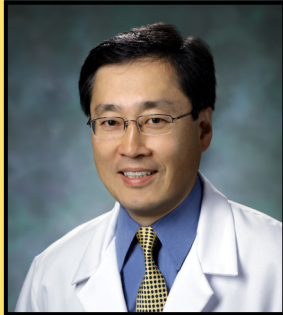




Johns Hopkins Dermatology News

Pursuing with excellence the missions of research, education, and patient care

Chairman's Corner



As we approach the end of another academic year, I am happy to share with you some news from the Department of Dermatology. On July 1, we will be welcoming four residents and a Pediatric Dermatology fellow to the Department, as well as our inaugural Procedural Dermatology fellow, Dr. Cathy Lee Tran.

We will also welcome a new full time faculty member to the Department in July. Dr. Max Fischer will be joining us after completing a fellowship at New York University. He will be working in our Dermatopathology division alongside Dr. Janis Taube. We are excited to be expanding the Dermatology family.

I enjoyed connecting with many alumni at the Johns Hopkins reception at the American Academy of Dermatology meeting this past March, and I am grateful to all of the alumni and friends who attended.

In this issue of our newsletter we will be highlighting two faculty members that were recently published in *Science Translational Medicine*, a highly respected and leading scientific journal in addition to recent departmental events and updates.

For those of you who may be traveling to the Baltimore area this season, please make sure to let us know. We would love to see you and reconnect. To all of our friends, supporters, and alumni, I hope you enjoy the issue and have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,
Sewon Kang, MD
 Noxell Professor & Chairman

Residency and Fellowship Graduates Prepare for the Future

All three senior residents in Dermatology will each continue their education in Dermatology next year in fellowships across the United States.

Dr. Amena DeLuca, Chief Resident, plans to pursue a Procedural Dermatology fellowship at the California Skin Institute in San Mateo, California. Dr. DeLuca's program specializes in Mohs surgery and other dermatologic surgical procedures.

Dr. Cathy Lee Tran will remain at Johns Hopkins in the Department as a Procedural Dermatology fellow after graduation from residency. She will be the Department's first Procedural Dermatology fellow, and will work closely with Dr. Timothy Wang in the Dermatologic Surgery division learning Mohs,

and will train extensively in cosmetic dermatology procedures.

Dr. Mark Tran will pursue a fellowship in Dermatopathology. Dr. Tran will train at Stanford in the Dermatopathology Division and rotate in Surgical Pathology.

In addition, we congratulate Dr. Anna Bender, who spent the past year as the Pediatric Dermatology fellow and served as an attending in the adult dermatology clinic. Dr. Bender will be on faculty at Weill-Cornell in New York City.

We wish all of our graduates the best in their future endeavors and thank them for their contributions during their years at Johns Hopkins.

27th Annual Zeligman Lecture: Photobiology Expert speaks at event to honor Dr. Israel Zeligman

This year, the Department of Dermatology celebrated the 27th annual Israel Zeligman Lectureship. Dr. Zeligman was the former Chairman and a supporter of the Department at the time of its establishment in 1972. He remained on faculty until 1990. The Lectureship was established in 1983 by colleagues and dermatology residents to honor Dr. Zeligman's many contributions to the Department. Over the years, members of the Zeligman family have been strong supporters of this fund, and original donors continue to give.

Earlier in 2012, Tess Zeligman, the wife

of Israel Zeligman, passed away at the age of 93. Tess was a kind and gentle woman who supported her husband's legacy at Johns Hopkins for many years, and attended the lectureship annually.

The 2012 lecture was given by Alice Pentland, MD, James Sterner Professor and Chair of the Department of Dermatology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Her lecture was entitled "Photobiology of the Skin," and was attended by faculty, residents, alumni, and friends.

Dr. Pentland is an expert in photobiology and skin cancer, and specializes in



Sewon Kang, MD, Alice Pentland, MD, and Bernard Zeligman, MD, at the Annual Zeligman Lecture.

treating patients with complex medical dermatology. She has dedicated her career to incorporating state-of-the-art technology in healthcare, and has created a rich interdisciplinary environment in the Department that encourages research and innovation.

Class of 2014 Resident Match: Four residency slots filled

The Department looks forward to welcoming four new residents and two fellows on July 1, 2012, and has already gone through the match process for the following year's residents. After completing their internship years beginning this July, the following individuals will join the Department as residents in July 2013:

- Ashley Anthony, Johns Hopkins University Medical School
- Hana Jeon, University of California Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine
- Shawn Kwatra, Wake Forest University School of Medicine
- Omolara Olowoyeye, George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Dr. Olowoyeye is currently serving as the Wound Healing Fellow in the Johns Hopkins Department of Dermatology.

We look forward to welcoming these new residents in a year, and wish them the best during their years of Internal Medicine internships across the country.

Supporting Our Work

At Johns Hopkins we strive to provide excellent clinical care for each patient, train future leaders in dermatology, and pave the way in discovering diagnosis and treatment of skin conditions. Unfortunately, with dramatic cuts in federal funding, support has become limited especially for our research. Your private donations allow us to maintain innovative studies in such fields as melanoma, autoimmune disease, ethnic skin conditions and wound healing.

