TOUCHING LIVES

COLLABORATIONS

in Clinical Service, Education and Research

The First 10 Years of the

DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY

at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Welcome to the Department of Dermatology’s 10-year review. We achieved departmental status on July 1, 2002. I’m proud to celebrate a decade of exceptional growth and achievement here with you.

Since 2002, we’ve grown from an eight-faculty division providing general dermatology services at a few outpatient locations to a 24-faculty independent department with many subspecialties practicing in nine different clinics throughout Madison. Our clinical charges have increased from approximately $34M in 2002 to over $43M in 2012, and our clinical revenue has increased from $2M in 2002 to almost $15M in 2012.

Our education program began with six residents in one track. Now, we train 14 residents in two tracks plus an advanced fellow, are well positioned to secure continued grant funding for our work.

What's driven our success? One key factor is collaboration: the crucial interplay between our clinical, educational, and research efforts.

For example, increased faculty and patient volume means we can offer specialized services at dedicated clinics. Then, in our education programs, we can use these specialty clinics to efficiently expose students, residents, and fellows to more patients with acute and complex conditions, which also improves clinical care over the long term.

A robust clinical and educational infrastructure, in turn, enriches training opportunities for the many doctoral and postdoctoral trainees who seek us out as faculty as advisors. Those trainees work alongside established investigators who are leaders in dermatology research in the nation. In addition to their groundbreaking laboratory work, they conduct patient-based studies that aim to find better treatments for skin cancers and other cutaneous diseases.

With this demonstrated commitment to research and the patient base to support it, we are better positioned to secure continued grant funding for our work.

Collaborations also reach beyond our department into our healthcare system, campus, nation, and world.

At the UW Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center, our faculty are an integral part of clinical teams that, together with medical, radiation, and surgical oncologists, provide multidisciplinary care for patients with skin cancer. Vice Chair for Research Hasan Mahler, PhD, also co-directs the chemoprevention research program there.

Dermatology faculty provide clinical services, including Mohs surgery and dermatopathology, for the VA hospital in Madison and general dermatology services in Tomah. An outstanding “incubator” for physician-learning, the VA service has become a cornerstone of our resident education program.

On the local academic front, our faculty are peer reviewers for pilot grants seeking funding through the School of Medicine and Public Health’s SMPH Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. They also participate in interdepartmental and interprofessional reviews for pilot grants seeking funding through the UW Institutional Review Board.

Across campus, our faculty mentor PhD students from several interdisciplinary programs housed across the SMPH, the School of Medicine and Public Health’s SMPH Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, and the UW Institutional Review Board.

They serve on the editorial boards of dozens of journals, and are on review panels for the NIH and other funding agencies.

All of these activities demonstrate the power of collaboration: when our clinical, educational, and research missions elevate one another and create a whole that’s greater than the sum of its parts.

That’s how we advance the Wisconsin Idea: by strategically combining all of our resources to improve the lives of our fellow citizens.

In addition to thanking our dedicated faculty and staff for making us the premier dermatology program that we are today, I want to express our gratitude to everyone whose strong support has made our achievements possible: SMPH Dean Robert Golden, MD; former SMPH Dean Philip Farber, MD; SMPH’s President and CEO, Jeffrey Grossman, MD; UW Hospital and Clinics CEO Donna Katen-Bahensky; and their leadership teams. I am honored to direct this exceptional department, and I look forward to our continued progress.
George Reizner, MD

We take pride in providing world-class dermatology services for our patients. But in the past 10 years, we’ve tripled our faculty and added specialty services in such areas as contact dermatitis, psoriasis, cutaneous lymphomas, dermatopathology, and psychosomatic medicine. Deepen clinical capabilities mean even better care for our patients, and more learning opportunities for trainees.

Our dedicated Mohs surgery faculty expanded to include a stronger presence in the medical school curriculum, a combined internal medicine/dermatology residency, an ACGME-accredited Mohs surgery fellowship, and a NIH-funded research training program. We’ve cemented our reputation as an outstanding place to train and attract high-caliber applicants every year.

