



UNC-CH Department of Dermatology

Skin Healers

Summer 2007, Vol. 2, #1 A Newsletter for Alumni, Colleagues and Friends of the Department



From the Chair

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Clayton E. Wheeler, Jr., who passed away in Chapel Hill on February 4, 2007. The Tarheel Family mourns the

departure of our friend and leader. His exemplary life was dedicated to the education of generations of medical students and dermatology residents over the past six decades.

Dr. Wheeler was born on June 30, 1917 in Viroqua, Wisconsin. After obtaining his M.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1941 (AOA), he entered the residency program in medicine (1942-1948) and dermatology (1948-1951) at the University of Michigan. He was board certified in Medicine and Dermatology in 1951. From 1951 to 1962 he served as Assistant, Associate, and subsequently, Professor of Dermatology at the University of Virginia. In 1962, he was recruited as Professor of Dermatology and Chief of the Division of Dermatology at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine (UNC SOM). In 1972, he was appointed as the first Professor and Chairman of the newly created Department of Dermatology at UNC SOM, a position that he held until 1987 when he became Professor Emeritus. Dr. Wheeler was most recently honored with the UNC Mentor Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2005. Dr. Wheeler was a researcher, educator, and superb clinician. He actively worked in patient care until 2002 and in the teaching of dermatology to residents and medical students until 2004. During 2005, he came to the department to review skin disease slides with residents and medical students. Dr. Wheeler is author of over 150 publications including manuscripts, book chapters, and two books.

As a national leader in Dermatology, Dr. Wheeler was President of all the dermatological societies and received the major awards from these professional societies: President, SID (1974-1975);

President, APD (1975-1976); President, ABD (1978-1979); President, AAD (1984-1985); Rothman Gold Medal Award, SID (1979); The Clayton E. Wheeler, Jr. Distinguished Professorship, UNC SOM (1991); Gold Medal Award, AAD (1993); Masters in Dermatology, AAD (1993); UNC SOM and Medical Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award (1997), and University Mentor Award for Lifetime Achievement (2005) at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Dr. Wheeler married Ms. Brooks Overton in Sanford, NC on October 12, 1952. They were married 53 years and had three daughters: Susan Brooks Wheeler Slaughter, Margaret Ann Wheeler-Bawden, and Elizabeth Clayton Wheeler, and two grandsons, Clayton Lewis Slaughter and Jonathan Brooks Slaughter. Brooks' passing on June 3, 2005 was deeply felt by all of us.

Dr. Wheeler epitomized what it means to be a physician, teacher, and mentor. He was an extraordinary man whose personal characteristics and abilities bring the highest admiration and respect. He had a prodigious knowledge, a superior intellect, and the soundest judgment. These characteristics, combined with his warmth and great sense of humor gave all of us exposure to the best of the best!

Donations in Dr. Wheeler's memory can be made to the UNC Medical Foundation, noted for the Brooks and Clayton E. Wheeler, Jr. Educational Fund, and should be mailed to UNC Dermatology, 3100 Thurston-Bowles Bldg., CB#7287, Chapel Hill, NC 27599 to the attention of Emma Beckham.

Please let us hear from you about what's going on with you and your practice. As well, let us know if there is anything you would like for us to feature in our next newsletter. Send these items to the attention of Cherie Ezuka at cherie_ezuka@med.unc.edu.

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Residents' Corner

Farewell

On June 30, 2007, Drs. Craig Burkhart, Tara Byer-Parsons, Jim Liou, and Emily Schwarz completed their dermatology residency training. All four physicians were honored at the Senior Resident Graduation Dinner in June 2007.

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



Craig Burkhart, MD

Dr. Burkhart is a pediatric dermatology fellow at Northwestern in Chicago, Illinois.

Tara Byer-Parsons, MD

Dr. Byer-Parsons joined the staff at Carolinas Healthcare System in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jim Liou, MD, PhD

Dr. Liou is a Clinical Instructor at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

Emily Schwarz, MD, PhD

Dr. Schwarz joined the Dermatology Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as an Assistant Professor.

Welcome

On July 1, 2007, we welcomed five new residents as they begin their dermatology training: Drs. Donna Culton, Stephanie Diamantis, Kim Edhegard, Arin Isenstein, and Maren Shaw.



