



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2020



## From Our Chair



Aimee Smidt, MD, FAAD, FAAP

### To Our Alumni, Donors, and Friends:

What a difference a few months have made. The global pandemic and the historical moment regarding anti-racism we are living through is truly indescribable in brief words, and I don't hasten to know how each of you has been affected. Personally, I am so thankful for the brief time I had with my family on the East Coast in February before all of this hit, as I don't know when I will be able to travel to see them again. And I am so grateful to my husband David and our boys for navigating these turbulent times with me at home. It is a time to value kindness and our shared humanity for certain.

The team at UNM Dermatology has been such an exceptionally positive force – I could not ask for a more dedicated group of faculty, residents, clinical and School of Medicine staff - it has truly brought even more light to what an incredible team we have built. We have continued to grow and are so proud to announce the addition of a fabulous VA faculty (Welcome Chuck Phillips!) and an expansion of our current residency cohort taking effect this July. Much needed good news!

As we venture into reopening our clinics, communities and economies, I wish you all the very best and for you all to stay safe and well. We will get through this, together.

# Department Updates

## Here's what's been going on since our Winter Edition:

- We were approved by ACGME for a third resident position per year, and will now have 3 residents starting July 1, 2020! Bravo Dr. Altman and Kathy Freise!
- We are interviewing for additional UNM, VA and Pediatric Dermatology faculty as well as UNMH Dermatology Medical Director. Please let us know of any interested candidates, and help spread the word! See our ad later in the newsletter for more info.
- Gratitude to faculty members Therese Holguin, MD, and John Durkin, MD for their scheduled work in the UNMH Respiratory Care Clinic during the COVID-19 pandemic (March through May). Many of our UNMH Dermatology Clinic staff were also redeployed, and we applaud ALL of their dedication. THANK YOU!
- Resident Dr. Catherine Tchanque-Fossuo and Jaimie Lin MS2 were selected to present their abstract for the highly competitive International Society for the Study of Vascular Anomalies (ISSVA) Workshop this May with Dr. Aimee Smidt and Dr. Shelly Stepenaskie (Dermatopathology). Congratulations!
- Weekly Grand Rounds continues, though now always by Zoom and we continue to book fantastic speakers, though we miss being able to take them out to dinner! Again, special thanks for donations helping to sponsor Grand Rounds - we hope you will continue your support. Please plan to attend if you haven't yet! 1 or 2-hour CME credit are provided. If you would like to be sent the Zoom web link, please contact:

***HSC Dermatology@salud.unm.edu***



- Dr. John Durkin along with faculty, residents and UNM SOM students provided free Skin Cancer Screenings in Gallup, Carlsbad and Taos and at the State Capitol in Santa Fe on UNM Day in January.
- Charles (Chuck) Phillips MD FAAD has joined the Department of Dermatology as Clinical Professor and is working full-time at the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center. Dr Phillips brings a wealth of experience after serving as Chief of Dermatology at East Carolina University School of Medicine. He is an exceptional clinician educator and we are thrilled to have him join our program. Welcome Dr. Phillips!



# Welcome Class of 2023 Residents



**CYRELL FERMIN, M.D.**

Dr. Cyrelle Fermin is a native Virginian, where she earned her medical degree at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. She completed her intern year in Pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital. In her free time, she enjoys working out, being outdoors, cooking, and being with her loved ones.



**KRITI MARKS, M.D.**

Dr. Marks grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico and received her MD from The University of New Mexico School of Medicine. She completed her Internal Medicine internship at UNM Hospital during which she was recognized by medical students for her emphasis on teaching and education.



**JIASEN WANG, M.D.**

Dr. Jiasen Wang grew up in Houston, TX and is a graduate of Rice University and McGovern Medical School at UT-Health. After completing his intern year in Houston in the McGovern Department of Internal Medicine, he will begin his training in Dermatology at UNM in July 2020. He loves the outdoors and in his spare time enjoys staying active by hiking, skiing, and playing basketball.

