The Dermatology Foundation is the leading private funding source for skin disease research and the career development of physicians and scientists.

The DF’s mission is to provide research support that helps develop and retain tomorrow’s teachers and researchers in dermatology, enabling advancements in patient care.
Report from the Trustees

Dear Colleague:

As we reflect on the Dermatology Foundation’s efforts and activity over the past twelve months, we believe that there is much to be grateful for. In the midst of rapidly changing socio-economic and health care trends, our constituents stayed the course and enabled the DF to accomplish our mission and maintain a steady and stable financial position.

We recognize that we could not carry out our purpose without the continued dedication of all Foundation volunteers. The Trustees extend their deepest appreciation to the loyal community of DF advocates who drive all DF activities. The entire dermatologic community and, most significantly, our patients all benefit from our colleagues who generously donate their time to the work of the Foundation.

We are pleased to share that the Foundation was the recipient of a remarkable personal gift in 2013—a $1 million contribution from Charles and Daneen Stiefel. The largest single gift ever received by the DF, we are deeply grateful for their vision and confidence in our ability to identify those who truly have the potential to make great strides in our field.

As we look to the future, we remain aware that there are impediments to the specialty’s continued growth—and they will intensify. These are tough times for our young colleagues. NIH funding is at its lowest inflation-adjusted level since 2000 and there is no relief in sight, making DF funding more critical than ever before. The aggregation of industry partners has and will likely continue decreasing industry support of dermatologic research. Providing the level of funding that the specialty needs will be more and more challenging—unless support from the dermatologic community increases.

If you are a member, we greatly appreciate your past and current DF commitment. If you are not a member—this is the year to join us in supporting the work of the Foundation. Your participation has never been more important to the specialty’s future. Standing together, we can cultivate the pioneering teachers and researchers who will further our specialty despite a changing landscape.

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Year in Review
Substantial Support of the DF Continues

Despite lingering concerns about the economy and broad health care changes on the horizon, support for the Dermatology Foundation remained steady in 2013. Backed by dedicated members, society partners, and corporate supporters, the Foundation conferred $3.5 million in research awards. This funding ensures the continuation of trailblazing research by some of the brightest young minds in the field, as well as improved patient treatment for years to come.

Individual Contributions
Member support remained the key driver in the DF’s ability to further advancements in the specialty. In 2013, members reaffirmed their staunch commitment to research by contributing $2.9 million, representing a 1.4% increase over the previous year.

As in prior years, the Leaders Society provided the largest share of member contributions. More than 1,000 members supported the Foundation at this level, accounting for 52% of individual giving, and $1.5 million in contributions. Annenberg Circle (AC) members provided 20% of individual giving, while the AC Sustaining level provided an additional 24% of the total $2.9 million. In addition, forty-five Sustaining members committed to multi-year pledges.

DF Research Award Funding
(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>$0.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>$1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>$2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$3.5</td>
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</tbody>
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Major Gift
In 2013, the DF received an unprecedented personal gift of $1 million from Charles and Daneen Stiefel. Mr. Stiefel, a longstanding supporter of the DF, is a member of the Annenberg Circle and Fitzpatrick Legacy Fund. He also served as Chair and CEO of Stiefel Laboratories, a past Corporate Honor Society member. This gift, the largest single contribution in the Foundation’s history, will fund the new Charles & Daneen Stiefel Scholar Award for research in autoimmune and/or connective tissue diseases.

CHARLES AND DANEEN STIEFEL
Industry & Specialty Support
Recognizing the Dermatology Foundation’s unique and valuable role, corporations and specialty societies continued to give. Despite tempered philanthropic budgets, contributions from all of our industry supporters totaled $3 million in 2013. The Foundation is indebted to our corporate and society supporters for their continued confidence.

Industry also played an important role in the success of the highly rated annual DF Clinical Symposia—Advances in Dermatology. The CME conference, which again attracted a capacity audience, featured distinguished faculty, a wide range of outstanding programming, and thought provoking discussions centered on clinically relevant topics.

2014 Research Funding
Contributions received in 2013 enabled the Foundation to bestow nearly $3.5 million in research awards in 2014 to support 69 promising individuals and worthy projects. The awards included:

1 Charles & Daneen Stiefel Scholar Award in Autoimmune &/or Connective Tissue Diseases
55 New and Renewed Career Development Awards
- 4 Health Care Policy
- 5 Dermatologic Surgery
- 15 Physician Scientist
- 4 Science of Human Appearance
- 8 Medical Dermatology
- 5 Dermatopathology
- 3 Women’s Health
- 2 Pediatric Dermatology
- 9 Basic Science Research

7 Fellowships
- 6 Dermatologist Investigator
- 1 Pediatric Dermatology

6 Grants
- 5 Basic Science Research
- 1 Dermatopathology Research

“All dermatologists benefit from the DF. If we understand diseases better, our understanding will lead to better treatments; and if we have better treatments, then we can be better doctors.”
— MICHAEL D. THARP, M.D., DF PRESIDENT
Corporate Honor Society

We are extremely grateful to our Corporate Honor Society members, who contributed $50,000 or more in 2013 to support the Dermatology Foundation’s mission. Through their outstanding support, the DF has been able to identify and help develop the next generation of teachers, researchers, and master clinicians. The Trustees are honored to have their confidence and commitment.

