

MCW Dermatology Newsletter: Fall 2024

November 2024

A Message from the Chair



"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH." – HELEN KELLER

It is an honor to join you as the new Chair of our exceptional Dermatology Department. This is an exciting time for all of us—a moment to celebrate our collective achievements, embrace new opportunities, and chart a path forward together. I am inspired by the passion, expertise, and dedication everyone brings to our shared mission, and I am excited to build on the remarkable excellence that defines this department.

I am privileged to follow the transformative tenure of Dr. Kenneth Gordon who served as our chair for the past 8 years. Under Dr. Gordon's leadership our department grew tremendously in all of our missions. I am delighted that Dr. Gordon will be remaining with the department continuing to impart his wisdom in clinical care, research, and education. He is dedicated to mentoring faculty and residents to grow our department and dermatology for the future.

My overwhelming goal is to build on our past successes to continue to create a department that is one of the key leaders in dermatology locally, nationally, and internationally. Our success to date is made possible by a phenomenal team who have made outstanding contributions to our department and the world of dermatology and medicine. Our faculty have enthusiastically transitioned into new leadership opportunities that will continue the growth in excellence in our department. Dr. Stephen Humphrey has transitioned from the Associate Residency Program Director to becoming the Program Director. To fill his shoes in his prior position, Dr. Cassandra Holzem and Dr. Gretchen Roth, will share the roles of Associate Program Directors and Directors of Medical Student Education. We are thrilled that our educational offerings have grown with our new Mohs micrographic surgery fellowship under the direction of Dr. Julia Kasprzak who is now mentoring our very first Mohs fellow, Dr. Katherine Thompson. To round out our educational team, Dr. Leah Lalor's leadership in the Pediatric Dermatology Program has been instrumental, and she also has been serving as our Director of Continuing Medical Education.

While education has been an area of great change in the past year, we continue to lead in Wisconsin and nationally in our other missions including clinical care, research, and community engagement. Dr. Yvonne

Chiu, Vice Chair of Pediatric Dermatology, is a national leader in her field, driving outstanding care and leading one of the most well-known and largest pediatric dermatology divisions in the country. Dr. Kara Young has been serving as both Medical Director and Director of Dermatopathology, and she has been instrumental in our exciting expansion in dermatopathology with new clients that we will be serving. With all our amazing clinicians taking care of patients within our academic and community practices and at the VA medical center, we have a team to deliver the highest clinical care to our patients.

Our research efforts also continue to grow and evolve, Dr. Shanthi Narla is assuming the role of mentorship of our medical students interested in research, which dovetails well with her position to advances clinical trials. On the pediatric side, Dr. Kristi Holland also has been an instrumental leader in pediatric clinical trials and helping expand our research. Importantly, Dr. Shola Vaughn has been instrumental in strengthening our community engagement, ensuring our mission has a lasting and equitable impact on underserved populations.

Growth in our clinical programs is the foundation for our ability to serve the community and supporting all of our other missions. We continue to develop new faculty as we welcome two new faculty members, Dr. Jesse Kasim, a talented graduate of our residency program, and Dr. Katherine Kondratuk, an amazing pediatric dermatologist with interest in autoinflammatory disorders and genodermatoses, both of whom bring fresh ideas and energy to our team.

The Department of Dermatology has a tradition of outstanding contributions in all of our missions, and I am looking forward to building on this legacy. We recently completed a strategic retreat, where we came together to envision the future of our department. The retreat highlighted the power of collaboration, as we celebrated progress, brainstormed innovative ideas, and identified key areas for growth. The energy and insights shared during this retreat will help guide our department's path forward, ensuring our continued success.

As I take on this role, I am deeply committed to fostering a culture of positivity, community, and growth. Together, we will advance our shared mission of excellence in clinical care, education, research, and community engagement and shape a future defined by innovation, inclusivity, and a profound impact on our patients, trainees, and communities. If you are interested in contributing and being involved in anyway, please let me know!

