

The Skin of Color Society (SOCS) hosted its **13th Annual Scientific Symposium** on Thursday, March 2, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency Orlando, Orlando, FL. The day began with the General Business Meeting and the President’s Report by Dr. Amy McMichael and was followed by a full program of speakers.

SOCS committees reported on their activity over the past year. Exciting new initiatives were discussed, some of which included: growth of our membership numbers, continued activity of the mentorship program, a record number (28) of abstracts submitted, an increase in sponsorship support, and continued efforts by our technology committee to ensure search engine optimization of our website to increase traffic from the public.

Outgoing BOD members Drs. Grimes, Kundu, and Taylor were thanked for their service and the new slate of officers was presented and accepted. Dr. Seemal R. Desai will serve as President, Dr. Lynn McKinley-Grant will serve as Secretary/Treasurer, and Dr. Amy McMichael will transition to Immediate Past President.



(Drs. McMichael, Grimes, Kundu, Taylor, and Desai)



(Drs. McMichael and Desai)



(Drs. Desai, McMichael, and Rendon)



(Dr. Alexis)

The Scientific Symposium was Chaired and moderated by Andrew Alexis, MD, MPH and oral presentations were judged by: Sumayah Taliaferro, MD, Heather Woolery-Lloyd, MD and Lynn McKinley-Grant, MD.

At the conclusion of their 1-year mentorship, the following 2016 Mentee/Mentor relationships were recognized:

Mentee	Mentor
Ana Sofía Ayala Cortés, MD	Michelle Rodrigues, MBBS (Hons) FACD
Sara Hogan, MD	Marcy L. Street, MD
Jasmine Hollinger, MD	Amit G. Pandya, MD
Tiffany Mayo, MD	Stavonnie Sheri Patterson, MD
Jillian Millsop, MD, MS	Marie Jhin, MD
Osamuede Osemwota, MD	Amy McMichael, MD
Lulit Price, MD	Roopal Kundu, MD
Sophia Reid, MD	Diane Ford, MD
Vanessa Richardson, MD	Sumayah Taliaferro, MD
Sandeep Saluja, MD	Lisa C. Espinoza, MD
Chikoti Wheat, MD	Janiene D. Luke, MD

The official program of the SOCS included presentations by seven Resident / Research Fellows who presented information about their original research. They included:

1. Ajay Kailas, BS - University of Central Florida College of Medicine *"A Social Media Survey to Assess Knowledge, Behavior and Physician Satisfaction Related to Skin Cancer Within the Skin of Color Population"*
2. Shawn Kwatra, MD - Department of Dermatology, Johns Hopkins University *"Addressing Minority Representation in Dermatology Through a Structured Mentorship and Instructional Program"*
3. Tasneem Mohammad, MD - Henry Ford Hospital Department of Dermatology *"Determine if Lower Concentrations of TCA Can Be Used to Induce PIH Comparable to Acne to Refine the Pre-existing PIH Model"*
4. Jacob Subash, BS - Wake Forest Dermatology *"Examining the Mechanisms for Other Scarring Entities That Are Common in African American Patient or Occur in the Skin Can Help to Inform the Mechanism of Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia"*
5. Andrea Tan, BS - Department of Dermatology, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center *"Pentoxifylline for the Prevention of Post-Surgical Keloid Recurrence: A Retrospective Pilot Study"*
6. Andrea Tovar-Garza, MD - University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center *"Treatment of Active Vitiligo Using Oral Dexamethasone, NB-UVB and Clobetasol"*
7. Elizabeth Lee, BS - University of Tennessee Health Science Center *"Melanoma in African Americans: An Example of Healthcare Disparities or a Difference in Tumor Gene Expression?"*

There were 4 excellent expert talks given during the SOCS Annual Scientific Symposium by invited speakers as well. The invited speakers included:

1. **Sewon Kang, MD** – Johns Hopkins Medicine, Chairman, Department of Dermatology & Photomedicine Society *"Factoring in Skin Pigment in Phototherapy"*
2. **Michael H. Tirgan, MD** – Keloid Research Foundation *"Medical Management of Keloid Disorder"*
3. **Roy G. Geronemus, MD** – Laser & Skin Surgery of New York & Clinical Professor of Dermatology, New York University Medical Center *"Lasers/Light Based Technologies for the Treatment of Hyperpigmentation"*
4. **Buffie Longmire-Avital** – Elon University, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology Program Coordinator for African & African American Studies (Invited Speaker) *"I Fought So Hard to Get Here?": Navigating Microaggressions in Historically White Spaces"*

In addition to the oral presentations, 21 Resident / Research Fellows displayed posters at the Symposium:

1. Jennifer Coias, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center *"Measuring Vitiligo Activity: Validation of the Vitiligo Disease Activity Index (VIDA)"*
2. Juana Garza-Chapa, MD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center *"Immunohistopathological Characterization of Confetti-like Lesions in Patients with Vitiligo"*
3. Attiya Haroon, MD, PhD, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Department of Dermatology *"Bedside Monitoring of Vitiligo Treatments in Patients with Skin of Color Using Reflectance Confocal Microscopy"*
4. Jorge Hinojosa, BA, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Dermatology *"CXCL9 Decreases in Vitiligo Lesions with Treatment and May Serve as a Biomarker of Disease Activity"*
5. Jorge Hinojosa, BA, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Dermatology *"Repigmentation of Vitiligo Lesions is Associated with Improved Quality of Life and May Lower Risk for Depression"*

6. Bridget Kaufman, MD, Mount Sinai St. Luke's
"Efficacy of Calcipotriene 0.005%/Betamethasone Dipropionate 0.064% in Skin of Color: Preliminary Data From 3 Pooled Multicenter, Randomized, 4-week, Parallel-group Studies in the United States"
7. Bridget Kaufman, MD, Mount Sinai St. Luke's
"Correlation Between Fitzpatrick Skin Type and Mexameter Measurement of Skin Pigmentation in a Predominately Skin of Color Population"
8. Nicole Leung, BS, Duke University School of Medicine, Duke University Hospital, Department of Dermatology
"Successful Treatment and Long-term Remission of Erythema Dyschromia Perstans (EDP) in a Patient Using Narrow Band-UVB"
9. Mayra Maymone, MD, DSc, Boston University
"The Impact of Hyperpigmentation on Quality of Life"
10. Ella Miller, MS, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Department of Dermatology
"Influence of Race, Ethnicity, Acculturation, Gender, and Age of Onset on Quality of Life in Patients with Vitiligo"
11. Cynthia Nicholson, MD, Henry Ford, Department of Dermatology
"The Efficiency of Product Testing Techniques to Assess the Use of a Plant Extract in Treating Postinflammatory Hyperpigmentation"
12. Uzoamaka Okoro, BA, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
"Skin of Color in Preclinical Medical Education"
13. Erere Otrofanowei, MBBS, Lagos University Teaching Hospital
"Erythrodermic Psoriasis Advancing to Nodular Mycoses Fungoides in a Young Nigerian- the Need for Repeat Biopsies"
14. Stavonnie Patterson, MD, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
"Black Patients' Lived Experiences in Skin of Color Centers"
15. Angelique Ross, MD, Royal Melbourne Hospital
"Australian Dermatology Trainee Perspectives on Skin of Colour: Results of a National Survey"
16. Rithu Srikantha, BS, University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, Department of Dermatology
"Implicit Association within Dermatology"
17. Jacob Subash, BS, Wake Forest Dermatology
"(<http://www.sweatandhair.com>); A Specialty Website was Evaluated for Use as an Educational Tool for Young African-American Women Students on a College Campus"
18. Maria Vitale, MD, Industrial Farmacéutica Cantabria
"One Depigmentant Formula for All Skin Colors"
19. Lauren West-Livingston, MS, Wake Forest School of Medicine
"The Cultivation of an Environment that Promotes Cultural Awareness Between Medical Professionals Will Thus Influence Physician-patient Relationships by Normalizing Respect of Cultural Differences"
20. Di Yan, BA, University of California, San Francisco
"Prevalence of Psoriasis Subtypes in Different Ethnoracial Groups"

21. Cathy Zhao, MBBS, MMed, University of New South Wales

"A Comparison Study of Clinician-rated Atopic Dermatitis Outcome Measures for Intermediate to Dark Skin Patients"



(Drs. Taylor and Elbuluk)

After the Scientific Symposium, there was a Skin of Color Awards Reception, sponsored by Valeant Pharmaceuticals where the Skin of Color Research Grant Award was presented to **Temitayo A. Ogunleye, MD**, Perelman School of Medicine. Her research will examine *"Molecular Analysis of Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia"*. Dr. Susan Taylor accepted the award from Research Grant Awards Committee Chair Dr. Nada Elbuluk on behalf of Dr. Ogunleye.

Winners of the Resident/Research Fellow presentations were also noted:

- **1st Place:** Jacob Subash, BS
- **2nd Place:** Shawn Kwatra, MD
- **3rd Place:** Andrea Tan, BS

SOCS President, Dr. Amy McMichael and SOCS Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Seemal R. Desai thanked all attendees and encouraged continual involvement in the specialty to increase the visibility of the Skin of Color Society and our cause.



SOCS wishes to thank the following corporate supporters!



Save the Date:

SOCS 14th Annual Scientific Symposium will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 in San Diego, California.