**Cornerstone Benefactor ($500,000 or more)**

Galderma Laboratories, L.P.
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Thomas B. Fitzpatrick Legacy Fund

A Gift of $100,000
Individuals who support the Thomas B. Fitzpatrick Legacy Fund provide a one-time gift of $100,000 or more, which supports research by the most promising and gifted scientific investigators and teachers. The Trustees of the Dermatology Foundation are profoundly grateful to the Fitzpatrick Legacy Fund members for their exceptional vision and commitment.

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Annenberg Circle Sustaining Members

A $5,000 Annual Contribution Beyond Completed Pledge of $25,000

The Trustees recognize the steadfast support of the Sustaining members of the Annenberg Circle. These DF supporters have elevated their support by making an annual contribution of $5,000 beyond their initial $25,000 AC pledge.

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Annberg Circle members pledge $25,000 to strengthen further advancements in innovative patient care and treatment. These gifts support the career development of some of the specialty’s most promising researchers and teachers. The Board of Trustees extends its thanks and appreciation to these generous individuals.

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The DF has a critical role in the ongoing advancement of dermatology. It is the only private source of funding for new physician scientists and investigators in the specialty, and is second only to the NIH in cultivating and supporting research careers in dermatology. Through the generous support of its physician members, corporate supporters and society partners, the Foundation was able to award a variety of research awards totaling nearly $3.5 million to 69 talented individuals in 2014.

The Dermatology Foundation’s Board of Trustees is pleased to present this year’s research award recipients. Each Trustee takes pride in supporting these individuals and looks forward to watching them advance and contribute to the field of dermatology.

Charles & Daneen Stiefel Scholar Award in Autoimmune &/or Connective Tissue Diseases

Introduced for the 2014 funding year, the Stiefel Scholar Award supports an outstanding early to mid-career investigator with an established trajectory of excellence in basic, translational and/or clinical science. The first of its kind, the Stiefel award provides $100,000 annually for up to three years.

Made possible by a $1 million gift from Charles and Daneen Stiefel, this award is designed to support investigators committed to elucidate the basis, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, and/or treatment of autoimmune and/or connective tissue diseases affecting adults and/or children.

John E. Harris, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts
Skin-Resident Memory T Cells in Vitiligo

Vitiligo is an autoimmune skin disease characterized by disfiguring white spots. I am interested in how these spots form, and why they are so reluctant to go away. Current treatments are not FDA-approved, are not very effective, and they must be continued for life. Studies of viral skin infections reveal that immune cells become activated in the skin to eliminate the virus, and then remain there for a very long time to help prevent reinfection. I hypothesize that the same type of cells become activated in the skin during vitiligo, and likewise remain in the skin long-term to maintain the white spots and resist treatment. Further, I hypothesize that removing these cells by using a topical drug that interferes with signals that they require for survival will result in a short-term treatment that has long-lasting effects.
Career Development Awards

The DF provides a variety of career development awards (CDAs) to individuals who demonstrate exceptional potential. CDAs are the Foundation’s most sought-after awards, providing $55,000 in annual salary support for up to three years. These funding mechanisms allow recipients to focus on an array of research topics and studies that enable them to develop the experience and preliminary data needed to compete successfully for federal funding.

Clinical Career Development Award in Health Care Policy/Public Health

Anokhi Jambusaria-Pahlajani, M.D., M.S.C.E.
Mayo Clinic in Florida
Validation of SCC Staging Systems and Development of a Prediction Tool to Estimate Recurrence Risk

This proposal intends to clarify the prognosis of high-risk squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). We will collect information on all SCCs diagnosed over a 5-year period at the Mayo Clinic and utilize this data to evaluate current staging systems. Then we will merge our dataset with other SCC databases and analyze the data to develop a prediction tool that will accurately estimate 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year risks of recurrence.

Clinical Career Development Award in Dermatologic Surgery

Christine A. Liang, M.D.
Harvard University
Mohs Surgery for Melanoma In Situ: Optimization and Outcomes

Although Mohs surgery for melanoma enables complete margin assessment in a single day, it is controversial due to the difficulty in interpreting frozen sections. Staged excisions, although highly accurate, take several days to complete. This study will determine: 1) the difference in margin evaluation between Mohs and staged excision, 2) the optimal immunostain for frozen margin assessment, 3) the margin needed for tumor clearance, and 4) outcomes after Mohs treatment.

Margaret W. Mann, M.D.
Case Western Reserve University
Refining Dermatologic Surgical Training in Residency

All physicians must undergo lengthy training before they are licensed to practice medicine. This includes a rigorous residency, which is often considered “on the job” training after medical school. Residents must be trained properly to ensure patient safety and the highest quality of care, as their graduation signifies their ability to practice independently. This project will contribute to strengthening residency education by creating tools to help teach basic surgical skills to residents. This will ensure that the residents of today are well qualified to become the physicians of tomorrow.

Yaohui Gloria Xu, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin
Archilles’ Heel in Melanoma - CDR-BP as a Potential Prognostic Marker and Therapeutic Target

Our preliminary results have suggested that coding region determinant binding protein (CRD-BP) is critical in promoting melanoma progression. This makes it a promising candidate for accurately predicting the outcome of early-stage melanomas and effectively treating advanced melanomas. We hypothesize that over-activated CRD-BP may correlate with melanoma aggressiveness and thus that the inhibition of this molecule may suppress melanoma growth.

