For those of you who have visited me in my office at UNC, you know that I have a special affection for Abraham Lincoln. As I think about all that’s happened in our Department since I last wrote this column, I noticed a quote from Abe hanging in my office that made me think about how proud I am to be a part of this team.

First to come to mind is Dr. James Patterson who was with us as a resident and as an educator – providing surgical training for many years. Residents have always appreciated his skill and dedication. In the past, residents have noted that he is a “wonderful teacher” who “fosters confidence.” When I received the letter about his retirement from academics effective July 1, 2012, I was saddened by our loss. I feel the same way as one of our residents who said how much they appreciated his dedication to resident education. Dr. James Patterson is an outstanding individual who has made UNC proud both as a private practitioner caring for patients in his community and for his commitment to training future generations of dermatologists. I understand that in his now full retirement, Jim will be pursuing his other passion – FISHING! This place is proud of this man.

We are also proud of Dr. Nancy Thomas, who has been appointed as the first Irene and Robert “Al” Briggaman Distinguished Professor. It is because of all of our alumni that we are able to bestow such an honor. This is another example of all of us living in a way that expresses pride in our heritage and current accomplishments.

As you know, we relocated to a new clinical space in the Southern Village Community a few years ago. The team in dermatology has made this a clinical and educational home where we offer optimal care and training. We now find ourselves “busting at the seams” trying to care for the patients in need of dermatological attention. So, our next exciting endeavor is to expand our clinical and educational capacity in this place we know as the Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center. We will be adding an additional patient care suite as well as expanding our patient waiting areas. This summer, we have two new physicians joining us who are included in the newsletter – Dr. Puneet Jolly (currently one of our chief residents) and Dr. Raj Varma, who joins us as a Mohs surgeon.

I am proud of our strong research program which was well represented at the Society for Investigative Dermatology held in Raleigh NC in May.

Our place is looking forward to hosting the Southeastern Consortium for CME for Dermatology this fall, October 26-28. There will be a special reception for UNC alumni at Courtyard Marriott on Saturday, October 27, 2012 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm. We hope you will be joining us to celebrate with us this place to which we all have strong ties. Abe and I look forward to seeing you!
Farewell

On June 30, 2012, Drs. Shatil Amin, Anne Fender, Puneet Jolly and Rick McClain will complete their dermatology residency training. All four physicians will be honored at the Senior Resident Graduation Dinner on June 23rd.

We wish all of them much happiness and success in their future endeavors.

Shatil Amin, MD
Dr. Amin will be joining the Department of Dermatology Faculty at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL.

Anne Fender, MD
Dr. Fender will be joining a private practice, Hill Center for Dermatology, in Golden, CO.

Puneet Jolly, MD
Dr. Jolly will be joining the UNC Department of Dermatology on July 1st as an Assistant Professor.

Rick McClain, MD
Dr. McClain will be joining Advanced Dermatology Associates Ltd. in Allentown, PA.

Welcome

On July 1, 2012, we will welcome five new residents as they commence their dermatology training: Drs. Edith Bowers, Sarah Corley, Kirk James, Katherine Madden Roy and Patrick Retterbush.

Edith Bowers, MD
Dr. Bowers completed her undergraduate degree at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. She earned her medical degree from Duke University in Durham, NC. She completed her preliminary medicine internship at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro, NC.

Sarah Corley, MD
Dr. Corley earned her undergraduate degree from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and her medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Dr. Corley completed her preliminary medicine internship at UPMC Mercy in Pittsburgh, PA.

Kirk James, MD
Dr. James earned his undergraduate degree from UNC at Chapel Hill, NC. In addition, he also received his medical degree from UNC at Chapel Hill. He completed his transitional internship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, NY.

Katherine “Kate” Madden Roy, MD
Dr. Roy completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. She earned her medical degree from the University of South Florida College of Medicine in Tampa, FL. Dr. Roy completed her transitional medicine intern year at Lehigh Valley Health Network in Pennsylvania.