As we look at the years on the road, 10 years, I’m confident that our commitment to collaboration will steer our growth. Here’s to the next decade of dermatology.

—George Reizner, MD

Stephen Snow, MD, whose leadership made Mohs surgery the international standard for removal of non-melanoma skin cancers, retired in 2012 after 30 years of practice at UW-Madison.

Dr. Snow was one of Dr. Frederic Mohs’ first trainees in 1981, and the commitment to Mohs surgery helped establish the procedure as the standard of care around the world. He gave over 30 presentations; published over 70 articles, 22 book chapters, and four books; trained almost 40 fellows; and helped physicians in China and South America establish Mohs clinics. He held leadership positions in national and international Mohs societies, and will continue to publish and teach in retirement.

Our research activities have evolved into a full-fledged, cohesive program that includes a full spectrum of basic, translational, and clinical projects focusing on cancer and skin diseases. We’re proud of our research productivity and even more proud of our work’s potential to help our patients live better lives.

As we set our sights on the next 10 years, I’m confident that our commitment to collaboration will steer our growth. Here’s to the next decade of dermatology.

—George Reizner, MD

Stephan Snow, MD (left) pictured with Gary S. Wood, MD
“That means the world to me.” Jennifer said. She said she would never ask me to stop doing what I love,” Jennifer said.

Dr. Pulchalsky established specific guidelines for the clinic, which is an integral part of our residency and medical student education program.

That is one of our newest faculty, Justin Endo, MD, plans to develop a clinical and educational program in psoriatic dermatology—a subspecialty that does not yet formally exist. When established, this program will be the first of its kind in the nation to educate residents in the care of a growing population with unique health issues.

As our new faculty develop additional clinical niches in pediatric dermatology and dermatopathology, we will consider adding fellowships in these areas. Our residency programs will also continue to evolve as we respond to new ACGME requirements and add three residents over the next few years.

In addition, our translational research program will grow as our basic researchers incorporate more human tissue into their studies and expand collaborations with our clinical researchers. We’ll also get some traction on a Skin Diseases Research Core Grant that we will submit in 2013. This grant will allow us to reserve 26 investigators from across the UW-Madison campus to share expertise, techniques, and new equipment as they collaborate in the fight against skin diseases.

With the increasing demand for our clinical services, and the trend toward our interventional programs, physician and medical resident compensation continues to challenge us, Anne Ross, MD, is one of our faculty who will evaluate telemedicine as a potential solution while we continue to explore the possibility of expanded facilities.

Jennifer Lindskoog has suffered from chronic urticaria, or hives, for 10 years. When her symptoms were at their peak, her body, hands, and feet were almost completely covered with rashes. They itched constantly and interfere with sleep, work, and other life activities—draining her passion, horseback riding.

Jennifer became a patient of Rita Lloyd, MD, six years ago. She was immediately impressed by Dr. Lloyd’s desire to examine Jennifer’s condition—celebrating one of her hives, rather than just relieving symptoms. Together, they identified environmental factors that exacerbated the condition. “Dr. Lloyd was sympathetic and empathetic in her approach to care. Led by George Peatnair, MD, and Gloria He, MD, PhD, our faculty work closely with pathologists and oncologists at the UW Carbone Cancer Center’s multidisciplinary melanoma clinic. They provide advanced surgical and medical interventions and work toward better prevention and treatment through education, research, and outreach.

Mohs Surgery. Five faculty (Juliet Aylward, MD; Gloria He, MD; Andrew Snowden, MD; Eric Berg, MD; and William Aushenbaugh, MD) now staff our Mohs surgery clinic, which provides innovative surgical treatment for skin cancer using a method originally developed by UW physician Paul Mohs, MD. Dr. Mohs’ legacy also lives on through our Mohs/ procedural dermatology fellowship, which trains new physicians in the technique each year.