# GRAND ROUNDS DECEMBER 2019-JUNE 2020

For our 2019-2020 Academic year, we have welcomed many wonderful guest speakers to present at our Grand Rounds. While the circumstances have changed to Zoom for the time being, we are grateful for the opportunities we had pre-Covid!



Dr. Rajendra Singh



Dr. Henry Lim



Dr. Jeffrey Sugarman

## Continuing The Excellence - Join Us by Zoom!

### TENTATIVE GRAND ROUND SPEAKERS FOR THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR:

Dr. Jeffrey Callen (University of Louisville)  
Dr. Robert Brodell (University of Mississippi)  
Dr. Vivian Shi (University of Arizona)  
Dr. Jugpal S. Arneja (University of British Columbia)  
Dr. Simone Ribero (University of Torino, Italy)

Dr. Sergei Grando (UC-Irvine)  
Dr. Lindy Fox (UC-San Francisco)  
Dr. Barry Resnik (Resnick Skin Institute)  
Dr. Trilokrai Tejasvi (University of Michigan)

## Thank you!

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK THE FOLLOWING PHARMACEUTICAL REPRESENTATIVES FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION AND CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR OUR GRAND ROUNDS:

Danny Burke: Celgene  
Isaida Ferrari: Abbvie  
Jason Small: Novartis

Don Goulet: Genentech  
Jeff Melvin: Pfizer



## Upcoming Events

### GRAND ROUNDS (CME)

INVITED LECTURES ALTERNATING WITH  
PATIENT PRESENTATIONS

**EVERY FRIDAY OF THE MONTH  
(EXCEPT MAJOR  
HOLIDAYS/MEETINGS)**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.-Journal Club/Additional  
Lecture

1021 Medical Arts Avenue NE

Albuquerque, NM 87131

Via Zoom:

Please check our website for the updated calendar

### AAD ALUMNI REUNION 2021

**SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA  
TENTATIVE MARCH 2021**

If the meeting happens in person, we will be there to hold an alumni gathering! Stay tuned.



**WALTER BURGDORF MD MEMORIAL  
LECTURESHIP/ALUMNI CONFERENCE AND NEW  
MEXICO DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL  
MEETING (CME)**

**SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2020**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM AND BY ZOOM**

**Guest Speaker - Seemal Desai, MD**

This year we postponed having an in-person speaker (Dr. Ilona Frieden will plan to come in 2021). Instead, we will have case presentations on Friday; two lectures and a tentative alumni case session on Saturday. Please look for the Save the Date and to register for CME!

**UNM DERMATOLOGY - NEW MEXICO  
DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING MEETING  
(CME)**

**TENTATIVE APRIL 30-MAY 1, 2021**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM AND BY ZOOM**

**Guest Speaker - Dirk Elston, MD**

# Community & Alumni Events

## SPRING 2020 UNM DERMATOLOGY- NMDS MEETING

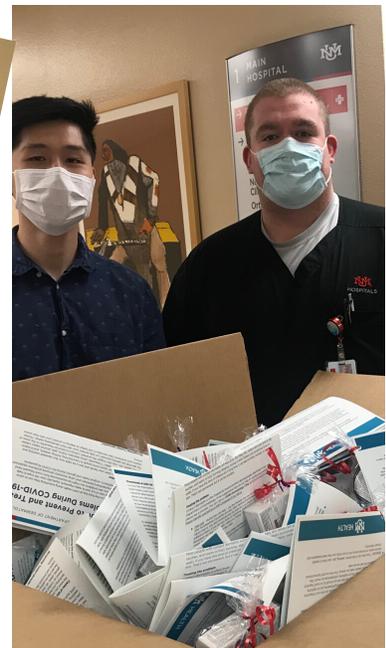
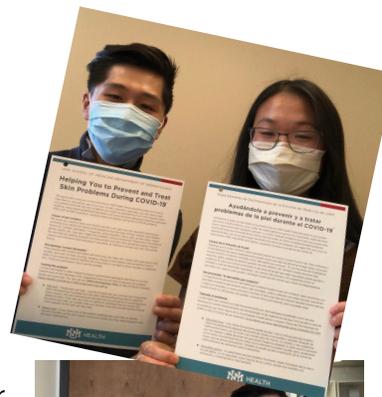
FEBRUARY 20-21, 2020

Thank you to all who came to the UNM Dermatology-NMDS Spring 2020 meeting held in February with NMDS guest speaker Clay Cockerell, M.D - little did we know it was the last time we would be able to gather as a group for quite a while! We hosted an afternoon of didactics including presentations by our medical students and residents and on Saturday morning Dr. Cockerell provided two presentations at Tricore Laboratories. It was a superb weekend of learning!