Physician Scientist Career Development Award

Brian C. Capell, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania
The Role of Epigenomic Changes in Skin Senescence and Transformation

Senescence is a barrier to tumor formation in numerous cancers, including melanoma. There is evidence that epigenetic reprogramming may be playing a role in both the maintenance and loss of this senescent state. We aim to define the major epigenomic chromatin-based mechanisms of both the onset and escape from senescence in the skin in order to provide a framework for deeper understanding and potential manipulation.
Shadmehr Demehri, M.D., Ph.D.  
Washington University  
The Mechanism of NK Cell Activation and Its Implications in Skin Cancer Immunotherapy  

The goal of this proposal is to investigate the use of Natural Killer (NK) cells in skin cancer treatment. They are a group of immune cells that can kill cancer cells. I will study the combination of signals that are required to properly activate NK cells against skin cancer. The outcome of these studies will help develop an effective immunotherapy against skin cancer.

Peggy S. Myung, M.D., Ph.D.  
Yale University School of Medicine  
The Role of Non-cell Autonomous Wnt Activation in Hair Follicle Growth and Basal Cell Carcinoma  

Understanding how stem cells promote tissue regeneration is key to developing targeted therapies to treat human diseases that lead to either tissue damage or cancer. This proposal uses innovative technology to examine how a key stem cell activator can recruit a population of cells to undergo collective growth during regeneration and how this mechanism can also be utilized aberrantly to promote cooperative growth during carcinogenesis.

Eon J. Rios, M.D., Ph.D.  
Stanford University  
Non-Coding RNAs in Epidermal Homeostasis and Neoplasia  

Cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas (cSCCs) remain a common and potentially fatal condition that dermatologists have to manage. Using next-generation sequencing technologies, we have identified a number of novel RNAs that are aberrantly expressed in cSCCs. Now we will study the role of these RNAs in both epidermal homeostasis and carcinogenesis.

Iwei Yeh, M.D., Ph.D.  
University of California, San Francisco  
Activating B-catenin Mutations Cooperate with BRAFV600E to Promote Invasion  

Melanomas contain “driver” mutations in their DNA that provide a growth signal to the melanocyte. However, additional mutations must occur to override safety systems that otherwise engage to prevent continued growth. We identified 13-catenin mutations that override parts of the safety system in melanocytes. We are studying the mechanisms of this 13-catenin override in the hope that we identify mechanisms of stopping melanoma growth.

Medical Dermatology Career Development Award  
Kavita Y. Sarin, M.D., Ph.D.  
Stanford University  
Genetic Markers of Therapy Resistance in Advanced Basal Cell Carcinoma  

Recently, vismodegib, a small-molecule inhibitor of the hedgehog pathway, was approved as the first targeted therapy in basal cell carcinoma (BCC). However, a significant number of BCCs either fail to respond or acquire resistance to vismodegib. This proposal aims to identify the genetic mutations underlying drug resistance to vismodegib in BCCs, and to develop a diagnostic tool to predict resistance prior to therapy.

Marie S. Tuttle, M.D.  
Case Western Reserve University  
The Role of Iron in the Perpetuation of Inflammation and Infection in Chronic Wounds  

Chronic wounds are a common problem, particularly in the elderly, as they lead to increased hospitalizations, morbidity, and mortality. We propose a novel study design to ethically compare normal vs. delayed healing in elderly patients that will enable us to develop a mechanistic understanding of the origins of delayed healing, specifically in terms of alterations in inflammation and the microbial communities in the wound and surrounding skin.
Research Award Recipients (continued)

Dermatopathology Research Career Development Award

Emily Y. Chu, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania
Identification of Molecular Prognostic Markers for Thin Melanomas

The incidence of melanoma, a potentially deadly skin cancer, is increasing. A subset of patients diagnosed with thin melanomas will die of their disease. Our current challenge is to better predict which thin melanomas are biologically aggressive and may metastasize. We propose to perform detailed examination of molecular changes in thin melanomas to differentiate slow-growing tumors from those which have metastatic potential.

Philip O. Scumpia, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
Regulation of Macrophage Inflammatory Networks by Neutral Stress Pathways in Skin Disease

Physiologic stress has a detrimental effect on skin immunity, potentially through the effects of specific stress molecules. Little is known about how global gene networks elicited by these stress molecules regulate inflammatory responses in human skin. We will investigate how these gene networks intersect with specific innate immune inflammatory pathways and then translate these results to human leprosy by studying skin samples from patients. Our ultimate goal is relevant therapeutics.

Women’s Health Career Development Award

Megha M. Tollefson, M.D.
Mayo Clinic in Minnesota
Quality of Life of Parents and Caregivers of Children with Psoriasis

Psoriasis is a skin disease that often lasts a lifetime and can be very difficult to care for. Adults with psoriasis say their psoriasis negatively affects their lives, but not much is known about how a child’s psoriasis affects his or her parents or caregivers. In this study, we will determine the impact that a child’s psoriasis has on his or her parents.