To support these research efforts, please make your tax deductible check payable to:

Johns Hopkins Medicine
Department of Dermatology
601 North Caroline Street, Suite 6062
Baltimore, MD 21287

For more information, please contact:

Kyleigh Helfrich
 Senior Associate Director of Development
 443-287-2036 / Email: dermgiving@jhmi.edu
<http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/dermatology/>

Two Papers in Science Translational Medicine by Faculty Members

Drs. Luis Garza and Janis Taube each published peer reviewed research articles in *Science Translational Medicine* this spring.

Dr. Luis Garza's paper focuses on male pattern baldness (*androgenetic alopecia*) and a prostaglandin called PGD2 and its role in the hair follicle cycle. Dr. Garza, an Assistant Professor, and his team determined that PGD2 is plentiful in bald patches and during the shedding phase of hair, leading to the conclusion that prostaglandins may be a catalyst to baldness. Both the *L.A. Times* and the *Baltimore Sun* ran stories on his research article, and he was featured on radio spots and television shows, including Latin American CNN and CBS News.

Dr. Garza's team began to study male pattern hair loss. While it does not cause any incapacitation per se, understanding it may help provide insight into other male hormone related diseases such as prostate cancer.

Dr. Janis Taube, Assistant Professor and Dermatopathology Director, partnered with

scientists at Yale to investigate how melanoma cells use a protein to hide themselves from immune cells poised to attack the cancer. Indeed, 38% of their sample of melanoma tissues contained the B7-H1 protein (or PD-L1). The researchers believe this protein could be the target for new therapies.

In the study, Taube and colleagues determined that some melanoma cells express the B7-H1 protein to make themselves invisible to T-cells that express interferon gamma which triggers cancer-fighting mechanisms in the body. However, the interferon gamma also leads melanoma cells to make even more B7-H1.

"It's a self-defeating process that may explain why immune cells penetrating melanomas can't kill them," explained Taube. By blocking the B7-H1 expression of melanoma cells, Dr. Taube believes that the existing immune cells and targeted therapies have a better chance of defeating the skin cancer.

Kropfelder Golf Tournament: Event raises awareness and funding for melanoma research in memory of David Kropfelder

On May 7, 2012, Johns Hopkins dermatologists joined forces with the David Kropfelder Melanoma Foundation at its 8th Annual Skin Screening and Golf Tournament.

For the last nine years, the Foundation has been a strong partner and advocate of the Johns Hopkins Department of Dermatology.

The annual event raises funds to support the melanoma cancer research efforts of the Department. In addition to a day of golf, the Foundation provides a complementary skin screening for all players and volunteers on site.

Dermatologists Sewon Kang, M.D., Amena DeLuca, M.D., Tamia Harris, M.D. and Timothy Wang, M.D. screened 44 attendees

(11 women and 33 men). Of those screened, thirteen were referred to a dermatologist for a potential biopsy and three basal cell carcinomas were identified.

The Department is grateful to the Kropfelder family, friends, and board for their continued support and skin cancer awareness efforts.



Drs. Timothy Wang, Amena DeLuca, Tamia Harris, and Sewon Kang provided skin screenings for participants at the annual David Kropfelder Melanoma Foundation Golf Tournament in May.

Dr. Thomas T. Provost: Memorium to a Colleague and Leader in Dermatology



Earlier this spring, the Department of Dermatology lost a dear friend, colleague and great advocate for Johns Hopkins Dermatology.

Dr. Thomas T. Provost, the former Director of the

Department of Dermatology passed away after a battle with colon cancer. Dr. Provost was an internationally acclaimed investigative dermatologist, renowned for his expertise in autoimmune-blistering and connective tissue diseases. His accomplishments at Johns Hopkins inspired the Noxell Company to endow a Professorship in Dermatology, to which he was the first to be appointed and remains the Chair held by his successors.

A dynamic man of great warmth and empathy, Dr. Provost cared deeply for his faculty and staff. He was a true Johns Hopkins physician, in the spirit of Dr. William Osler, adamant about treating the whole patient not just the immediate condition. He nurtured many young investigators, helping to promote their careers. After his retirement in 1996, his colleagues established The Provost Young Investigators Fund to honor his 15 year commitment to the Department. The Fund was established to provide start up funding for young clinician-scientists in Dermatology. These funds are a vital source of support for junior faculty members. We will greatly miss Dr. Provost and we send our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

If you would like to support The Provost Young Investigators Fund, please send your tax-deductible contribution to: *Johns Hopkins Department of Dermatology/Provost Young Investigators Fund, 601 N. Caroline St., Suite 6062, Baltimore, Maryland 21287.*

Awards & Recognitions

- Nada Elbuluk, MD, 2nd year resident, was awarded a research grant from the Skin of Color Society to study the stretch stimulus on skin pigmentation.
- Julie Zang, MD, PhD, 2nd year resident, received a grant from the American Acne & Rosacea Society to research aberrant antimicrobial peptide processing in ocular rosacea.
- Sewon Kang, MD, Chairman & Noxell Professor, was elected President of the Photomedicine Society, an international organization of physicians, molecular biologists, physicists and engineers, at the annual meeting in March 2012.