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MISSION STATEMENT

The Skin of Color Society is a professional dermatologic organization established in 2004. It is dedicated to promoting awareness of and excellence within the area of special interest of dermatology, skin of color. Individuals with skin of color are defined by the Society as those individuals of Asian, Hispanic/Latino, African, Native American and Pacific Island descent.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we embark on our tenth anniversary, the original goal for Founding President Susan Taylor and the early leadership's was simple: to promote the awareness of and excellence for health care professionals and general public within the area of the special interest of dermatology - skin of color. This is still our primary mission today at the SOCS!

As President, I look forward to working with all of you to build a stronger SOCS, to ensure the Society becomes more prominent and relevant, and that it continues to add value for existing and new members.



To that end, in 2013, the SOCS began working with an association management company (AMC). The new AMC is working to streamline our dues and registration processes by allowing us to pay our dues and to register for the meeting via a secure online portal. In addition, our AMC is organizing our committees to better serve our membership and grow the Society's initiatives. New this year, you will see advances on the SOCS website including a new educational video series to which SOCS members can link and share with their patients.

For the new comer, all that is required is a little initiative. Jump in, introduce yourself at our meeting, submit abstracts and articles for our newsletter, volunteer to serve on committees, and make your presence known! Having watched the inner workings of the SOCS for some time now, I can honestly say that everyone is welcome and we're always interested in fresh ideas. With the international makeup of our membership, we are particularly interested in participation from members outside North America.

The world of health care will see a lot of changes and challenges in 2014 and beyond as the Affordable Care Act moves from concept to reality. The future will tell us how Dermatologists will fit in this new model however stellar Physicians always succeed.

A key mission task of the SOCS is to foster healthy, honest, professional relationships and sound friendships between all the members. I invite you to utilize our membership directory, found in the member's only section of the SOCS website, to help you call on members for their advice and consultation. The more you communicate with each other, the stronger the entire organization becomes.

Remember: HELP IS ONLY A PHONE CALL OR EMAIL AWAY.

Warm regards,
Marta I. Rendon, MD
President, Skin of Color Society
Email: martarendon@yahoo.com

IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Henry W. Lim, MD
Board of Directors



What inspired you to become a dermatologist?

In medical school, I had intended to be a pediatrician. I thought to be a good pediatrician, I needed to know about the skin. In New York metropolitan area where I went to school, NYU was known to have an excellent dermatology program. I took an elective there in my senior year, and was impressed by how dermatology was practiced and taught at NYU. Knowing that I wanted to pursue a career in academic medicine, I was also intrigued by the many areas in dermatology that we had no clear understanding of. By then, I have already matched with the first choice of my pediatric program. I decided to apply only to NYU, with the rationale that I would only trained at NYU in dermatology, otherwise, I would continue with my pediatric training.

Dermatology match was not yet in place at that time. Within two weeks of my interview, I was fortunate enough to be accepted by NYU.

You are a leader in the field of photodermatology.

What do you find most fascinating about the field of photodermatology?

Photodermatology is a broad subspecialty that covers diagnosis by clinical and histologic findings, phototesting and photopatch testings, therapy by using various forms of photons, and photoprotection. At any given day, I may be managing patients with photodistributed eruption, interpreting results of photobiologic testings, prescribing various types of phototherapy, or discussing with patients the appropriate practice of photoprotection. The opportunity to do clinical studies, along with trainees, to help to advance the specialty is also exciting.

The field offers me constant intellectual stimulation. My knowledge of the field also offers me the opportunity of helping patients with their photodermatoses and other photo-responsive dermatoses. This allows me to engage in the two passions of mine: mentoring and developing young physicians, and helping our patients.

What has been the most important and rewarding part of your career?

To be able to contribute to the career development of the next generation of dermatologists, to be able to contribute to the advancement of dermatology, especially photodermatology, and to be able to participate in strengthening the position of our specialty in the house of medicine.

You have accomplished so much in your career and tremendously advanced the field of dermatology.

What other long term career goals do you have?

To continue the above activities.

How do you see our specialty changing?

Health care environment is changing rapidly, more than any time in recent memory. This affects clinical practice as we all have to manage with ever-changing reimbursement climate, electronic health records, and high expectation of our patients. In academic medical center, we need to make sure that we balance the need for financial stability and the important mission of education and research, without which our specialty will not be able to maintain our strength.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT! CONTINUED

What do you think is the biggest challenge to both the specialty of dermatology, and the practice of medicine in general?

The pressure of medical economics on revenue generation, work-life balance, education of the next generation of physicians, and research and discovery effort.

What advice would you give to those clinicians and researchers that are just beginning their careers?

A career in dermatology is a most gratifying career as one is constantly stimulated intellectually, and one can visualize the result of our effort for our patients. It is a specialty that attracts bright minds in medicine that are very enjoyable to work with. The challenges that dermatology is facing is not different that those facing the rest of medicine.

Dermatology enjoys its current strong position in the house of medicine due to the effort of many who put in a lot of time in making sure that the specialty is strong and well respected. It is important that the next generation of dermatologists continue to do their best in continuing this effort.

What are some clinical pearls that you have learned from your clinical practice and research?

- 1) Always conduct yourself professionally. Professionalism is appreciated by your patients, and is observed and modeled by your trainees.
- 2) Always exclude organic causes of the patient's problem before ascribing it to psychological issue.
- 3) Do give back to the specialty that has provided you with the most gratifying and enjoyable professional career.