Donna Culton, MD, PhD

Dr. Culton completed her undergraduate degree at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. She earned both a PhD degree and medical degree from UNC at Chapel Hill. She completed her preliminary medicine intern year at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital.

Stephanie Diamantis, MD

Dr. Diamantis completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. She received her medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine of New York University in New York, NY. She completed her preliminary medicine internship at Duke University.



Kim Edhegard, MD

Dr. Edhegard earned his undergraduate degree as well as his medical degree from the University of South Alabama in Mobile, AL. He completed his internship at the US Army Institute of Surgical Research in Fort Sam Houston, TX.

Arin Isenstein, MD

Dr. Isenstein completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. She earned her medical degree as well as her preliminary medicine internship from the University of California in San Francisco, CA.



Maren Shaw, MD

Dr. Shaw received her undergraduate degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA. She earned her medical degree from UNC at Chapel Hill. She completed her pediatrics internship at the University of Medical & Dentistry NJ Medical School in Newark, NJ.

2007-2008 Chief Resident Named

Dr. Kelly Nelson has been named Chief Resident for the 2007-2008 academic year. Dr. Nelson earned her medical degree from the the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she completed her internal medicine internship. Dr. Nelson is scheduled to complete her residency training on June 30, 2008.

2007 Match Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2007 Match. The following individuals will be joining our residency program on July 1, 2008:

Chris Adigun	UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Mathew Davey	University of Nebraska College of Medicine
Amy Fox	Tulane University School of Medicine

Where Are They Now?

Amy Stein Drumheller ('04): Here is an update of my journey thus far:

Upon completion of dermatology residency, my husband Gary and I decided to pursue the next chapter of our lives as we continued to reside in Chapel Hill. Shortly after the Boards, we celebrated by taking an unforgettable Alaskan vacation. When we returned from this most memorable trip, I began working in a private practice at Durham Dermatology Associates. I slowly built up my practice as we expanded our office space. The excellent training that I received as a resident at UNC provided a smooth and easy transition into private practice, for which I am very grateful.

In January of 2006, life's greatest gift was bestowed upon us. Our son Jake was born, adding a brand new dimension to life. He has enriched our lives beyond what words can express and has allowed us to appreciate life and its special joys from an entirely different perspective. Although life is, indeed, more hectic these days, it is more fulfilling than I could have ever imagined.

In November of 2006, I became partner in our practice, the 4th partner to join (the practice was established 25 years ago). Although difficult, I am truly enjoying balancing the challenges and rewards of motherhood with working full time.

And finally in mid December, we moved into a new home. We look forward to a rewarding and satisfying future in this great neighborhood.

We continue to enjoy Chapel Hill probably even more now than ever before. It is an amazing place to live, especially for dedicated UNC fans. So, if any of you are feeling nostalgic and desire to venture back to North Carolina, we would love to see you.



Amy with her husband, Gary and their son, Jake.

Residents' Corner (Continued)

Camp Discovery

Tara Byer-Parsons ('07): Using my elective time in August, I had the amazing opportunity of volunteering at Camp Discovery at Camp Knutson in Crosslake, Minnesota. Camp Discovery offers children and teenagers with severe skin disease (ages 10-16) the opportunity to participate in a summer camping experience with other young people who have similar skin conditions. It was formed in 1993 by the American Academy of Dermatology. Children get to spend a week enjoying fishing, boating, swimming, water skiing, arts and crafts, and the chance to just be a kid.

There are currently four one-week camps, with three weeks in Minnesota at Camp Knutson and one week at Camp Horizon in Pennsylvania. The volunteers for medical staff and counselors are from all over the country. They include medical students, nurses, dermatology residents, and practicing dermatologists. Many of the counselors have serious skin conditions as well and help provide support and advice to the campers.

Through generous donations, the American Academy of Dermatology provides full scholarships, including transportation, to the campers. The Academy offers this experience to approximately 200 children each year. Eligibility is determined upon recommendation by the child's dermatologist and approval by the Camp Discovery medical director.

During my week at Camp Discovery, I learned so much-- not just about the medical and physical aspects of these rare dermatologic conditions, but I also gained much insight into the social and emotional components of these various skin diseases. At the camp, I worked with children with Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa, Epidermolytic Hyperkeratosis, various ectodermal dysplasias, Lamellar Ichthyosis, and Trichothiodystrophy, among others. I was amazed with the children's courage and strength. This camp allowed these children to lose the stigma of their outward appearance for one week and to feel accepted and loved in a positive and uplifting environment.