With gratitude and optimism,

Karolyn Warat

Residency Corner

A Letter from the Program Director

Time keeps ticking and so do the department changes! Most days I feel like I just finished residency and fellowship, but it has been over eight years now. I still cannot believe that! As I take over as residency program director, I am humbled, honored, and excited to be in this role at the place where it all started for me - MCW. I have had outstanding mentors and colleagues who have elevated our exceptional program, and I embrace this opportunity. I am so excited to work alongside our new Associate Program Directors, Drs. Kassandra Holzem and Gretchen Roth! We also have a procedural dermatology fellowship, led by Dr. Julia Kasprzak, and have our first fellow this year. I know this is going to be a great experience all-around.



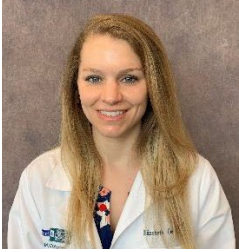
With these exciting changes, we also said goodbye to another great residency class in June. Some have stayed close by in the Milwaukee area and others have moved to California, Washington, and North Carolina. I will miss their inquisitiveness and hard work in clinic. I am so proud of what they have accomplished, and I am excited to see where their careers take them. It is a rollercoaster of emotions to say goodbye, but also thrilling to welcome our new first year residents into the MCW family. Our first-year class brings heaps of enthusiasm, insatiable curiosity, and just the right amount of humor to the program. They already fit in so well. We have a mix of some familiar faces in former MCW students and away rotators, as well as some new folks! Our 2nd and 3rd years continue to embrace their roles as leaders with grace, humility, and enthusiasm. I am so grateful for their dedication to the department and to our patients.

Kicking off the new academic year, the residents continued the ever-expanding Dermato-Olympics in September (Team Humphrey will win some day!) and have some awesome group activities planned. We continue to have lively (and live!) Grand Rounds, wonderful Academic Half Day speakers, and phenomenal resident annual talks. We look forward to the Department-wide Dermatology retreat in November, as well as a bevy of holiday parties, conference get-togethers, and more social activities. So many fun things to come!

Take care, stay connected, and do not be a stranger!

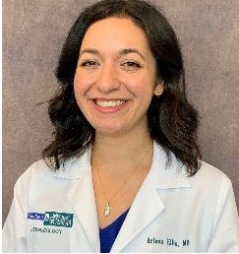
Warm wishes,
Steve

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Our Graduates!



Elizabeth Cook, MD

Dr. Cook stayed in the Greater Milwaukee area and joined Aurora, seeing patients at West Bend and Slinger locations. We are excited that she will continue to be in the area.



Ariana Ellis, MD

Dr. Ellis took on the role of being our sole chief resident and did a phenomenal job. This past fall, she joined the Dermatology Group of the Carolina in Charlotte, North Carolina



Leanna Hansen, MD

Dr. Hansen has headed back to California to join Bernardo Dermatology Medical Group where her love for dermatology started and is incorporating both medical and cosmetic dermatology in her practice.



Jesse Kasim, MD

Dr. Kasim has joined the MCW Dermatology and is taking care of patients in the community practice at both Townhall and West Bend locations. We are delighted to have him part of the MCW Dermatology family!



Kimberly Katz, MD

Dr. Katz moved to the Pacific Northwest and joined the faculty at University of Washington focusing on medical dermatology, and we cannot wait to see how her academic career unfolds.

Meet Our New Residents!



Sarah Abdel-Mageed, MD

Hometown: Grand Rapids, MI

Medical School: Indiana University School of Medicine

Internship: St Vincent – Indianapolis

Why I Chose MCW: When I interviewed at MCW, I was really struck by how warm and welcoming everyone was and I could genuinely feel everyone’s love for the program. I’ve always heard great things about Milwaukee and was excited to join a program with such diverse clinical experiences, in an amazing city, with really dedicated faculty.

