates". She presented a case report at the AAD Meeting entitled, "Cutaneous Myiasis In A Child." Kim was co-chief resident in her final year of residency.

Serena Mraz-Gernhard, M.D. is now in private practice at the Solano Dermatology Associates in Vallejo, California. During her residency she was co-investigator in a study entitled, "A Phase I, Multiple-Dose, Dose Escalation Trial of Intravenous Humanized Anti-CD3 Antibody (HuM291) in Patients with CD3+ T-cell Lymphomas." She presented papers at scientific meetings and conferences on cutaneous lymphoma and co-author several publications.

Paul Reicheter, M.D. is now in private dermatology practice in Roseburg, Oregon. During his residency he lectured on multiple topics including, "Sarcoidosis", "Small Vessel Vasculitis", "Staphylococcus Aureus" & "Dermatology A to Z." He participated at various scientific meetings to present topics such as "Dermatological Manifestations of the Pro-embolic Prothrombin Gene Mutation G20210A", "Heterozygous prothrombin G20210A gene mutation in a patient with skin ulceration and superficial vascular thrombosis of the lower extremities" and "Mucormycosis Treated by Mohs Micrographic Surgery".

Mark Sornson, M.D., Ph.D. is continuing his research with Dr. Matthew Scott of the Department of Developmental Biology. He is also a part-time faculty member at the Stanford Dermatology Clinic. See Faculty Changes section on Page 3.

---

**Please join us for the**

**Stanford Dermatology Town Hall Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, October 15th

Time: 8:00-9:30am

Place: Room M112

**Purposes:**

- To update the Dermatology Community on current research, specialty clinics, and clinical trials
  - Outline future direction of Stanford Dermatology
  - Open forum for input and suggestions