I feel so grateful to have had this remarkable experience. It is an amazing and life-changing

experience for volunteers and campers alike. If you are interested in volunteering or have a pediatric patient you would like to nominate for Camp Discovery, please contact Janine Mueller at jmueller@aad.org.



Dermatology Boards

Craig Burkhart ('07), Tara Byer-Parsons ('07), Jim Liou ('07), and Emily Schwarz ('07) will be taking the American Board of Dermatology's Certifying Examination in August 2007. Good luck!

International Electives

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

Deirdre Murrell ('93) states that two [**Eric Hanson ('03)** and **Mike Sullivan ('04)**] residents have taken electives in Australia with her, and others are welcome.

Several residents have taken the elective in Brazil, as part of the Brazilian Exchange Program. **Craig Burkhart** and **Tara Byer-Parsons** completed electives in Brazil: **Craig** in the Fall 2006 and **Tara** in the Spring 2007.

If any resident is interested in these international electives, contact Dr. Diaz.

Student Health Action Coalition

Residents and attending physicians in the Department of Dermatology are providing services in the community for low-income individuals with limited or no health insurance. They are doing this in collaboration with the Student Health Action Coalition (SHAC), which provides free general medical care to those in need.

The clinic, staffed by dermatology residents, faculty, medical students, and pharmacy students, started in August 2005 as a monthly clinic. Due to the very positive response from all parties, including patients and referring physicians, the clinic was expanded to a three hour bimonthly clinic and continues to be in high demand.

The impetus for action grew out of discussions between residents and students on an article about barriers to dermatologic care in a January 2004 issue of the American Academy of Dermatology (*Medicare, Medicaid, and access to dermatologists: The effect of patient insurance on appointment access and wait times* by Jack Resnick, et. Al.). In the article it was found that Medicaid patients were five times as likely as those with private insurance to be rejected as new patients in dermatology practices around the nation. These patients also faced significantly longer wait times. The group could not imagine the kind of barriers people with no insurance faced. Hence, dermatology residents, faculty, staff, and medical students created the Dermatology SHAC Clinic in an attempt to address this issue. Special thanks goes to **Dr. Craig Burkhardt ('07)**, who dedicated his time to organize this initiative.

Twice a month, a dedicated group of residents volunteer their time and efforts to serve as resident-coordinators for the clinic. Each patient is assigned two medical students who have the opportunity to interview, examine, and initiate treatment for the patients under the guidance of the residents. On-site dermatology faculty work closely with the medical students and residents to ensure proper care, medications, and follow-up appointments for clinic patients. Faculty and staff also unselfishly

volunteer their time within UNC Hospitals through extensive administrative help and by providing supplies, dermatopathology services, surgical services, and in-house consultations for difficult dermatology cases at no cost.

Volunteers typically see approximately 15 to 30 patients each evening session who are referred from the Piedmont Health System or are otherwise unable to access dermatologic care through the region's other clinics and hospitals. Presenting problems have been diverse including scabies, bed bugs, pemphigus, skin cancers, vitiligo, and keloids among others. While a typical clinic session lasts 3 hours, few residents, faculty, or students leave until the last patient has been given the needed care.

The response by the residents, faculty, and students to this evening session has been very positive. The clinic gives students a chance to be involved, first hand, in the care of skin disease and to look at "another side" of dermatologic care. Indeed, the clinic has influenced many students and residents to consider including indigent dermatologic care as an important part of their practices when they graduate. Faculty and staff also take pride in working for an organization that reaches out to give back to its community.

Medical Students

Our senior elective received visiting students from Tulane, University of Oklahoma, Medical College of Georgia, University of Texas, Case Western, and Gifu University, Japan.

Our dermatology resident exchange program has received several visitors from Brazil and Peru.

Residents' Corner (Continued)

Congratulations to the UNC residents who represented UNC well at the Annual AAD meeting February 2-6, 2007 in Washington, DC, in the DermPath Diagnostics Inaugural Dermatopathology SuperBowl. Out of sixteen competing schools, UNC made it to the final four, to be taken down by a very subtle myxedema slide in their face off with SUNY Stonybrook. Thanks to **Dr. Pamela Groben**, Dr. John Woolsey and Greensboro Pathology for the strong training.