Psoriasis: Patients who have psoriasis—a disorder in which ongoing management and attention to quality of life is key—can now seek treatment at a dedicated weekly clinic led by David Pulchalsky, MD. They have an impact on a patient’s self-image, causing significant emotional distress. In addition, some psychiatric diseases cause skin manifestations. We are one of the few departments in the nation to have a faculty member, Laden Mostaghimi, MD, dedicated to psychocutaneous medicine. She offers integrated dermatology and psychiatric services and conducts clinical research on the relationships between skin disease, employment, and others.

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At the Department of Dermatology, education has always been more than a set of programs. It’s a state of mind, and our way of life. From training dermatologists in the art and science of patient care, to cultivating the next generation of research scientists, to sharing our expertise with colleagues, the spirit of teaching and teamwork guides every effort.

Empowering Future Physicians

Through her many years of service on the SMPH admissions committee, Anne Rosin, MD, has played a vital role by identifying superior medical students. These students’ clinical education begins in the classroom. Our faculty and residents worked together to develop an integrated dermatology rotational course that has been part of the medical school curriculum since 2009. This innovative course introduces foundational dermatology principles, provides the first introduction to clinical disease, and encourages participation in the spirit of teaching and teamwork.

Joyce Teng, MD, supervised pediatrics residents in each of her clinic sessions, and Jack Longley, MD, began teaching weekly dermatopathology training sessions for pathology residents. After completing residency, our graduates have gone on to pursue careers in academic medicine at the University of California at San Francisco and San Diego, and other leading institutions. In the coming years, Dr. Aughenbaugh will continue expanding the programs’ focus to emphasize quality improvement, leadership development, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Our one-year procedural dermatology fellowship, commenced by the ACAMG, has just been reaccredited for five years. It offers advanced training in Mohs micrographic surgery and an array of reconstructive and cosmetic dermatology procedures. This fellowship continues the legacy of Fredric Mohs, MD, a US physician renowned worldwide for his innovative approach to skin cancer surgery.

One student said, “The PS/Dev's small group study with the patients was the single most beneficial hour of my medical training so far. My first-year resident was deeply engaged, and it was also very down to earth, and all the patients were great. If this type of education were available at all other programs, we would be more prepared for the real world.”

These collaborations are often the starting point for future biomedical research careers—careers that aim to improve the quality of human life through clinical application.

For our faculty, our role is to prepare students for a future in medical research. This includes providing mentors and study colleagues. Faculty partner with colleagues from five other SMPH departments to train for future innovators. Each year, areas of interest include cutaneous oncology, inflammatory disorders, and molecular dermatology.

Connecting With Colleagues

Collaborations abound in the framework of department educational events. Every week, clinical and research faculty come together for Grand Clinic rounds, research conferences or didactic sessions. FREE weekly hands-on medical events right alongside clinical residents.

Our educational outreach programs provide another wonderful opportunity to broaden professional connections. Physicians from around the region attend our annual Milestone Lectureship, during which we invite a noted clinician educator or researcher to address the dermatology community. In addition, we host visiting professors from across the nation and abroad.

Every year, we also host the spring meeting of the Wisconsin Dermatologic Society, which typically present at numerous state and national society meetings all year long.

From Resident to Faculty: A Reflection

Looking back on the last four years as a dermatology resident and fellow, Andrew Stearns, MD, expressed his pride in our faculty—”is struck by the department’s collegiality and its educational program’s advances.”

As a first-year resident, he immediately felt valued and treated like a colleague. Because of his love for teaching, he was invited to help develop and lecture in the new integrated dermatology course for medical students. “Dr. Aughenbaugh didn’t feel threatened, he was interested in helping the next generation of dermatologists learn.”