Pediatric Dermatology Career Development Award

Jennifer T. Huang, M.D.
Harvard University
Late Skin Effects in Children after Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant

Late effects of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) on the skin are not well studied in children. The goal of this study is to investigate the presence of skin cancer, moles, vitiligo, nail changes, and hair changes in children, with interval skin examinations pre-transplant until 3 years after HSCT. Education and behavioral assessments regarding sun protection and sun avoidance will also be performed.

Research Career Development Award

Javed A. Mohammed, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota
Keratinocytes Control Langerhans Cell Migration by Spatial Expression of RGD-binding Integrins

Langerhans cell (LC) is a type of skin-resident immune cell and a key component of the immune system involved in identifying and combatting foreign pathogens. Our goal is to elucidate a novel keratinocyte-controlled pathway of regulation of LC function in normal and inflamed skin. This pathway can be targeted for potential therapeutic interventions in the large number of immunologically-based cutaneous disorders.

Yvonne E. Chiu, M.D.
Medical College of Wisconsin
Clinical and Genetic Investigations of Pediatric Morphea

We will create a national clinical registry and DNA biobank of pediatric morphea to define the natural history of pediatric-onset morphea and identify genes and pathways involved in its development. Longitudinal disease activity will be assessed, and DNA will be extracted from blood and affected skin. Whole exome sequencing will be performed to identify candidate genes, with eventual confirmation in a validation cohort.
Abnormal cell proliferation is a key characteristic in many diseases, including chronic skin ulcer, psoriasis and squamous cell carcinoma. To better understand the regulation of proliferation, we propose to elucidate functions of a microRNA family on regulating the cell cycle. Thus, knowledge from this study could have potential utility in diseases with abnormal cell kinetics.

Poulkos I. Poulikakos, Ph.D.
Mount Sinai Medical Center
Understanding RAF Regulation to Develop Novel Strategies for Targeting RAF Signaling in Melanoma

The oncprotein BRAF is mutated in approximately 50% of melanomas. RAF inhibitors have shown remarkable responses in melanoma patients, but their efficacy is limited by development of resistance. Sensitivity and resistance to these drugs is related to the unique biochemical properties of RAF. This proposal aims to understand RAF regulation and function, and then to use this knowledge to design more effective therapeutic strategies in melanoma.
Research Award Recipients (continued)

Matthew J. Turner, M.D. – Year 3
Indiana University
Inductive Keratinocyte-Derived Cytokines in a Murine Model of Atopic Dermatitis

Lisa C. Zaba, M.D., Ph.D. – Year 2
Stanford University
Long Noncoding RNAs in Skin Fibrosis and Scleroderma Pathogenesis

Science of Human Appearance Career Development Award

Sivan Harel, Ph.D. – Year 2
Columbia University
The Role of Hair Follicle Immune System in Age-Dependent Hair Loss

Phillip D. Holler, M.D., Ph.D. – Year 2
University of Pennsylvania
Molecular Characterization of Hair Follicle Neogenesis

Frank Wang, M.D. – Year 3
University of Michigan
Reversal of Aged Skin Appearance by Enhancing Structural Support with Cross-Linked Hyaluronic Acid

Mingang Xu, Ph.D. – Year 3
University of Pennsylvania
The Roles of Wnt10a and Pkp1 in Skin and Hair Follicle Development and Renewal

Medical Dermatology Career Development Award

Adela Rambi G. Cardones, M.D. – Year 3
Duke University
Quantitative Assessment of Disease Severity in Chronic Cutaneous Graft-vs-Host Disease

Ron J. Feldman, M.D., Ph.D. – Year 2
Emory University
Phenotypic and Functional Analysis of B Cells in Patients with Autoimmune Blistering Diseases

Meg R. Gerstenblith, M.D. – Year 3
Case Western Reserve University
Identifying Clinically Relevant Subtypes of Melanoma Using Genomic Profiling

Anna K. Haemel, M.D. – Year 3
University of California, San Francisco
A Comprehensive Approach to Study Systemic Sclerosis at the Molecular and Cellular Level

Stefan M. Schieke, M.D. – Year 2
Medical College of Wisconsin
mTOR Inhibitors in Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma: Therapeutic Efficacy and Molecular Mechanisms

Ruth Ann Vleugels, M.D. – Year 3
Harvard University
Cutaneous Lupus Erythematosus: Developing a Novel Assessment Tool and Investigating Disease Associations

Women’s Health Career Development Award

Beth N. McLellan, M.D. – Year 2
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Characteristics of Alopecia in Breast Cancer Patients Treated with Hormonal Therapy

Bethanee J. Schlosser, M.D., Ph.D. – Year 3
Northwestern University
Clinical and Molecular Characterization of Lichen Sclerosus as a Model of Vulvar Epithelial Fibrosis

Research Career Development Award

Yeon Sook Choi, Ph.D. – Year 2
University of Pennsylvania
WNT Signals in Merkel Cell Development and Regeneration

Anna De Benedetto, M.D. – Year 2
University of Rochester
Tight Junction Defects in Atopic Dermatitis: Crossroads between Barrier and Immune Response

Annemieke de Jong, Ph.D. – Year 3
Columbia University
Functional and Phenotypic Analysis of Pathogenic T Cells in Alopecia Areata

Jodi L. Johnson, Ph.D. – Year 3
Northwestern University
Role of Cell Anchoring Desmosomal Proteins in the Epidermal Responses to UV Exposure

Masaoki Kawasumi, M.D., Ph.D. – Year 2
University of Washington
Chemical Genetic Dissection of the UV DNA Damage Response and Carcinogenesis

Enrique C. Torchia, Ph.D. – Year 3
University of Colorado, Denver
Molecular Mechanisms of Aurora Kinase A Mediated Carcinogenesis
Fellowships

DF fellowships provide a one-year salary stipend of $30,000 to $45,000 to individuals who have recently completed their residency, and are embarking on an academic and research career path.