Ana Benitez-Graham ('08) did a radio interview with Dick Gordon of National Public Radio, that was aired on February 22, 2007 regarding the struggles she went through, as many new immigrants to the United States, with English, cultural adjustments, and working long hours outside of school. Ana crossed the border from Mexico with her family when she was thirteen and she and all her siblings had to get full-time jobs, even when they were in school. Ana eventually had to drop out of school, but continued learning on her own, and made it to medical school. Ana tells of her path through the educational system and how this affected her relationship with her family, how she had moved beyond her family's cultural thinking and values. To listen to this interview you can visit www.thestory.org, click on archives and then click on February 22.

Craig Burkhardt ('07) was selected as "American Academy of Dermatology Member Making a Difference" which is a national program of the AAD Leadership Circle for Volunteerism Program for his committed volunteer work in initiating an indigent care clinic in our community. Craig is recognized for his dedication of time, skills, and energies to making a difference for dermatologists and their patients in local communities and throughout the world. As part of this recognition, Craig will be featured in the Members Making a Difference column in an upcoming issue of *Dermatology World* magazine, and he also will be honored at an awards luncheon at the 2008 American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting.

Emily Schwarz ('07)'s abstract was accepted and presented at the Gross and Microscopic Dermatology Symposium during the 65th AAD Annual Meeting. The Gross and Microscopic Dermatology Symposium was held on February 2-3, 2007 at the Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC. Emily's presentation was entitled, "Deep Juvenile

Xanthogranulomas Presenting in a Newborn as Blueberry Muffin Lesions."

Special Farewell to Two Faculty Members:

Thanks to both Dr. Grekin and Dr. Parsons for all of your contributions to UNC Dermatology residents, medical students, faculty and staff. Best wishes to you both!

Dr. David Grekin



Dr. Grekin joined the University of Wisconsin, Department of Dermatology in Madison, Wisconsin.

Dr. Dan Parsons



Dr. Parsons has joined the Carolinas Healthcare System, Department of Dermatology in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Faculty, Alumni, and Staff News



James Bear, Assistant Professor, Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, who collaborates with **Nancy Thomas**, Associate Professor, UNC Dermatology and **Pamela Groben**, Clinical Professor, UNC Dermatology, was awarded the Melanoma Research Foundation Junior Faculty Award for: The Role of Coactosin in Melanoma Motility and Metastasis.

Robert Briggaman ('67), past UNC Dermatology chairman, received an award from the American Skin Association in "recognition of his pioneering investigations of blistering diseases and his mentoring of numerous persons in cutaneous biology and medicine." The award was presented at The Society for Investigative Dermatology meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 4, 2006.

Luis Diaz, Chairman and Professor, UNC Dermatology, was invited to be the 24th Stiefel Visiting Lecturer for this prestigious lectureship in the United Kingdom May 17-23, 2007. During this trip, Dr. Diaz visited four centers and gave a lecture in London to the Dermatological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine on May 17. He lectured on the Etiology of Pemphigus as well as the Advances in Pemphigus and Pemphigoid.

Steve Feldman ('90), Professor of Dermatology, Pathology, and Public Health Sciences at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center School of Medicine, announced that his institution's tanning research showing it as addictive was covered in the national news. Their compliance research has been productive with several recent publications. He has started an online patient satisfaction survey service (www.DrScore.com), with over 200 physicians signed up to use it. Physicians send patients to the site and receive detailed patient satisfaction reports, while patients can view the doctors' overall scores.

Steve Feldman ('90), had a study published on patients' use of their medication in the JAAD this year. Patients are abysmal in their use of topical medications. As Dr.

Feldman states, "I think it explains the basis for Dr. Wheeler's comment, 'use new medications before they stop working.'"

Lowell Goldsmith, Clinical Professor of Dermatology and Epidemiology at UNC, became the editor-in-chief of *Journal Watch Dermatology*, a publication available to all practicing dermatologists and residents. Its parent journal is the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and is available in print and online. It does succinct reviews and commentaries on the newest literature of interest.

Lowell Goldsmith, was made an honorary member of the Society for Investigative Dermatology at their meeting in Los Angeles on May 11, 2007, and concluded his term as the editor of the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*.