Kelly Barry, MD

Hometown: Elmhurst, IL

Medical School: Tufts University

Internship: Newton-Wellesley TY

Why I Chose MCW: As an away rotator at MCW, I was totally blown away by the well-rounded training, outstanding educational curriculum, supportive and friendly faculty, residents, and staff, and beautiful facilities. Milwaukee is a hidden gem of a city, and I could not be more thrilled to return to the Midwest for my dermatology training!



Sara Bilimoria, MD

Hometown: Glenview, IL

Medical School: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Internship: McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University

Why I Chose MCW: I chose MCW Dermatology because of the program’s outstanding clinical training and the caliber of faculty dedicated to patient care and education. I was also drawn to the opportunity to work with and learn from a diverse patient population. Finally, the supportive and collaborative environment created by the faculty, staff, and residents sealed the deal for me!



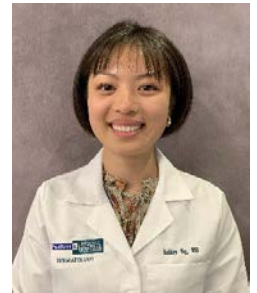
Ashley Ng, MD

Hometown: Pewaukee, WI

Medical School: Medical College of Wisconsin

Internship: Cohen Children’s Medical Center

Why I Chose MCW: MCW Dermatology has a great breadth of pathology seen across all hospitals & clinics, and a particularly strong pediatric dermatology division. The faculty are enthusiastic about teaching, and there’s so much to learn from each of them with their own area of expertise. Lastly, you can tell the residents are all truly friends and support one another.



Margaret Tallmadge,, MD

Hometown: Brookfield, WI

Medical School: Medical College of Wisconsin

Internship: Aurora Health Care/St. Luke’s Medical Center

Why I Chose MCW: I chose MCW because I had excellent experiences rotating with the dermatology department as a student. I knew I would receive strong, well-rounded training from faculty who are incredibly supportive of residents and excited by teaching.



Meet Our New Mohs Fellow!



Katherine Thompson, MD

Undergraduate: University of Pittsburgh

Medical School: Drexel University College of Medicine

Internship: Allegheny General Hospital

Residency: Johns Hopkins Hospital

Honors and Awards



Dr. Laura Goeser, one of our senior residents, was recognized with MCWAH's prestigious Jessica S. Lin Award for Clinical Excellence. This award recognizes a MCWAH resident who has made significant contributions to the care of patients during training. Dr. Goeser was recognized for her excellence in patient care, professionalism, education of medical students and other residents, and community service. We are lucky to have Dr. Goeser on the resident team and work with her every day! Congratulations to Dr. Goeser!

Dr. Kim Katz, residency class of 2024, was elected as a housestaff member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. The mission of AOA is to improve care for all by recognizing high educational achievement, honoring gifted teaching, encouraging the development of leaders in academia and the community, supporting the ideals of humanism; and promoting service to others. Dr. Katz certainly embodied those ideals during her time in residency and will continue that forward in her career. Congratulations, Dr. Katz!



Honors and Awards



James Troy, Clinical Professor of Dermatology, was awarded the prestigious Clark W. Finnerud Award from the Dermatology Foundation. The Finnerud Award recognizes part-time teacher or clinicians in academic dermatology programs. Dr. Troy has been a member of the MCW teaching faculty since 1981 and has left an indelible mark on the residency program. He received three letters in support of his nomination, and the departmental nomination letter was co-signed by 98 MCW alumni (a record according to the DF)! The department and residency program are eternally grateful for Dr. Troy's legacy and teaching.



Marisol Ramos, Clinical Research Coordinator, was recognized by the Pediatric Translational Research Unit as the Research Partner of the Month in March 2024. A quote from the TRU staff: "Marisol always come to the TRU with a warm and welcoming attitude. She is consistently well prepared for all her study visits. She works incredibly well with the patients and the families in her studies." Although we all know how amazing Marisol is, it was wonderful to see her hard work recognized by the Pediatric TRU!