Dermatologist Investigator Research Fellowship

Katrina E. Abuabara, M.D., M.A.
University of Pennsylvania
The Natural History of Eczema in Children and Young Adults

Eczema is a disease causing itchy skin. Most patients develop it in childhood. The severity of symptoms can wax and wane over time, but little is known about how much time patients spend with good disease control versus poor disease control. This study will determine how often patients with eczema have good disease control during their childhood and teenage years, and whether this improves as they get older.

Katherine O. Ayoade, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
The Role of DAF-12 in the Parasitism of Nippostrongylus Brasiliensis

Parasite infections in humans characteristically produce cutaneous lesions and systemic diseases. Nematodes are the most common human parasites. The DAF-12 receptor in nematodes is an evolutionarily conserved nuclear hormone receptor that governs the organism’s life cycle and reproduction. The goal of this project is to understand how infectious nematodes use this receptor to establish an infection in the host. Understanding this mechanism may identify new therapeutic agents.

Samuel J. Balin, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
B Cells in Leprosy

B cells play a central role in the immune response to pathogens, but their role in shaping immunity within human skin is not well understood. We seek to gain insight into this by studying leprosy, as B cells have been found in leprosy lesions but their role is unclear. We hypothesize that B cells or their products influence the outcome of the host response to the bacteria that causes leprosy.

John T. O’Malley, M.D., Ph.D.
Columbia University
Using Next Generation Sequencing to Examine T-cell Receptor Diversity in Mycosis Fungoides

Identifying the clonal T-cell population in Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma (CTCL), a rare lymphoma, has diagnostic and prognostic importance. Current techniques to identify the clone are limited. Using a technique that can identify T cells with greater precision and depth, we aim to identify the global “landscape” of clonal populations of T cells and their significance in CTCL.

Jubin W. Ryu, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California, San Francisco
Creating Nanotopography for Transdermal Drug Delivery and Treatment of Fibrotic Disorders

Our skin is the critical boundary between the external world and our internal organs, a stringent barrier to external substances. When this tight barrier is broken, it repairs itself by producing a scar. However, the tight barrier prevents therapeutic medications from delivery through the skin, and some scars become excessive and debilitating. Unwanted fibrosis also occurs in multiple cutaneous diseases. We are exploring novel nanostructured films to influence these behaviors.

Amanda E. Zubek, M.D., Ph.D.
Yale University
Elucidation of SUN Protein Function in Epidermal Development

My research uses genetic and cell biological techniques to understand how structural proteins regulate hair and skin development. SUN proteins are found on the inner membrane of the cell nucleus, and help connect the cytoskeleton to the nucleus. Understanding how SUN proteins communicate with cell adhesion complexes will provide important insight into the mechanics of normal skin function as well as skin disease and aging.
Fellowship in Pediatric Dermatology

Jennifer L. Sorrell, M.D.
Columbia University

Alopecia Areata, Atopic Dermatitis and Autoimmune Associations (A-Five Study)

Alopecia areata is a common disorder resulting from autoimmunity to the hair follicle. It has a variable spectrum, and can be progressive and associated with other diseases. We aim to develop a pediatric-specific questionnaire to assess for other genetically related conditions and define clinical characteristics in children and their families with alopecia areata. We will also genetically assess and evaluate patients with severe disease.

Research Grant

Jing Chen, Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania

Genetic and Protein Analysis of Anti-Desmoglein Antibodies in Pemphigus Vulgaris

Pemphigus vulgaris is a potentially disfiguring and ultimately fatal autoimmune disease of the skin. In pemphigus, autoantibodies against the outermost layers of the skin cause blisters. In this project we will characterize the autoantibodies at a genetic and protein level, which will help us determine why certain therapies are effective, or not, in treating patients. Ultimately, this knowledge should lead to more effective therapies.

Qiaoli Li, Ph.D.
Thomas Jefferson University

Molecular Basis of Pityriasis Rubra Pilaris

Pityriasis rubra pilaris (PRP) is an inflammatory skin disorder of unknown etiology with no effective treatment or cure. We have assembled a patient cohort of the most common forms of PRP that lack a family history. We propose CARD14 as the candidate gene and will undertake whole exome sequencing to identify the molecular basis of sporadic PRP. The results will provide insight with treatment possibilities for this currently intractable disease.