Bob Goodrich ('03), has recently joined Greensboro Dermatology as a Mohs Surgeon. He joins another UNC Dermatology alumni, **Laura Lomax ('89)** at Greensboro Dermatology.

Anne Lachiewicz, UNC medical student, was awarded a Holderness Medical Fellowship for 2006-2007 for her project, "Can Lentigo Maligna Melanoma be Distinguished from Superficial Spreading Melanoma at a Molecular Level?" Her mentor in Dermatology is **Dr. Nancy Thomas**.

David Rubenstein ('97)'s NIH grant "Adhesion Junctions in Normal and Diseased Skin" has been renewed for another five years.

David Rubenstein ('97) co-chaired the 2007 Society for Investigative Dermatology Resident Retreat for Future Academicians held June 1-3 in Warrenton, Virginia, at which **David Dasher ('09)** attended.

David Rubenstein ('97) has been appointed as an Associate Editor for the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Janiel Shields, Adjunct Research Assistant Professor, Dermatology and Research Assistant Professor, Pharmacology, was a recipient of an NCI-sponsored Tumor Microenvironment Training Program Grant on "Techniques in the Establishment and Manipulation of Organotypic Model Systems." She attended a two-week training workshop at the Wistar Institute.

Faculty, Alumni, and Staff News (Continued)

Nancy Thomas, Pamela Groben, and Kathleen Conway Dorsey, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology at UNC, visited Sydney, Australia in June, 2006 to work with melanoma collaborators from the Genes, Environment, and Melanoma Consortium. They had the pleasure to visit **Deirdre Murrell ('93)**, who is the Head of Dermatology at The St. George Hospital and Professor at the University of New South Wales. They all attended the Melanoma Research 2006 Conference, where Dr. Thomas gave a talk entitled, "NRAS & BRAF – Signposts to Melanoma Pathways."



From left to right: Dr. Deirdre Murrell, Dr. Kathleen Conway Dorsey, Dr. Pamela Groben, and Dr. Nancy Thomas

Several members of UNC Dermatology attended the annual SID meeting in Los Angeles May 2007. These members and their talks follow: **Luis Diaz**: "IgM Anti-desmoglein 1 Autoantibodies are the Distinguishable Immunological Markers of Fogo Selvagem", **David Rubenstein ('97)**: "Autoantibodies in the Autoimmune Disease Pemphigus Foliaceus Induce Blistering Via P38MAPK Dependent Signaling," with coauthors **Paula Berkowitz, Zhi Liu, and Luis Diaz**; **Lisa Leighty**: "Identification of BP180 Pathogenic Epitope Using Humanized BP180NC16A Mice"; **Nancy Thomas**: "Association of MC1R Variants with BRAF Mutations in Melanoma Remains an Open Question"; **Anne Lachiewicz**: "Survival Differences Between Head/Neck Melanoma and Melanoma of Other Sites in the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER)

Program", and **Ning Li**: "Inhibition of Experimental Pemphigus in Vivo by the P53 Inhibitor Pifithrin-Alpha."

The UNC Melanoma Group was featured at the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center Annual Retreat at the Friday Center, Chapel Hill, NC on May 22, 2007. **Nancy Thomas**, David Ollila, Bob Millikan, and Ned Sharpless were the speakers for the first symposium topic entitled, "Melanoma-Translational Research on the Silent Killer." Fifty posters competed for prizes, and tied for third place in Basic Sciences was David Roadcap, Daniel Zedek, **Pamela Groben, Anne Lachiewicz**, Nickolas Holoweckyj, **Nancy Thomas**, and **James Bear**'s poster entitled, "Coronin-1C Regulates Actin Dynamics During Metastasis."

Publications

Matheis P, Socinski MA, Burkhart C, Warren S, Thomas NE. Treatment of Gefitinib Associated Folliculitis. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2006;55(4):710-713.

Nelson KC, Zhao M, Schroeder PR, Li N, Wetsel RA, Diaz LA, Liu Z. Role of Different Pathways of the Complement Cascade in Experimental Bullous Pemphigoid. *J Clin Invest.* 2006;116(11): 2892-2900. Epub 2006 Oct 5.

Reuter JC, **Long EM, Morrell DS, Thomas NE, Groben PA.** Eruptive Post-Chemotherapy melanoma in Situ and Dysplastic Nevi. *Ped Dermatol.* 2007;24(2): 135-137.