People are here because they love what they do,” he said. “Dr. Aughenbaugh has made a tremendous effort to foster education and patient care, focusing on how people learn, and teaching the next generation of dermatologists to harness that energy and help them become outstanding clinicians.”

Training Tomorrow’s Researchers

Beyond the classroom and clinic, our educational efforts extend into laboratories throughout the department. Undergraduate, graduate, and PhD students throughout the SMPH and UI-Madison not only complete our academic training, they also work closely in a variety of clinical settings, providing the first opportunity for residents to earn academic credit.

For example, our faculty are the thesis advisors for students from a number of UW programs, including the Molecular and Environmental Toxicology Center, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Cellular and Molecul Pathology, Comparative Biomedical Sciences, and Food Sciences. Future researchers from all over the world—Europe, Brazil, Sweden, Costa Rica, Korea, China, Germany and India—also come to our faculty’s lab to complete advanced research training.

Since 2007, our department has offered a state-of-the-art, postbaccalaureate research training program through a National Institutes of Health-funded T32 grant. Faculty partner with colleagues from five other SMPH departments to train for future innovators. Each year, areas of interest include cutaneous oncology, inflammatory disorders, and molecular dermatology.

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From humble beginnings a decade ago to today, the Department of Dermatology has never been more prosperous. Our work, though diverse, has a singular goal: to discover preventions and treatments that make a difference in people’s lives—today, tomorrow, and long into the future.

**Cancer Biology and Botanicals**

Our laboratories include six basic research faculty and more than 35 staff, trainees, and students. Their work is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, foundations, and nonprofit organizations.

Underpinning their efforts is a shared interest in the biological mechanisms and environmental factors that lead to cancer and skin diseases, and a deep desire to enhance treatment options for patients who suffer from these diseases.

For example, scientists in the laboratory of Vice Chair for Research Hasan Mukhtar, PhD, are working to identify novel biomarkers for lung, and prostate cancer. Their goal? To identify biologically derived agents that can be used for the prevention and tumor-specific treatment of those cancers.

Dr. Mukhtar’s lab is also researching whether botanically derived agents can be harnessed for the treatment of psoriasis.

Research from the lab of Vijay Satlani, PhD, seeks to better understand the molecular biology of epidermal cells, and the structure and progression of melanomas, an aggressive form of skin cancer. Because melanoma is often fatal and hard to spread, scientists are working to identify methods to suppress melanoma tumors beyond the skin.

In addition, our faculty further cancer research through collaborative projects with investigators at Stanford University, the University of California at San Francisco, Northwestern University, the University of California at Los Angeles, and Verna R. and Vincent C. Lombardo Institute in San Antonio, the University of Kansai in Japan, and the International Society for Cutaneous Lymphomas.

**From Student to Scientist:**

Vijay Satlani, PhD, trained to further define the role of resection, an antioxidant found in grapes, nuts, and berries, in cancer prevention and treatment. One study found that resveratrol enhances zinc accumulation in the body, which may help fight the spread of prostate cancer cells.

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**Bridging the Bench and Bedside:**

Because laboratory research is one step toward improved patient care, our research faculty engage in translational and clinical studies that lead to treatments.

For example, they have collaborated on an institutional translational research grant to develop disease-specific induced pluripotent stem (IPS) cell lines. This leading-edge work may provide a model to better understand and develop new treatments for potentially debilitating congenital skin diseases, such as ichthyosis and epidermolysis bullosa.

Transplant patients may someday experience the benefit of translational research from Gloria Xu, MD, PhD, and Narendra Speigman, MD, PhD. Together, they are exploring the genetic pathways that influence the development of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, a disease that is up to 250 times more likely to occur in transplant recipients who take immunosuppressive agents.

Recent trials show how much clinical research and patient care go hand-in-hand. Department Chair Hasan Mukhtar, PhD, completed his PhD in medical and environmental toxicology under the guidance of Dr. Mukhtar. His work focuses on three-dimensional modeling to better understand the structure of melanoma cells and the effects of ultraviolet light on skin. He is also investigating how dietary factors may help slow the growth of melanoma cells.