Oxana Nekrasova, Ph.D.
Northwestern University

A Novel Desmoglein-1/Tctex-1(Dynein Light Chain) Interaction in Epidermis

Defects in the three-dimensional organization of the constantly self-renewing skin potentially contribute to skin damage and skin cancer. To better understand how skin cells coordinate their proper shape and position, we will see if the “sticky” protein desmoglein-1, which holds cells together and provides mechanical strength to skin, together with its novel binding partner Tctex-1 (a part of molecular motor), coordinate skin development and support the proper multilayer skin structure.

Grants

Dermatology Foundation research grants provide $20,000 to support the non-salary elements of a research project. Each year, a variety of grants are funded to assist basic science research and medical and surgical studies that benefit the dermatology community.

Dermatopathology Research Grant

Jochen T. Schaefer, M.D.
University of Connecticut

Genomic Analysis of Cellular Dermatofibromas and Cystic Fibrohistiocytic Tumors of the Lung

Dermatofibromas are common benign skin tumors. However, a subset of dermatofibromas have a high recurrence rate and are believed to metastasize and form lung tumors called cystic fibrohistiocytic tumors of the lung. Our goal is to study the genetic makeup of both tumors to identify markers that may be used for further clinical applications and to determine if and how dermatofibromas become lung tumors.

Research Award Recipients (continued)
Medical and Scientific Committee

Throughout its long history, the Medical and Scientific Committee has played a defining role in the Foundation’s overarching mission: identifying individuals most likely to realize long and productive academic careers in dermatologic research.

Committee members, who are chosen for their expertise, represent a diverse body of knowledge that spans virtually all aspects of dermatology. Each year, this elite group of experts reviews applications from some of the most talented new physician-scientists and investigators in the country. To ensure the strictest standards, the committee uses an NIH-based review procedure to thoroughly evaluate the scientific merit of the proposals and the applicants’ potential to make substantial contributions to the specialty.

For its contributions to the specialty and its extraordinary commitment to the DF Research Awards Program, the DF extends its deepest thanks to the entire 2013/2014 Medical and Scientific Committee and its Clinical/Medical/Surgical/Dermatopathology Panel:

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Harvard University

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Yale University

Thomas N. Darling, M.D., Ph.D.
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

Johann E. Gudjonsson, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Michigan

Mayumi Ito, Ph.D.
New York University

Heidi T. Jacobe, M.D., M.S.C.S.
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Daniel H. Kaplan, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Minnesota

Paul Nghiem, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Washington

Eric L. Simpson, M.D., M.C.R.
Oregon Health & Science University

Nancy E. Thomas, M.D., Ph.D.
University of North Carolina

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Emory University

*Panel Members*
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Case Western Reserve University

Marcus W. Bosenberg, M.D., Ph.D.
Yale University

Anna L. Bruckner, M.D.
University of Colorado, Denver

Robert S. Kirsner, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Miami

Philip LeBoit, M.D.
University of California, San Francisco

Mary E. Maloney, M.D.
University of Massachusetts

Désirée Ratner, M.D.
Columbia University

Julie V. Schaffer, M.D.
New York University

Research Awards Application Procedure

The Foundation offers research funding opportunities in 16 categories that support all aspects of dermatology. All applicants must provide a proposal for research that will be sponsored by a division or department of dermatology at an academic institution in the U.S. Submissions must meet all DF eligibility and application requirements to be considered for funding.

Applications are reviewed and ranked by the Foundation’s Medical & Scientific Committee on a highly competitive basis.

For detailed award criteria, instructions, and applications, please visit the DF website (dermatologyfoundation.org). Applications must be received on or before October 15th of each year.
Nearly 400 attendees gathered at the DF’s 11th Annual Clinical Symposia, held February 5-9, 2013, in Naples, Florida, to learn from the foremost leaders in the profession. This event, one of the leading educational conferences in the specialty, again received high marks for the quality, relevancy, and depth of its educational content. Leading experts from around the country led a range of sessions focusing on the most cutting-edge and authoritative developments in clinical practice. Attendees received top caliber programming and, at the same time, invested in the development of the next generation of practitioners, since net proceeds from the symposia are contributed to the DF’s Research Awards Program, which supports new scientific investigators.

The Trustees extend sincere thanks to the Program Chairs and the esteemed faculty for volunteering countless hours in planning and delivering this exceptional educational meeting. The DF is also deeply honored by its corporate supporters, who continue to make this effort possible. In particular, the Foundation is exceptionally grateful to Unilever for sponsoring the attendance of 50 residents.

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### Society Partners

These outstanding national dermatologic societies are among the Foundation’s most important partners. They have the Trustees’ deepest appreciation for supporting the DF Research Awards Program.

**$55,000**
- American Academy of Dermatology
- Women’s Dermatologic Society

**$22,500**
- Society for Pediatric Dermatology

**$20,000**
- Society for Investigative Dermatology

**$10,000**
- The American Society of Dermatopathology
The Dermatology Foundation presents these prestigious annual awards to a select group of peer-nominated teachers, practitioners, and mentors. These honorees set a high standard with their contributions, expertise, and commitment to the specialty, and are exemplary as role models and mentors for new and young dermatologists. The Trustees congratulate the 2013 honorary awardees and thank them for their distinguished achievements.

**2013 Lifetime Career Educator Award**

**Stephen I. Katz, M.D.**

This award honors an academic dermatologist who has been an inspirational teacher and mentor to generations of medical students and residents.