Patrick Retterbush, MD
Dr. Retterbush completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. He received his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA. He completed his preliminary medicine internship at University of Utah in Salt Lake City, UT.
2012-2013 Chief Residents Named

Drs. Anna Burkhead and Chris Sayed have been named Co-Chief Residents for the 2012-2013 academic year. They both received their medical degrees from UNC at Chapel Hill as well as completing their preliminary medicine internships here. Drs. Burkhead and Sayed are scheduled to complete their residency training on June 30, 2013.

We would like to thank our 2011-2012 Co-Chief Residents, Drs. Puneet Jolly and Rick McClain for their dedication, team work and commitment.

2012 Match Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2012 Match. The following individuals will be joining our residency program on July 1, 2013:

- Kevin Dahle, University of Utah
- Katie Fyall, University of Miami
- Kara Luersen, University of Hawaii
- Kelly Pearson, Rosalind Franklin University

Where Are They Now?

Aaron Wever (’06):

It is hard to believe that almost six years have passed since my residency. It seems like yesterday that we were running through scores of digital images with Dean at the helm.

My wife, Andrea, and I have a bustling household with our son, Ryan, now 2 ½ years old, and our daughter, Julia, 9 months old. We live in Davidson, NC and love the activities and events in this college town, a miniature Chapel Hill.

After completing residency at Chapel Hill in 2006, I have been practicing at Dermatology Group of the Carolinas in Concord, NC. With our twelve physicians, we are the largest private dermatology group in the Carolinas. Our monthly conferences feature visiting dermatology faculty from Duke, Wake Forest and UNC, and we challenge these visitors with our most complicated patients. We are fortunate to have our own pediatric dermatologist, Mohs surgeon, and dermatopathologist.

The Concord music scene has never rivaled Seattle, and it has taken a step backwards over the past three years. Two of my partners and I have joined up with a local bass player and drummer to form the band Skin Deep. Specializing in covers of 80’s big hair bands including Whitesnake, Bon Jovi, and Motley Crue, Skin Deep can be found performing at small venues and fundraisers to the embarrassment of other partners at Dermatology Group of the Carolinas!

Those three years of dermatology residency at UNC were a time to remember! I miss Dr. Goldsmith’s uncanny ability to pull an obscure diagnosis out of thin air based on two items of patient history. I miss Dr. Rubenstein’s humor and capers. Only he could submit a piece of banana peel to dermatopathology under the patient name, Nana Peel, and get a report. I miss Craig Burkhart’s spirit of adventure. On the morning of his wedding day, we met at Meadowmont for a relaxing jog, but found ourselves nearly passed out at the end of the 5K race that we stumbled upon. I was fortunate to have great faculty and residents to work with for three years, and thank every dermatology attending at Chapel Hill for all the great leadership, teaching and support.
Residents’ Corner (Continued)

Dermatology Boards
Shatil Amin ('12), Anne Fender ('12), Puneet Jolly ('12), and Rick McClain ('12) will be taking the American Board of Dermatology Certifying Exam on July 17, 2012.

Pediatric Fellowship
Drs. Dean Morrell ('01) and Craig Burkhart ('07) start UNC’s first fellowship training in pediatric dermatology on July 1, 2012. Dr. Shelley Cathcart, former UNC School of Medicine graduate and University of Alabama dermatology chief resident and graduate, will be returning to her home state to be our first fellow.

Medical Students
Our senior elective received visiting students from Emory University, Washington University, and the American University of the Caribbean.

International Electives
Currently, residents have the opportunity for two international electives: Australia and Brazil.

As part of the Brazilian Exchange Program, Daniela Vicencio, MD, a dermatology resident from Sao Paulo, Brazil, rotated in our clinics from February 8 to March 10, 2012. Also spending a month with us was Jussamara Brito Santos, MD, a Professor from Brazil, who worked with Drs. Nancy Thomas and Brad Merritt ('09) in their clinics.

If any resident is interested in either of these international electives, contact Dr. Diaz for more information.