“Research in labs is important because of its potential for real-world applications. Ultimately, I want to develop research that can be translated to the bedside.”

—Deeba Syed, MD, PhD, research associate and recent PhD graduate

**Italian Collaborators Help ‘Deliver’ Green Tea Polyphenols to Prostate Cancer Cells**

A collaboration between Imtiaz Siddiqui, PhD, Hasan Mukhtar, PhD, and Gloria Xu, MD, PhD, in Italy is helping advance prostate cancer research.

As part of their work on an American Cancer Society grant investigating targeted delivery of EGCG, a type of green tea polyphenol, to prostate cells, Drs. Siddiqui and Xu contacted Mario Sechi, PhD, and Vanna Sanna, PhD, of the University of Sassari.

Drs. Siddiqui and Xu have extensive experience characterizing and synthesizing nanoparticles. When they visited Dr. Mukhtar’s lab in the summer of 2012, they were able to synthesize nanoparticles that could deliver the green tea polyphenol EGCG to prostate cancer cells.

A collaboration between Imtiaz Siddiqui, Hasan Mukhtar, and Gloria Xu, MD, PhD, research associate and recent PhD graduate
Drug Trials Offer Effective Treatment for Patients with Cutaneous Lymphoma

Mycosis fungoides, or MF, is a common form of T-cell lymphoma that can cause skin irritation, plaques, ulcers, and tumors. For patients with MF, it can be difficult to find comfortable clothing, sleep, or even carry out the tasks of daily life.

But in a clinical trial led by Gary S. Wood, MD, two patients with early-stage MF entered remission after being treated with a new formulation of vinorelbine mustard oral tablets.

After being diagnosed with MF, George Hertzner, from Madison, Wisconsin, received several types of treatment for MF, it can be difficult to find comfortable clothing, sleep, or even carry out the tasks of daily life.

Another patient, Elaine Brukwicki, had seen Dr. Lloyd for MF, but had switched dermatologists due to a change in insurance. When she received a letter from Dr. Lloyd about the study, she decided to participate and see if the medication could help. Indeed, it was effective: after completing the study, all of her MF lesions were gone and have not returned.

"Being in the study was awesome—everyone treated me with the utmost respect," Elaine said. "It was a really positive experience, and I was happy to do something that might help other people with MF."

Claire Gary S. Wood, MD
Gary S. Wood, MD
Genova F. & Stune Johnson Professor

Professors

Niral Ahmed, PhD
Nelson H. M. Hagen, Class of 2012
Professor

Eric R. Berg, MD
Vice Chair-Research

Betty L. Mkaeny, MD
Vice Chair-Administration

Evan P. Meltzer Professor

George T. Piemont, MD
Professor Vice Chair-Dermatology

Gary S. Wood, MD
Professor

Masaki Fujikawa, MD
Vice Chair-Pathology

Rebecca Lamon, PhD
Promotions Resident

Dr. Larry S. Cooper, MD
Visiting Professor

Samantha McMillan,” Dr. Hanser, Education

Administrator, said of these trials: "It’s a great opportunity for our faculty to work on cutting-edge research and contribute to the medical community."

One of the key goals of the Clinical Trials program is to provide a platform for residents and fellows to engage in research and develop their skills in a clinical setting.

"We are constantly looking for new and innovative ways to improve the care we provide to our patients," Dr. Hanser said. "Through these clinical trials, we are able to offer our patients the latest and most effective treatments available."
ENDOWMENTS
We honor a number of UW faculty and former patients through endowments that support leading-edge research on skin disease and cancer.

Derek J. Cripps Endowment for Skin and Cancer Research
Established in 2008 to honor the 40-year career of Derek Cripps, MD, our second dermatology section chief. Dr. Cripps' groundbreaking research on the effects of ultraviolet light on the skin led to the development of the SPF sunblock rating system. Funded by donations from alumni and current faculty, the endowment supports research on the causes, prevention, and cures of skin diseases.