After joining the Dermatology Branch of the National Cancer Institute in 1974, Immunodermatologist Dr. Stephen I. Katz quickly became—and has remained—an important teacher and mentor in the specialty.

Dr. Katz was chief of the Dermatology Branch from 1977 to 2001 and has been director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) since 1995. From the very start, the heart of this highly accomplished scientist’s career has been his immunodermatology lab and the nurturing, hands-on mentoring environment he created there. In addition to Dr. Katz’s fundamental contributions to the immunobiology of the skin over the years, his lab functions as a lively training center for students and fellows who have since become outstanding physician-scientists and leaders in investigative dermatology in the U.S. and around the world. His contributions to the immunobiology of the skin include the characterization of Langerhans cells and dendritic cells, and epidermally expressed cytokines.

“It is very fitting that Steve Katz be recognized by the DF with the Lifetime Career Educator Award,” says a former mentee and long-time dermatology department chair. “His curiosity, enthusiasm, and lifelong commitment to science and scholarly activities have had a profound and durable impact on his trainees and the specialty in this country and others. *His candle has lit many fires.*”

Dr. Katz learned the importance of good mentors early in his career. His first, and still most important, mentor was his older brother, dermatologist Robert Katz of Rockville, MD. “Bob helped open my eyes to the world, to medical school, to dermatology, and to a research-oriented residency program. This last choice transformed me,” Dr. Katz says. Among other important mentors, Dr. Katz also notes Dr. Harvey Blank, the former Chair of Dermatology at the University of Miami where Dr. Katz trained. His post-residency fellowship with another mentor, British immunologist Dr. John Turk, ignited Dr. Katz’s passion for research. When he returned to the U.S. in 1974, he joined the NIH as a Senior Investigator in the Dermatology Branch of the National Cancer Institute.

Notably, the Dermatology Foundation had a role in Dr. Katz’s path to the NIH. The DF awarded him a Research Fellowship in 1972 (the sixth year of DF awards). That award, along with the support of the GI Bill (Dr. Katz was in the Army after his residency), made it possible for him to accept the NIH fellowship. “So, if you call me a success,” Dr. Katz wryly notes, “the Dermatology Foundation had something to do with it.”

When Dr. Katz first joined the Dermatology Branch, he imagined his career there would be “a three- to four-year adventure. The NIH seemed like a candy store where one could choose from seemingly myriad possible research pursuits with extraordinary potential for collaboration.” He never would have predicted that he would be at the NIH forty years later—as enthusiastic as ever—or that the Dermatology Branch would become a magnet for residents and medical students. Working togeth-
er, they have become known as the movers and shakers in the specialty’s progress.

One of his early mentees, who went on to transform a dermatology department as chair, and then a medical school as its dean, described the impressive range of Dr. Katz’s influence: “Steve has inspired and educated a generation of academic leaders in dermatology in the U.S. and internationally. He is an outstanding role model and friend in all ways who has had an enormous influence on dermatology worldwide.”

Throughout his career, Dr. Katz’s contributions have attracted recognition, honors, and awards both nationally and internationally. He takes particular pride in his honorary memberships in both American and foreign dermatology organizations, as well as the Presidential Executive Meritorious Rank Award given to him by President Clinton. Another thrilling career high point was his appointment by the Japanese government to the Order of the Rising Sun in 2011.

In a wide-ranging and storied career, Dr. Katz notes that his greatest source of satisfaction has been “in teaching, and in developing a core of scientists who went on to develop their own independent leadership positions in the U.S. and around the world. That is tremendously satisfying and gives me great joy.”

**2013 Practioner of the Year**

**Z. Charles Fixler, M.D.**

This annual award recognizes a dermatologist for exemplary service as a private practitioner combined with significant contributions to the specialty through leadership and teaching.

At 89, Dr. Fixler now treats the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of his early patients and still continues to teach residents. He has been a constant presence and force in professional organizations that support the specialty, and has played a key role in leading Cincinnati’s annual skin cancer screening program, which he designed and debuted in 1986.

Dr. Fixler’s route to dermatology was not typical. He was set to enter medical school just after World War II, but the educational system in the U.S. was inundated with millions of veterans who had enrolled, courtesy of the G.I. Bill. If he wanted to begin his medical education without delay, he would have to go abroad. So, along with a group of American students, Dr. Fixler enrolled at the medical school in Lausanne, Switzerland. Unlike medical schools in the U.S., taking trumpet lessons and now performs with the Ohio Military Band when they entertain at nursing homes and retirement villages. A special moment of glory was his one-note participation on stage with the Beach Boys during their concert in Cincinnati in 1994.

As for winding down his practice, Dr. Fixler has no imminent thoughts of retiring. “I love what I do!” he says.

“He is a scholar, gentleman, and genuine humanist who has been treating patients in Cincinnati for almost 60 years.”

— BRETT COLDIRON, M.D.
2013 Finnerud Award

Peggy S. Crawford, M.D.

This annual award recognizes the exceptional dermatologist who is both an exemplary clinician and a dedicated volunteer or part-time teacher.

Colleagues describe Dr. Peggy Crawford as “a truly special dermatologist” who “stands out— even within an outstanding group.” They respect her as a “dedicated and passionate clinician who treats not only the disease, but the patient.”