Peru Elective
The Department is delighted to continue the collaboration between the UNC School of Medicine and the University of Trujillo, Peru School of Medicine. Dr. Luis Diaz and Dr. Marco Aleman continue to serve as faculty for this fourth year elective. UNC students have the opportunity to practice and improve their knowledge of conversational Spanish and Spanish medical terminology while improving diagnostic skills and learning to practice medicine in a different culture and with limited resources. Students also have the opportunity to learn the health care infrastructure and health provision in Peru.

This year four medical students from UNC have traveled to Peru and four students from UNT have traveled to Chapel Hill. They are:

**UNC**
Kelly Salter Acharya  
Ashley Garner  
Elizabeth Kirkland  
Sarah Knish

**Peru**
Roberto Calderón  
Monica Gutiérrez-Cruz  
Diego Morales  
Claudia Otiniano
Welcome New Faculty

**Dr. Puneet Jolly (’12)** will be joining the department July 1, 2012 as an Assistant Professor, specializing in high risk skin cancer patients. Dr. Jolly received his medical degree and PhD from Georgetown University in Washington DC, fulfilled his transitional medicine internship at Inova Fairfax Hospital/Georgetown University in Falls Church, VA and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at UNC at Chapel Hill, in the lab of Dr. David Rubenstein.

**Dr. Raj Varma** will be joining us August 1, 2012 as an Assistant Professor. He will be working with us as a Mohs surgeon and helping to train our residents in dermatologic surgery. Dr. Varma completed his dermatology residency at the University of Alabama. He has worked as a flight surgeon in the military and over the past year has been in private practice as a Mohs surgeon/dermatologist in New Bern, NC.

Farewell

**Dr. James Patterson** is retiring on July 1, 2012. He has been an incredible asset to our department, joining our department in 1984 as an adjunct member. Dr. Patterson has been training our residents in surgical techniques since 1993. He is a skilled dermatologic surgeon and a gifted teacher and while we wish him the very best, we will miss him very much.

Congratulations!

**Dr. Nancy Thomas** was appointed the first **Irene and Robert Alan Briggaman Distinguished Professor**. The professorship is named in honor of Dr. Briggaman, who served as chair of the UNC Department of Dermatology from 1987-1999, and his wife, Irene.

Congratulations to **Lola Love**, LPN, who was selected as one of the recipients of the 2011 PlusPeople Award. This honor is presented to UNC Health Care employees for their outstanding performance and service on the job.
Faculty, Alumni, and Staff News

UNC Faculty

Luis Diaz, Professor and Chair, has been appointed by the Board of Directors of the Society for Investigative Dermatology to serve as a member on the Committee on Honorary Membership. He will hold a three year appointment (2012-2015), which starts immediately after the SID Annual Meeting in May 2012.

Luis Diaz was appointed President, Association of Professors of Dermatology (2014-2016). He will begin his term as President Elect (2012-2014) and will conclude as Immediate Past President (2016-2018).

The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) hosted a community-based educational event at The Carolina Inn on March 31, 2012. Drs. Dean Morrell ('01) and Lenny Stein (UNC Rheumatology) presented the NPF More Than Skin Deep program “Psoriatic Arthritis: the other side of psoriasis.”

Donna Culton ('10) received the 2012 Dermatologist Investigator Research Fellowship, awarded through the Dermatology Foundation. Her project was entitled “The Role of Circulating Plasmablasts in Pemphigus: Lessons from Rituximab.”

UNC Staff

Aileen Mooney joined us in August 2011 as a Research Technician. She manages Dr. Donna Culton’s lab as well as the Immunofluorescence lab.

Kayla Shumate joined Dr. Zhi Liu’s lab in February 2012 as a Research Technician. Her main duties include mouse handling and ordering supplies for the lab.

In April 2012, Erica Davis and Carla Gray, Certified Nursing Assistants, joined our Southern Village Dermatology clinic nursing staff.

Congratulations to graduate students Lisa Heimbach and Lan Lin. Lisa received her PhD degree in Microbiology and Immunology on March 16, 2012. Lan received her PhD in Biochemistry Engineering in April 2012 in China.

Jaime Brozowski, Research Technician in Dr. Zhi Liu’s lab, has been accepted by UNC Biological and Biomedical Sciences Program (BBSP) and will start her PhD program in August 2012.