## SKIN CARE RELIEF FOR COVID 19 PPE GIFT BAGS FOR UNMH FRONT LINE STAFF/PROVIDERS

UNM Medical students Jaimie Lin (MSII) and Victor Wu (MSI) assisted in creating skin care packages and informational handouts for front line staff and providers at UNM Hospital. The bags contained samples of gentle cleansers, lotions and creams to limit contact dermatitis caused by the constant use of PPE. Click [here](#) to view the HSC Story.



# Alumni Spotlight

Shilpa Reddy, MD, FAAD



Shilpa Reddy, M.D., F.A.A.D., a native of Albuquerque, graduated from the University of New Mexico Dermatology residency program in 2010 after completing her medical school training at UNM as well. She completed her undergraduate education at Washington University in St. Louis. She has been in private practice for the last 10 years in New Mexico and this past year co-founded a new practice, *Dermatology of New Mexico*, in Albuquerque. She practices general, surgical and cosmetic dermatology, and continues to see a wide range of patients in her practice.

Outside of work, she spends time with her husband, Kendall, who works as Chief of Hospital Medicine at UNM, their 8 year-old son, Kavi, and 6 year-old daughter, Asha. When not working, she enjoys attending her children's sports events, playing tennis, and painting.

Practicing and serving patients in her home state where there is still a shortage of dermatologists has been very important to her. She truly appreciates having a close dermatology community here in Albuquerque and is grateful for the support of all her dermatology colleagues throughout these years.

# Alumni Spotlight:

## Interview with Dr. Bruce Fuller

BY JAIMIE LIN, MSII



Bruce Fuller, M.D. completed his Dermatology residency at UNM in 1992. Until 2017, he had spent 20 years working in Newport News, VA at a private practice he built from the ground up. He grew up just south of where he lives now, during a time when desegregation laws were still being met with resistance. Living in a predominantly white neighborhood, Dr. Fuller attended a high school where African Americans accounted for a mere 1.5% of the total population. After graduating high school, Dr. Fuller acquired a BS in chemistry at Norfolk State University where he enrolled in ROTC. He then continued on the path ROTC led him in and joined the Army, with the end goal of eventually applying to medical school. In 1981, Dr. Fuller left the Army, took the MCAT and received his acceptance letter to Eastern Virginia Medical School. In medical school, he rotated in dermatology at the VA Medical Center with their chief of dermatology. This mentorship ultimately solidified his desire to become a dermatologist.

Upon graduating from medical school, Dr. Fuller accepted a health professions scholarship program with the Navy and started an operational tour in Kaneohe, Hawaii. After 3 years in Hawaii, he received approval to apply to civilian residency programs. During his visit to UNM, Dr. Burgdorf offered him a residency slot. Having never been in the southwest before, Dr. Fuller was won over by the people, the scenery, the national parks and the fact that rent for a 3 bedroom house was only \$800 a month.