Notable Alumni



Dr. Amy Nopper received her medical degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. She initially completed a Pediatric Residency at Arkansas Children's Hospital, followed by a Pediatric Dermatology Research Fellowship at Stanford University before completing her Dermatology Residency at Medical College of Wisconsin. She graduated from the residency program in 1997, and subsequently completed an additional several months of pediatric dermatology clinical fellowship with Dr. Nancy Esterly at MCW.

Upon completion of training, Dr. Nopper returned to Kansas City and became the first Pediatric Dermatologist at Children's Mercy Hospital (CMH). As the Division Director since 1997, she has enjoyed the opportunity to develop the division into one of the largest academic programs in the country with five physicians and six advanced practice providers. She is also the cofounder of the CMH Vascular Anomalies Specialty Clinic for which she is the medical director. Dr. Nopper started the Pediatric Dermatology Fellowship at CMH in 1999 and served as the fellowship director until 2012. Currently, Dr. Nopper is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine and has had the opportunity to mentor and train many medical students, pediatric and dermatology residents, and pediatric dermatology fellows.

Dr. Nopper's clinical and research interests include infantile hemangiomas, vascular malformations, severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions, complex pediatric dermatology, and advocacy for children with visible skin disorders. She is a founding and current member of the Hemangioma Investigator Group and enjoys the camaraderie and inspiration of this group, as well as the opportunity to participate in multicenter clinical investigations. She has published widely, and her leadership service includes past Vice President of the Society of Pediatric Dermatology and participation in the Section of Dermatology within the AAP. Dr. Nopper has lectured extensively at the local, regional, national, and international level and has enjoyed participating in numerous Dermatology and Pediatric Board Review Courses over the past 25 years.

The highlight of Dr. Nopper's career, thus far, has been her clinical work and patient care. She particularly values the relationships she has developed with her pediatric dermatology colleagues, as well as with her many patients and their families, who continue to teach and inspire her.

Notable Alumni



Dr. Juliet (Gunkel) Aylward completed her medical degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison after earning a bachelor's degree in art history and a master's degree in business at the same institution. She completed her residency in dermatology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2004, followed by a Mohs surgery fellowship at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston. She is now a clinical professor of dermatology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she has been for nearly 20 years. During that time, she trained 16 Mohs surgery fellows, including MCW's Mohs surgery and fellowship director Dr Julia Kasprzak, directed the Mohs fellowship for 8 years, and served as chief of Mohs surgery for 12 years.

Her clinical and research interests are focused on patient outcomes and high-risk skin cancer treatment. Her commitment to improving the quality and accessibility of skin cancer care drives these research efforts. She also is dedicated to promoting the history and legacy of Dr Frederic Mohs, a pioneer in skin cancer treatment. Through her successful fundraising efforts, endowments for research and clinical faculty honoring Dr Mohs have been established. She also has partnered with the UW Archives and researchers to create an oral history project about Dr Mohs, produce a documentary about his life and work, and preserve and catalog his papers and extensive clinical photographs and films.

Department Events

Dr. Wilson's Retirement

Long-time and beloved faculty member, Dr. Barbara Wilson, retired in June 2024 after 21 years of service to the MCW Department of Dermatology. Dr. Wilson joined the department in 1993 as a part-time volunteer faculty member. In 2007, she was recruited from private practice in the Milwaukee community to join the full-time faculty and become Program Director of the residency program, a position she held until 2015. During her tenure at MCW, she was also Medical Director of the Froedtert Dermatology Clinic from 2012–2018 amongst many other leadership roles. Dr. Wilson was the consummate physician and teacher, mentoring countless residents and students to successful careers.