The Northern California Permanente Medical group, where she has spent her entire career, singled out Dr. Crawford by naming her an Everyday Hero, which recognizes those who bring “the very best qualities of caring and performance to the workplace.”

For 35 years, Dr. Crawford has served on the volunteer clinical faculty at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Residents have honored her with both mentoring (2001) and teaching (2005) awards, and peers routinely refer to her as “a dermatologist’s dermatologist.” One former resident describes Dr. Crawford as “an extraordinary teacher and an incredible mentor to many. The residents line up to work with her.” Another colleague praises her as “a leader and role model in the development of a whole generation of female dermatologists from UCSF, most of whom are now leaders in their own right.”

“I consider myself a people person,” Dr. Crawford says. “I love getting to know my patients, and seeing them on an ongoing basis. That makes my day. That’s also what I enjoy about teaching. The young people coming into dermatology ask wonderful questions and expand what I think about and what I question.” Dr. Crawford’s rare ability to reach out to people and connect with them has been described as “part of her essence.”

After taking a dermatology elective while in medical school at Northwestern University, Dr. Crawford was inspired to pursue her career in the specialty. Following her internship, she completed a year of clinical research in the Dermatology Branch at the NIH’s National Cancer Institute. Her experience at the NIH, she says, sparked an abiding interest in research progress and also launched two deeply important relationships with lifelong mentors Dr. Stephen Katz and Dr. Maria Turner.

Throughout her career, Dr. Crawford has been a member of the Dermatology Foundation and an active volunteer, currently serving as a Trustee. “I am a big supporter and advocate of the DF,” she says. “They are funding the young dermatologists who are so important for the future pipeline of dermatology.”

In addition to her work at the DF, Dr. Crawford has been involved in a variety of specialty organizations, including the Women’s Dermatologic Society. She received the Aphrodite Award from the Italian Women’s Dermatological Society for her help in catalyzing their formation. Her busy schedule – filled with patient time, teaching, mentoring, grand rounds, and more – prompted a colleague to marvel at her ability to “move so fluidly between the groups, and find the time to do it all!”

A former resident summarized Dr. Crawford’s many remarkable attributes: “She is truly a consummate clinician and teacher, an amazing physician, mentor, and colleague to many, and a very special individual within our specialty.” Another one added, “She embodies the highest ideals of our specialty.”

“‘She brings a certain energy to everything that she does, inspiring confidence and passion in her colleagues and students, and trust and devotion in her patients.’

— TIFFANY H. SCHARSCHMIDT, M.D.
Scientific Society, Benefactors, Patrons, and Sponsors

Scientific Society

**Annual Contribution of $750**

The Trustees thank our Scientific Society members, whose steadfast commitment supports the specialty’s most talented and gifted investigators and physician scientists.

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Richmond Dermatology Society
Tennessee Dermatology Society
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Herbert M. & Naomi R. Leavitt Family Charitable Trust
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Piedmont Dermatology Society
Pittsburgh Academy of Dermatology
Richmond Dermatology Society
Tennessee Dermatology Society
Wisconsin Dermatological Society

**Distinguished Benefactor ($25,000 or more)**
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Financial Highlights

**Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets**

*As of December 31, 2013*

The Dermatology Foundation continues to focus on complete and accurate financial reporting in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Following are 2013 financial highlights of the Foundation as noted in the financial statements audited by the independent audit firm of McCullough, Rossi & Co., Ltd.

### Assets

**Current Assets:**
- Cash and equivalents $6,452,925
- Accounts receivable 1,005,200
- Unconditional promises to give 1,069,834
- Investments 29,709,538
- Prepaid expenses 189,659

Total current assets $38,427,156

**Property and Equipment:**
- Furniture and equipment $285,717
- Accumulated depreciation (264,241)
- Property and equipment, net $21,476

**Other Assets:**
- Unconditional promises to give $797,322
- Other 198,191

Total other assets $995,513

**Total assets** $39,444,145

### Liabilities and Net Assets

**Liabilities:**
- Research award commitment $1,661,633
- Accounts payable and accrued expenses 616,028
- Total liabilities $2,277,661

**Net Assets:**
- Unrestricted $33,835,340
- Temporarily restricted 3,331,144

Total net assets $37,166,484

**Total liabilities and net assets** $39,444,145

Note: The complete audited financial statements of the Dermatology Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2013 may be obtained by contacting the Dermatology Foundation, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201.

The Dermatology Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent provided by law.
### Financial Highlights (continued)

#### Revenues and Expenses

*As of December 31, 2013*

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<tr>
<th>Revenue Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Dues</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total unrestricted revenues and gains</strong></td>
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<th>Expense Type</th>
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<td>Research awards expended, net</td>
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<td>Program services</td>
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<td>Clinical Symposia</td>
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<td>Administrative expenses</td>
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<td>Scientific publications</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total unrestricted expenses</strong></td>
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**Increase in unrestricted net assets** $4,027,556

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<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total temporarily restricted revenues and gains</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,486,972</strong></td>
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**Expenses and assets released from restrictions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assets released from restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase in temporarily restricted net assets</td>
<td>$574,714</td>
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<td>Increase in net assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets at beginning of year</td>
<td>$32,564,214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net assets at end of year** $37,166,484
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