During residency, Dr. Fuller and the 4 other residents “looked out for each other” and became quite close, often getting together to grab dinner at Dr. Holguin’s husband’s restaurant (El Pinto). When asked what the program was like, Dr. Fuller answered with a chuckle. *“Dr. Burgdorf was just smarter than 98% of people. But he didn’t have too much patience, so there was quite a lot of yelling. He presented a lot of unknown slides for us to look at, and we all came out of [residency] with very strong derm-path skills.”*

Once finished with residency, Dr. Fuller said goodbye to New Mexico to finish his Navy obligation as a staff dermatologist at the naval hospital in Portsmouth, VA. After leaving the Navy in 1995, he practiced for a short time in Georgia before returning to Virginia to start his own clinic. For 20 years, he ran a well-loved and successful private practice before closing it in 2017. Dr. Fuller then worked at the Langley Air Force Base up until 2019, when he was diagnosed with gastric adenocarcinoma. For the last year, he has been undergoing treatment with great success. Now regaining his strength, he is looking forward to going back to work part-time, taking trips to Myrtle Beach, reading and riding bikes with his family. Dr. Fuller and his wife, Diane, have three children: Bruce, a pharmaceutical rep; Karanita, a pharmacist, and Brian, an analyst in the surgery department at VCU.

His words of advice to the next generation of dermatologists: *“Work hard and develop good bedside skills. Try to find a situation that’s good for you in terms of work life balance. Learn as much as you can in your residency programs. And read, read, read.”*

# A Legend Has Retired!

Dr. William Mason will always be a part of the UNM Dermatology Family.  
THANK YOU for all you have done for the Department, community & residents!



"I remember working with Dr. Mason as my attending dermatologist at Student Health. He was always warm and friendly to patients and often started with "Here's a winner!"

*Dr. Amanda Harper*

"As a resident, watching Dr. Mason's orange bike flag come over the hill to Grand Rounds was always an inspiration to me. The obvious joy he took in life long learning is something that really stuck with me. I learned a lot from his experience and wisdom taking care of patients together at the Student Health Clinic and still use his tips and tricks when I do bedside tests and treat acne. Thank you Dr. Mason!"

*Dr. Barrett Zlotoff*

"I remember as a resident we were having difficulty finding live patients to present at the Friday morning meeting. Dr. Mason put himself in a room with a dark patch on his finger as an unknown. It was a liquid nitrogen frostbite that was accidentally self inflicted. Dr. Mason was always supportive and cheerful with the residents and ultimately with his colleagues. I look forward to seeing him when ever there is a department meeting. I'm surprised he is retiring at such a tender age."

*Dr. Doug Johnson*

# Academic Dermatology Positions

The UNM Department of Dermatology seeks qualified individuals for three full-time faculty positions (Pediatric Dermatology, General Dermatology, Medical Director) in an innovative group environment. We serve a large, diverse and medically complex population and are a consultative resource for the state of New Mexico and the Four Corners region of the Southwest. The Department provides many services including: general and pediatric dermatology, phototherapy, laser, dermatologic/Mohs surgery and aesthetic services. We have a strong partnership with Dermatopathology and community physicians. Responsibilities include primarily outpatient Dermatology and evening/weekend call coverage for inpatient hospital consultations; Teledermatology is an evolving development as well. Opportunities for clinical research are available.

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (HSC) is the only academic health complex in the state and is located on the UNM campus in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico. The UNM HSC prioritizes resources to its four mission areas - Education, Research, Patient Care and Community Outreach - to provide New Mexicans with the highest level of health care. This also provides opportunity for transdisciplinary scholarship and research with collaborations from Main Campus Scholars, Law School, School of Population Health, and robust community organizations.

The School of Medicine at HSC is celebrated for its innovations in medical education and has earned a reputation for making diversity in the physician workforce a priority. Candidates with attributes that support our mission include demonstrable experience promoting inclusion in the workforce, modelling cultural humility, commitment to guiding underrepresented/minority learners into professional success, and striving to use social determinants of health to address health disparities for individuals and communities. We as an institution value community engagement, as evidenced by our national recognition in rural and family medicine training programs and our groundbreaking BA/MD Programs that provide pathways for students from urban, rural, and tribal New Mexico to pursue a medical career. The Department of Dermatology is committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and uses these standards as measures of excellence.



New Mexico is a recreation and art destination; Albuquerque is a beautiful city with mountains to the east and a mesa to the west with breathtaking sunsets, lakes, rivers, deserts and mountain ranges. It is ideal for outdoor activities and sports all year-round including running, hiking, biking and skiing. The State of New Mexico is multicultural and multilingual with 22 American Indian tribes and nations as well as vibrant Latinx, African American, and Asian American communities with excellent local cuisine, unique architecture, and multiple cultural and historic sites. NM is dense with internationally famous artists, craft breweries and wineries, and an expanding film industry.