In honor of a career dedicated to teaching, the Barbara Wilson Teaching Award was created and awarded to Dr. Wilson as the inaugural recipient. She was presented with the award by the 2024 graduating class at resident graduation.

To celebrate Dr. Wilson's retirement, the department hosted a reunion where current and past faculty, staff, residents, alumni, and friends gathered on the weekend of August 16-17. The weekend kicked off with CME talks by esteemed alumni such as Dr. Edit Olasz Harken, Dr. Jeff Yu, Dr. Steve Humphrey, Dr. Wendy Kim, and Dr. Yvonne Chiu. Dr. Olasz Harken then threw the most amazing fish fry and cocktail party at her beautiful home on the lake. The next day, a grill out was held at Dr. Chiu's house, complete with bounce houses for the kids. Thank you to those who attended, especially those who traveled from a distance to join in the festivities!







Dermatology Research

The Department of Dermatology continues to grow in the realm of research with innovative clinical trials, student led projects, quality of care studies, and translational research. In July we welcomed a new research fellow: Alexa Ries (pre-doctoral fellow, The University of Utah) to our research team, bringing our group to a total of a research program manager, two clinical research coordinators, a clinical research assistant, and two research fellows. We would like to highlight a few of our studies this past year below:

Clinical Trials in Inflammatory Skin Disease

New emerging medications with unique mechanisms of action have made for exciting times in Dermatology. New targeted therapies for diseases previously lacking FDA-approved medications or with large treatment gaps provide hope for our patients. Both the adult and pediatric clinical trials work continues to expand and provide access to new treatments with focus on inflammatory skin conditions such as atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, and hidradenitis suppurativa.

"Transition of Care" - Bridging the Gap: Study of the Transition from Pediatric to Adult Dermatology Care (Yvonne Chiu, MD / Alexa Ries)

Health-related quality of life (HRQoL) measures are important in assessing the burden of illness and outcomes of medical treatment. The literature is limited in assessments of adolescent and young adults (AYA) and their transition readiness in dermatological care. Deficits in health-specific self-management skills, a critical transition readiness indicator, have been linked to poorer health outcomes. This association is particularly concerning for adolescents with chronic health conditions, who demonstrate lower transition readiness compared to the general population. A lack of transition of care interventions is shown to have poor outcomes, including deterioration in health, increased medication complications and poor adherence, discontinuity in care, and higher healthcare costs.

The goal of this study is to assess transition readiness among adolescent and young adults (AYA) who will undergo or have undergone transition of care from a pediatric to adult dermatologist.

Quality of Life in melanoma patients (Kara Young, MD / Nicole Boswell, MD)

Few studies have been conducted regarding quality-of-life outcomes in melanoma, especially studies comparing time since diagnosis, staging, location, and treatments. While there is some reported information regarding race and socioeconomic status and survival in melanoma, there is not reported data comparing race and socioeconomic status on the quality of life in melanoma patients in the current medical literature.

The primary objective of this study is to characterize quality of life of patients with melanoma followed at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Dermatology clinic. In order to further characterize quality of life in patients with melanoma, a Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy- Melanoma (FACT-M) will be given at a standard of care dermatology visit for patients with a history of melanoma seen for a skin-check. The need to conduct more research regarding these factors is necessary to advance medical knowledge and improve outcomes for these patients.

Ongoing Studies Involving Departmental Faculty Include the Following:

Pediatric Dermatology

- OptIMMize-1: A Randomized, Active-Controlled, Efficacy Assessor-Blinded Study to Evaluate Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Efficacy of Risankizumab in Patients from 6 to Less than 18 Years of Age with Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis (Kristen Holland, MD)
- OptIMMize-2: A Phase 3 Multicenter, Single-arm, Open-label Extension Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability, and Efficacy of Risankizumab in Subjects with Moderate to Severe Plaque Psoriasis Who Have Completed Participation in Study M19-977 (OptIMMize-1) (Kristen Holland, MD)
- A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 3 Study to Assess the Efficacy, Safety and Pharmacokinetics of Lebrikizumab Compared to Placebo in Participants 6 Months to <18 Years of Age with Moderate-to-Severe Atopic Dermatitis (Kristen Holland, MD)
- A Phase 3, Multicenter, Long-Term Extension Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of Lebrikizumab in Participants 6 Months to <18 Years of Age with Moderate-to-Severe Atopic Dermatitis (Kristen Holland, MD)
- Prospective, observational, longitudinal study in pediatric patients with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis whose disease is not adequately controlled with topical prescription therapies or when those therapies are not medically advisable (Kristen Holland, MD)
- Hidradenitis Suppurativa Treatment Outcomes in Pediatric Patients with Down Syndrome (Kristen Holland, MD)
- Retrospective Review of Patients with Down syndrome in Dermatology and Safety of Biologic Therapy (Kristen Holland, MD)
- Acne Recurrence Rates after Isotretinoin Therapy: A Retrospective Study (Stephen Humphrey, MD)
- A Multi-Center Retrospective Cohort Study on the use of and Clinical Outcomes of Pediatric Patients with Hidradenitis Suppurativa on Biologic Therapy (Stephen Humphrey, MD)
- Longitudinal Characterization of Pediatric Onset Morphea (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Characterizing Pediatric Hyperhidrosis: A 10 Year Retrospective Chart Review of a Pediatric Hyperhidrosis Clinic (Yvonne Chiu, MD / Joree Ruiz, PA-C)
- Morphea Activity Measure: Testing Responsiveness to Change (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Development of the Morphea Activity and Damage Measure (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Characterizing the Cutaneous Manifestations of Crohn's Disease: A Retrospective Chart Review (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Atopic Dermatitis: An Assessment of Lesional Morphology by Race/Ethnicity (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Clinical and Genetic Characterization of Recurrent Reactive Infections Mucocutaneous Eruption (Yvonne Chiu, MD)
- Isotretinoin Initiation for Acne Vulgaris based on Primary Language (Leah Lalor, MD)
- Isotretinoin Use for Acne in Obese and Overweight Adolescents: A Retrospective Study (Leah Lalor, MD)
- Agminated eruptive nevi in patients with a history of Langerhans cell histiocytosis (Leah Lalor, MD)
- Evaluating outcomes of live-attenuated vaccine administration in pediatric patients receiving dupilumab for atopic dermatitis (Leah Lalor, MD)
- Effects of Live Vaccination in Children on Dupilumab: A Multicenter Retrospective Study (Leah Lalor, MD)
- 30-Day Postoperative Outcomes In Pediatric Patients Following Excision (Valerie Carlberg, MD)