Alumni News

Brian Green ('09) was awarded the Bronze Star after his return in 2012 from serving in Afghanistan. He is set to be the associate program director of the dermatology residency at the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Dedee Murrell ('92) and Valeria Aoki, Assistant Professor of Dermatology at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, attended the HOME meeting (harmonizing outcome measures for eczema) in Amsterdam.
Publications


Karen Beasley (’00) recently completed her textbook, which has been published through McGraw Hill, entitled Sclerotherapy and Vein Treatment. She co-wrote it with her partners Robert and Margaret Weiss. In addition, she was invited to and recently completed writing the chapter, "Non-ablative Fractional Lasers," which will be in the textbook, Cutaneous and Cosmetic Laser Surgery.

Research Awards

Nancy Thomas and Kathleen Conway Dorsey, Co-PIs, NIH Expanded Development Project Grant [9/15/2011-8/31/2014] High Throughput DNA-Methylation Profiling from Fixed Melanocytic Tissues. High-throughput DNA-methylation array technology holds the promise of discovery of candidate DNA-methylation markers useful for improving melanoma diagnosis but must be valid on small formalin-fixed tissues embedded in paraffin blocks, which is typically the only diagnostic tissue available for primary melanomas and moles. The goal for this R33 is validation and advanced development of methodology is directly implemented for analysis of small formalin fixed paraffin-embedded specimens, along with identification of criteria for quality assessment.

Dr. Lowell Goldsmith, Professor Emeritus, co-edited Fitzpatrick’s Dermatology in General Medicine. He presented a copy to Mike Maldonado, a post doctoral research fellow from Peru. The book will be given to the UNT School of Medicine in Trujillo, Peru.
2012 Melanoma Patient Day Symposium

Close to 100 patients and families gathered at the Friday Continuing Education Center on February 15, 2012 to participate in the Melanoma Patient Day symposium. The event, sponsored by the Melanoma Research Foundation, the UNC Division of Surgical Oncology and the UNC Department of Dermatology, featured talks by faculty, staff and a patient’s family. David Ollila, MD, UNC Melanoma Program co-director and professor of surgery, welcomed participants and opened the symposium. Nancy Thomas, MD, PhD, Irene and Robert Briggaman Distinguished Professor of Dermatology and UNC Melanoma Program co-director, spoke on “Diagnosis of ‘Pink’ (Amelanotic) Melanoma.”

North Carolina Dermatology Association Recognized

The North Carolina Dermatology Association received double recognition at the American Academy of Dermatology’s 2012 Annual Meeting. The NCDA was recognized as a Model State Society for organizational and program excellence, and was also recognized for Outstanding Patient/Community Education for its education initiative on sun safety and the dangers of indoor tanning.

Walk to Cure Psoriasis

Dean Morrell (’01) served as the Medical Chair for this year’s Central NC Walk to Cure Psoriasis event, held on April 21, 2012 in Cary, NC. We had our own team!
36th Annual SEC Meeting

UNC Dermatology is hosting the 36th Annual Southeastern Consortium for Dermatology on October 26-28, 2012. The conference opens the afternoon of Friday, October 26 and continues Saturday, at The William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education. Patient viewing session will be held on Sunday morning at the UNC Health Care System Ambulatory Care Center, followed by patient lectures at the Medical Biomolecular Research Building, both located on the UNC campus. Accommodations are available at the Courtyard by Marriott, across the road from the Friday Center. Greensboro AHEC designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 11.5 AMA PRA category 1 credit(s).™

We have an outstanding line-up of lecturers, including Dr. John Stanley (UPenn), Dr. John Cropley (Univ. of Virginia), Dr. Gil Yosipovich (Wake Forest), Dr. Russell Hall (Duke Univ.), Dr. Robert Swerlick (Emory Univ.), and Dr. Alma Cruz (Univ. of Puerto Rico). This is in addition to UNC faculty lecturers: Drs. Donna Culton, Luis Diaz, Puneet Jolly, Aída Lugo-Somolinos, Brad Merritt and Dan Zedek.