The Ruth Emily Walters Ratcliff Trust
Established by retired dermatologist Hubert Moss, MD, and his wife Mary, this lectureship brings noted clinician educators and researchers to the local dermatology community.

LECTURESHIPS
The George Reizner Lectureship
Established by dermatology faculty member George Reizner, MD, this lectureship supports the keynote speaker for the Wisconsin Dermatological Society's annual meeting at UW.

The Evan P. and Marion Helfaer Professorship of Dermatological Cancer Research
Supports the development of the department's research missions. Hasan Mukhtar, PhD, vice chair of research, holds the Helfaer Professorship.

The Geneva F. and Sture Johnson Professorship
This endowment was established in 2007 in honor of Frederic Mohs, MD, who pioneered and perfected micrographic surgery, a technique that is now the worldwide standard of care for skin cancer. Funded primarily by faculty, colleagues, and friends who want to honor his lifelong dedication to the patients who trusted him with their most sensitive and private problems, this endowment helps support the Mohs Professorship.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES
To learn more about giving opportunities in the Department of Dermatology, please:
• Visit us online at www.dermatology.wisc.edu/donate.htm;
• Contact Nancy Francisco-Welke, Managing Senior Director of Development, University of Wisconsin Foundation; phone: (608) 263-5960.
This snapshot demonstrates the Department of Dermatology’s extraordinary growth over the past decade. From 2002 to 2012, our clinical revenue increased from $2M to almost $15M, and our research portfolio grew from a modest program to over $15M. Since 2004, our faculty contributed over $7M to the department and to the School of Medicine and Public Health. Finally, our clinical presence has expanded from individual dermatologists at a few sites in 2002 to nine collegial, efficient clinics that had over 65,000 patient visits in 2012.

Total Contributions to SMPH and Dept. by Clinical Faculty

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DEPARTMENT SNAPSHOT

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
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Dermatology Clinical Locations

1. S. Park Clinic: 451 Junction Rd, Madison, WI 53717
2. UW Hospital and Clinics: 600 Highland Ave, Madison, WI 53792
   - General Dermatology
   - Mohs/Dermatologic Surgery
   - Dermatopathology
3. UW Health Transformations: 2549 Davenport Way, Middleton, WI 53562
4. West Clinic: 5249 E. Terrace Drive, Madison, WI 53718
   *Denotes multiple clinic locations

This snapshot includes contributions from the following:  
- Departmental funding: $5,604,850
- Grants: $2,572,121
- Endowments: $1,544,827
- SMPH: $651,236
- Personnel: $9,442,352
- Clinics: $5,604,850
- Research: $2,572,121
- Continuing Education: $289,994

DEPARTMENT SNAPSHOT

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Department of Dermatology Contacts
Administration and Education:
Department of Dermatology
One South Park St, 7th Floor
Madison, Wisconsin 53715
(608) 287-2620

Research Programs:
Department of Dermatology Research Laboratories
Medical Sciences Center, #436
1300 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
(608) 263-4195

Credits
Department of Dermatology:
Faculty: Nihal Ahmad, PhD; William Aughenbaugh, MD; Juliet Aylward, MD; Eric Berg, MD; Justin Endo, MD; Rita Lloyd, MD; B. Jack Longley, MD; Hasan Mukhtar, PhD; George Reizner, MD; Vijay Setaluri, PhD; Andrew Swanson, MD; Gary S. Wood, MD; Gloria Xu, MD, PhD;
Staff: Jennifer Hanser, Michael Hetzer, Tisha Kawahara, Barbara Lies, Janeen Running, Deeba Syed, MD, PhD, Brenda Ziegler

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Michelle Martin Photography

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UW Health Media Services: Christopher Frazee, John Wingren