Shields J, Thomas NE, Penland S, Torrice C, Hao H, Arbiser J, Scott G, Zhou T, Der CJ, Kaufmann W, Sharpless NE. Phospho-ERK Activation and Signaling Demonstrates a New Type of Melanoma. *Cancer Research* 2007;67:1502-1512.

Stitzenberg KB, **Thomas NE, Ollila DW.** Influence of Provider and Practice Characteristics on Melanoma Care. *Am J Surg* 2007;193(2):206-212.

In May 2006, the University Managers Association (UMA) announced the Manager of the Year award, which is based on one's many university career accomplishments or one's significant university career accomplishment made within the past twelve months.

Emma Beckham, Department Administrator of Dermatology, was named the 2006 Manager of the Year. Having worked in Dermatology as the administrator since 2002, she was nominated by several co-workers and previous co-workers for this award. Emma was recognized for her caring, unselfish, and positive leadership. Emma was also recognized for being a strong advocate for self-improvement, always encouraging the staff to better themselves, and is quick to provide whatever resources are needed or necessary to achieve that. Emma was nominated by several faculty, who cited her recent efforts to transition several new faculty members by making the department an attractive place in which to work.

Emma was also cited for her important role in the planning, developing, and opening of a new dermatology center in Southern Village.

"Emma is one of the most dedicated, hard-working, unselfish people I have ever met in my 25 years here at UNC," said Linda Sorrell, Assistant to the Chairman. Emma's infectious positive attitude along with her integrity and dedication to the department sets the tone for the whole department.



Susan Williams, College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office, presents the 2006 Manager of the Year Award to Emma.

Spotlight



Patty Green, Mohs

Supervisor, has achieved ten years of state service. Since her start date of November 4, 1996, Patty has served the Department of Dermatology as the Departmental Safety Coordinator (for at least 6 years) and as the Mohs Supervisor.

From day one, Patty's expertise and support have been essential to the clinic operations in both the Chemosurgery Clinic and the Dermatology Clinic.

Dr. Robert Tomsick, Associate Professor and Mohs Surgeon, states that "I knew Patty would be a conscientious and dedicated member of the staff when she reported for work right after being hired while we were recovering from Hurricane Fran in 1996...with nary a word of complaint despite downed power lines and trees along her considerable drive." **Pam Fogleman**, Clinic Manager, states that "I rely on her (Patty) to be my backup when I am away from the clinic."

In her role as Supervisor, Patty is the one that seamlessly and efficiently runs the entire operation from the referral phone calls to the 5-year follow-up visits for each patient. She also ensures the Chemosurgery Lab is up-to-date on detailed CLIA certifications and JCAHO inspections. Her role goes beyond the Chemosurgery Clinic as she and her staff assist in the regular dermatologic surgery excision clinics each week. In addition, Patty coordinates the pigs feet lab as well as the live pig flap workshop, which are given every year for the residents. She is also a proficient and masterful instructor for new trainees. Patty is the "go-to" person whenever there is a question about how something is done.

Dr. Tomsick states that "Patty is an outstanding and much valued member of Team Mohs, and an operation such as the Chemosurgery Clinic could not run were it not for Patty Green."

Clinics and Services

Dermatology Connective Tissue Clinic

The tradition goes on in more than basketball. Connective tissue diseases have been a major clinical and research interest of the department for several decades. Folks such as **Ray Gammon ('74)**, Dan McCuliffe, and Heidi Jacobi are featured in the charts. The effect of smoking on reducing the effectiveness of antimalarials came from studies of these patients. Seeing patients with the immune and genetic connective tissue diseases continues with two sessions a month under the supervision of Dr. Lowell Goldsmith. There is a close association with the rheumatology unit of the Department of Medicine and many patients are seen jointly and new biologic therapies are being employed. We are always interested in consulting on challenging patients. The phone number for appointments is 919-966-2485.

Multidisciplinary Transplant Clinic

In June, 2006, the Department joined the new multidisciplinary transplant clinic. It is well known that transplant patients develop more skin cancers, especially squamous cell carcinoma, than the general population. These cancers are often more aggressive than usual and have a tendency to metastasize. Death from metastatic cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma is a significant problem in the transplant population. Additionally, because they are immunosuppressed, routine skin diseases (infections, etc.) may cause severe problems in transplant patients.