Please note that there will be a special reception for UNC alumni at the Courtyard by Marriott in Chapel Hill on Saturday, October 27, 2012 at 5:30 pm.

For complete details, please visit the website at www.secderm.org

UNC Dermatology Clinical Trials Unit

Recruitment for the Pfizer Oral Tofacitinib study has ended.

Current ongoing studies include the Abbott Humira study, looking for subjects 18-55 to evaluate a possible connection between Psoriasis and cardiac risk. These patients will be provided Humira treatment for 6 months. Subjects cannot have been on biologics in the previous year. Subjects who speak Spanish are also eligible to enroll.

Upcoming studies include the new Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) study, which started in mid-April. This is a double blind placebo controlled trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of Humira in patients with HS. Patients must be 18+ and have had HS for at least 60 days prior to screening.

Subjects must have had an inadequate response to at least a 3-month (90 day) trial of oral antibiotics for treatment of HS (or demonstrated intolerance to, or have a contraindication to oral antibiotics for the treatment of their HS). HS lesions should be present in at least two distinct anatomical areas, one of which must be Hurley Sage II or III. Subjects who require or are expected to require, opioid analgesics for any reason (excluding tramadol) will be excluded.

Please contact Dr. Aída Lugo-Somolinos or Erika Hanami at erika_hanami@med.unc.edu for potential referrals and other inclusion/exclusion criteria.

For more information on these clinical trials, visit www.med.unc.edu/derm
Cherie Ezuka joined the Department of Dermatology on December 6, 2004 and has been a member of the UNC community since 1996. Cherie shines in her role as Residency Coordinator. She coordinates the multiple dermatology electives, including those students from other countries/states, manages the Department’s web site and plans/coordinates the Department’s many events. She is a team player in every sense of the word, helping out wherever and whenever needed.

Cherie is an ambassador for our department. With residency applicants, visiting residents, and medical students, she is the face of our training program. In the words of Dr. Dean Morrell “Our clinics would be (significantly more) chaotic without her efforts to organize our teaching mission. The residents and I would not be compliant with all the ACGME requirements without her vigilant (and militant) eye. In addition, she does everything else that doesn’t fit nicely into someone else’s job description.”

In her spare time Cherie is active in her church, especially in missions. She volunteers with many organizations committed to Autism and Alzheimer’s disease. A part time student, Cherie is working towards getting her Bachelor’s Degree in Management and Societies. She enjoys hiking in the NC Mountains, roller coasters, rollerblading, biking, or curling up on the couch with a good movie, music or book.
New Additions

Dan Zedek and his wife, Lauren, welcomed a son, Cameron, into their family on February 6, 2012.

On April 13, 2012, a daughter, Thea Grace, was born to proud parents, Emily Schwarz ('07) and husband Dave Damsker.

Engagements/Weddings

Kate (Madden) Roy ('15) married Pinak Roy on April 30, 2011.

Katie Sikora ('14) and Mike Viscusi married on May 6, 2012.

Congratulations to Research Technician Jaime Brozowski and Nathan Oien on their engagement. They plan to be married on July 13, 2012.

Meg Daly ('14) and Jay Pyle are engaged to be married on August 25, 2012.
Calendar of Events

**UNC-Duke Conferences (4:00 – 6:00 pm)**

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**The Annual UNC Conference on Melanoma**

The incidence of melanoma continues to rise rapidly in this country. Increasingly, the management of the melanoma patient requires multiple healthcare providers. This course is specifically designed for a multidisciplinary view of the care of the melanoma patient. The course faculty will examine common clinical issues which often confront the clinician and attempt to provide information that will help in their clinical decision-making regarding these difficult patient problems.

The 8\textsuperscript{th} Annual UNC Conference on Melanoma will be held on February 7, 2013 from 8 am to 4:30 pm at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. More information will be forthcoming.

**Save These Dates:**

- **October 26-28, 2012:** SEC Meeting
  University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

- **March 1-5, 2013:** Annual AAD Meeting
  Miami Beach, FL

- **May 8-11, 2013:** 2013 Annual SID Meeting
  Edinburgh, Scotland