About Henry W. Lim, MD

Dr. Henry Lim is Chairman and C.S. Livingood Chair of the Department of Dermatology at Henry Ford Hospital, and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Henry Ford Health System. He received his M.D. from State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, and completed his dermatology residency at New York University School of Medicine (NYU). His previous positions include Professor of Dermatology at NYU School of Medicine, as well as the Chief of Staff of the New York VA Medical Center. Dr. Lim's primary clinical and research area of interest is in photodermatology. He has published more than 200 articles and multiple textbooks, and is recognized as an international authority on photodermatology.

Dr. Lim is a Board and Founding Member of the Skin of Color Society. He has served as Vice President of the American Academy of Dermatology, President of the American Board of Dermatology, and President of the Photomedicine Society, American Society for Photobiology, and the International Union of Photobiology. He is the recipient of many awards and honors, including teaching awards, American Academy of Dermatology Presidential Citations, and elected honorary memberships into several international dermatology societies. In 2008, he was granted Honorary Professorship at China Medical University in Shenyang, China.

Dr. Lim is the founder of Henry Ford's Department of Dermatology's Multicultural Dermatology Center, which was created in 2002 to address the unique clinical and research needs of patients with skin of color. Under Dr. Lim's leadership, Henry Ford Dermatology has become one of the country's leaders in photodermatology and in ethnic skin dermatology.

MEMBERS MAKING NEWS

Congratulations to **Dr. Amy McMichael**, who was appointed Chair at the Department of Dermatology Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, NC

Dr. John E. Harris, an assistant professor in the Departments of Medicine and Dermatology at University of Massachusetts Medical School has been very busy lecturing on the subject of vitiligo. He has lectured extensively, both in the US and internationally. Here is a sampling of his lectures:

- 2013 Speaker – Managing the Vitiligo Patient, 2013 AAD annual meeting
- 2013 Grand Rounds Speaker – Vitiligo, Dept. of Dermatology, University of Texas, Southwestern
- 2013 Forum Director – Vitiligo, 2013 AAD annual meeting
- 2013 Featured Speaker – Vitiligo, Vermont Dermatology Society
- 2013 Speaker – Managing Vitiligo, Kuwait Derma Update and Laser Conference IV, Kuwait City, Kuwait
- 2013 Featured Speaker – Vitiligo, New England Dermatology Society
- 2013 Grand Rounds Speaker – Vitiligo, Dept. of Dermatology, New York University
- 2013 Grand Rounds Speaker – Vitiligo, Dept. of Dermatology, Henry Ford Hospital

Dr. Cheryl Burgess has been very busy and productive. She recently received the Washington, DC Glass Slipper Award. The Glass Slipper Award recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of outstanding women whose pioneering spirit and unprecedented strides in business have paved the way to success for many others. Dr. Burgess has also had multiple media appearances, including: the Rachel Ray show and the Weekly Beauty Basics segment for NBC-WRC Washington, DC. Her recent lectures have focused on cosmetic enhancement, and include lectures at: AAD, ASDS in Chicago, ADA in Phoenix, DASIL in Bangkok, and Las Vegas Multi-specialty Conference.

Congratulations to **Dr. Valerie Callender**, who is the new President Elect of the Women's Dermatologic Society!

Congratulations to **Dr. Victoria Holloway Barbosa**, who has been named one of Chicago's Best Dermatologists!

Dr. Wendy Roberts has been inducted into the prestigious American Dermatological Association. Many congratulations!

MEMBERS' BOOKS, ARTICLES AND LECTURES

Dr. John E. Harris, an assistant professor in the Departments of Medicine and Dermatology at University of Massachusetts Medical School has several recently published articles:

- 1) Chin MS, Freniere BB, Fakhouri S, Harris JE, Lalikos JF, Crosby AJ. Cavitation Rheology as a Potential Method for *in vivo* Assessment of Skin Biomechanics. *Plast. Reconstr. Surg.* (2013) 131(2): 303e-305e. PMID: 3712129
- 2) Malhotra N, Narayan K, Cho OH, Sylvia K, Yin C, Melichar H, Rashighi M, Lefebvre V, Harris JE, Berg LJ and Kang J. A network of High Mobility Group box transcription factors programs innate IL-17 production. *Immunity.* (2013) 38(4):681-693. PMID: 23562159.
- 3) Harris JE. Viewpoint: Vitiligo and alopecia areata: Apples and oranges? *Exp. Derm.* (2013) 22(12): 785-9.
- 4) Richmond JM, Frisoli ML, and Harris JE. Innate immune mechanisms in vitiligo: Danger from within. *Curr. Opin. Immunol.* (2013) 25: 676-82.

Dr. Cheryl Burgess recently published the cosmetics chapter in A. Paul Kelly, MD's second edition of Dermatology for Skin of Color.

CURRENTLY ENROLLING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Dr. Cheryl Burgess is currently enrolling the following research projects:

- 1) Allergan-Evaluating the Effectiveness of Aczone® (dapsone) Gel 5% in Adult Female Facial Acne Patients with Fitzpatrick Skin Types IV, V, and VI - Pilot Study
- 2) A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of RT001 Topical Gel for the Treatment of Moderate to Severe Lateral Canthal Lines in Adults.

From Dr. Ginette Okoye:

The Cutaneous Translational Research Program at Johns Hopkins Dermatology is recruiting for the following clinical studies:

- 1) Skin Aging in African-Americans: Development of a Photonumeric Scale and Assessment of Contributing Factors

Our research is being done to better understand skin aging in African-Americans and other black populations and we are looking for participants that are 75+ years of age. We will take photographs for evaluation, administer a survey, and perform 2 small skin biopsies for molecular study. Participants who undergo biopsies will be paid \$40.00, plus any transportation costs to our Baltimore office. For more information, call 410-502-SKIN.