A Comprehensive Benefit Package including paid professional liability insurance, medical/dental/vision plan, retirement, annual and professional leave, continuing education tuition and dependent tuition program, and a competitive salary with incentive is offered.

Apply at <https://unmjobs.unm.edu> and search for the following posting numbers:

Pediatric Dermatologist:: Req7268  
Medical Director: Req10611  
General Dermatologist:: Req10610

Contacts:

Lalita Lopez de Gauntt, Unit Administrator  
Email: [Lalopez@salud.unm.edu](mailto:Lalopez@salud.unm.edu)  
Phone: 505-272-6027

Dr. Aimee Smidt, MD, Chair  
Email: [Asmidt@salud.unm.edu](mailto:Asmidt@salud.unm.edu)  
Phone: 505-272-6000

# Donors & Friends

Your philanthropic support enhances our mission each and every day. Our fundraising from July 2019-June 2020 totals **\$66,648** to support our mission. We extend our sincerest gratitude to those who have supported the Department of Dermatology thus far in FY 2020:

Dr. Emily Altman  
Bronnie and Dr. Alan Blaugrund  
Dr. Michael Chang  
Dr. Michael Contreras  
Adam Crosby  
Dr. Brenda Dintiman and Edward Shanahan  
Dr. Paul Dunn  
Dr. Anna Fabre and Bryan Donner  
Dr. Heidi Fleischmann and Dr. James Scott  
Rosemary and Dr. Donald Fry  
Dr. Bruce Fuller

Stephanie and Dr. Edmund Hobbs  
Barbara Hoover and H. Earl "Bud" Hoover, II  
Dr. Amar Joshi  
Drs. Tania Kraai and Erik Kraai  
Gebhard Long  
Karen Price and Dr. Andrew Ondo  
Amanda and Dr. Marshall Shuler  
Dr. Aimee Smidt  
Carolyn and Ken Thompson  
Alice and Dr. William Willis  
Dr. Barrett Zlotoff

- A very special recognition of Program Director **Dr. Emily Altman** who personally has contributed **more than \$25,000** in support of the Resident Fund this year, in addition to other donations to the Department. We encourage you to join her in providing direct support to current and future residents by giving to the Dr. Ben Smith Fund for Residents: <https://www.unmfund.org/fund/dr-ben-smith/>
- **Dr. Brenda Dintiman** challenges each of you to help bring the Walter Burgdorf Endowed Lectureship in Dermatology to its target of \$100,000 to cover future events in perpetuity. She will personally match any gifts up to a total \$15,000. A few people have already taken advantage of this opportunity - Let's complete this mission this year!  
<https://www.unmfund.org/fund/dr-walter-burgdorf/>
- A donation to the Dermatology **Chair's Fund** allows us to grow and respond to the Department's most pressing needs; :  
<https://www.unmfund.org/fund/dermatology-chairs-fund/>
- While the impact of the COVID19 pandemic has changed our immediate priorities, we are still also challenged by facility space and resources/support for our faculty and learners. If you would consider a gift for a new facility that could include a naming opportunity, or if you have questions about planning your estate for a more complex gift, please reach out to Ken Thompson, 505.362.3310, or [Kenneth.thompson@unmfund.org](mailto:Kenneth.thompson@unmfund.org).



## Connecting our Community

Please let us know what you think about this newsletter - we are so proud to share our Department's accomplishments while we also try to highlight the amazing things our friends, partners, and alumni are doing in New Mexico and beyond.



## Contact Us

1021 Medical Arts Avenue NE | Albuquerque, NM 87102  
Phone: 505-272-6000 | Fax: 505-272-6228  
Email: [hsc-dermatology@salud.unm.edu](mailto:hsc-dermatology@salud.unm.edu) | [asmidt@salud.unm.edu](mailto:asmidt@salud.unm.edu)