This new clinic was manned by Dr. David Grekin and will be continued under the leadership of Dr. Nancy Thomas and is a direct extension of the cutaneous oncology clinic, which includes melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer as well as cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. Please call 919-966-0785 with any questions for Dr. Thomas, and 919-966-5100 to refer patients.

UNC Dermatology Center at Southern Village

The UNC Dermatology Center at Southern Village offers intense pulsed light (IPL) treatments to patients with cosmetic and medical dermatological concerns. The ability to use different handpieces on the device with unique filters allows for treatment of many skin problems including vascular lesions and the redness of rosacea, lightening or removal of benign pigmented lesions, and removal of excessive hair. In addition, there is an infrared handpiece that we are using for skin tightening with very encouraging initial results. Fall,

2006, we started performing photodynamic therapy (PDT) using aminolevulcanic acid and IPL activation for severe actinic damage and treatment of basal cell nevus syndrome. Of course, all other dermatological conditions are treated as well at the UNC Dermatology Center at Southern Village.

Pediatric & Adolescent Dermatology Clinic

Within the UNC Pediatric and Adolescent Dermatology Clinic, Drs. Lowell Goldsmith and Dean Morrell initiated a study on atopic dermatitis (AD) with a research fellow (and future UNC Dermatology resident) funded by the Doris Duke Endowment Fund. They investigated the role of a designated "atopic dermatitis educator" within the clinic. The investigation sought to determine whether individual interaction with an atopic dermatitis educator affects the course of disease severity resolution and quality of life in atopic children. New and return pediatric AD patients from English-speaking families were recruited. 151 subjects were randomized to either the control or intervention groups. 106 subjects completed the study at their return visit in 1-3 months. Those in the intervention group received the AD educator's individual counseling/education session in addition to standard therapy provided by the Scoring Atopic Dermatitis Severity Index (SCORAD) and quality of life by either the Children's Dermatology Life Quality Index (CDLQI) or the Infants' Dermatitis Quality of Life Index (IDQOL), depending on the patient's age. Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA) was measured. No significant difference was found in the percent change of severity or quality of life between the groups.* The percent change in severity from baseline was 21% (95% CI 4-38) in the control group and 31% (95% CI 21-42) in the intervention group (p=0.27). Improvements in extent and intensity of disease as well as subjective measures were also not significantly different (p>0.05). The change in IDQOL from the baseline was 27% (95% CI 8-46) in the control group and 31% (95% CI 10-52) in the intervention group (p=0.77). They concluded that additional education did not improve upon our very effective therapeutic approach to pediatric atopic dermatitis.

* Current active investigations with the UNC Pediatric and Adolescent Dermatology Clinic include the effect of atopic dermatitis and/or AD therapy upon patients' height and patients' perceptions of dietary influence upon atopic dermatitis and acne vulgaris.

New Additions

Brad Merritt ('09) and his wife, Valerie, welcomed a son, **Cameron**, into their family on February 6, 2006.

Isabelle was welcomed by her proud parents, Diem and Sam Wu on September 12, 2006.



On October 7, 2006, a son, **Russell**, was born to the proud parents, Jody and Russell Sykes.

Clark Allen was welcomed by Brian and Christie Green on June 8, 2007.

Engagements/Weddings

David Dasher ('09) and Leigh Ann Robbins were married June 24, 2006.

Laura (Crow) Lomax ('89) married Phil Barbee on October 21, 2006.

David Pascoe ('08) and Miles Taylor were married April, 2007.

Ashley Lewis, Mohs Staff, is engaged to be married to John Perry July 14, 2007.



Calendar of Events

July 4: **Holiday – Fourth of July**

September 4: **Holiday – Labor Day**

October 12-14: Southeastern Education Consortium
Richmond, VA

UNC-Duke Conferences

Location	9/13	9/27	10/11	10/25	11/8	12/13	1/10	1/24	2/28	3/13	3/27	5/22	6/12
UNC		X		X				X	X		X	X	
Duke	X		X		X	X	X			X			X

* All meetings are 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Save These Dates:

February 1-5, 2008: Annual AAD Meeting
San Antonio, TX

Skin Healers is the newsletter of the Department of Dermatology, School of Medicine of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina Hospitals

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