Adult Dermatology

- Alternative Treatments for Extramammary Paget's Disease: A Case Series (Shola Vaughn, MD)
- Misdiagnosis of Vulvar Lichen Sclerosus in Black Women (Shola Vaughn, MD)
- Vulvar Dermatoses: A Multicenter Retrospective Study (Shola Vaughn, MD)
- Racial Differences in the Identification of Erythema Migrans by Medical Students (Shola Vaughn, MD)
- What is the utility of biopsy in the updated syphilis diagnostic algorithm? (Shola Vaughn, MD)
- Comparing Artificial Intelligence with Teledermatology in the Diagnosis of Pigmented Lesions in the Community (Kara Young, MD)
- A Prospective Observational Study of Adult Patients Receiving Dupixent for Atopic Dermatitis (Keri Chaney, MD)
- Diagnostic And Treatment Options for Patients with High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma (Hr-cSCC) of the Head and Neck: Evaluating the Role of Imaging, Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy, And Adjuvant Therapy in The Management and Outcomes of Patients with Hr-cSCC (Melanie Clark, MD / Shola Vaughn, MD)
- Topical treatment of SCC or SCCis and the impact of positive histologic margins at the time of diagnosis (Melanie Clark, MD)
- Utilization Rates of Dermatology-Screening Certification Services in Nail Technicians within the Wauwatosa Area (Melanie Clark, MD)
- Prospective Validation of a Gene Expression Assay to Predict the Risk of Recurrence Disease in cSCC (Julia Kasprzak, MD)
- A Retrospective Study of Clinical Outcomes of Patients with Non-melanoma Skin Cancer (Julia Kasprzak, MD)
- Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and actinic keratosis (AK) rebound in solid organ transplant recipients (SOTRs) on capecitabine (Julia Kasprzak, MD)
- A Phase 2b, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate Eltrekibart in Adult Participants with Moderate to Severe Hidradenitis Suppurativa (Gretchen Roth, MD)
- Investigating Barriers and Delays to Biologic Therapy for Hidradenitis Suppurativa Patients (Gretchen Roth, MD)
- Hidradenitis Suppurativa Prospective Observational Registry and Biospecimen Repository (Gretchen Roth, MD / Kristen Holland, MD)
- Oncodermatology Curriculum Assessment with Hematology-Oncology Advanced Practice Providers (Kassandra Holzem, MD)
- Natural History Study of Rubella-Associated Granulomatous Lesions in Aged Individuals (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Retrospective review of invasive cutaneous infections (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Improving dermatology specialty outreach services in remote areas of Tanzania using teledermatology (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Assessing Quality of Life in Patients with Dermatologic Diseases in Bagamoyo, Tanzania (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Rubella Virus-Associated Granuloma Pathology Consensus (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Retrospective Review of Clinical and Histopathologic Characteristics of Medication-Induced Blistering Skin Disorders (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Post-operative pyoderma gangrenosum: A retrospective review (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Severity Scoring Instrument for Assessment of Cutaneous Granulomatous Disease (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Cutaneous Crohns Disease: Retrospective Review of Clinical Features, Disease Course, Treatment, and Outcomes (Karolyn Wanat, MD)

- Impact of Histopathological and Immunohistochemistry Findings on Sebaceous Gland Carcinoma Patient Outcomes (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Knowledge and awareness of topical steroid phobia in atopic dermatitis: pre and post continuing education of family medicine providers and pharmacist interns (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Use of teledermatology in resource-limited settings within Wisconsin (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Documentation: Assessing Impact to Clinician Workflow and Patient Encounters (Karolyn Wanat, MD)
- Improving Access to Dermatologic Care Through an Automated Scheduling System (Karolyn Wanat, MD)

FACULTY PROMOTIONS



Congratulations to Dr. Gretchen Roth and Dr. Shola Vaughn on their promotions! They were both promoted to Associate Professors of Dermatology, effective July 1, 2024. Both are accomplished faculty members and leaders in the department, and the promotion was very much deserved.



Meet the new faces in Dermatology!



Jesse Kasim, MD

While not exactly a new face, we are very excited to welcome Dr. Jesse Kasim to the department as a faculty member. Dr. Kasim grew up in Mukwonago, Wisconsin before leaving for the University of Minnesota for his undergraduate degree. He then returned to Wisconsin for medical school at the University of Wisconsin, Madison before completing his internal medicine internship and dermatology residency with us at the Medical College of Wisconsin. We were ecstatic when Dr. Kasim decided to stay at MCW following graduation. He is practicing at the Froedtert and MCW Community Physicians' sites in West Bend and Menomonee Falls. While Dr. Kasim enjoys all aspects of dermatology, he has special interests in skin cancer and procedural dermatology. Outside of work, Dr. Kasim enjoys tinkering with old cars and playing with his two cats.



Katherine Kondratuk, MD

Dr. Kate Kondratuk has joined the department as a new faculty member in the Division of Pediatric Dermatology. Originally from northern Wisconsin, she moved to South Dakota (go Jackrabbits!) and graduated from the University of South Dakota medical school. She completed internship at Indiana University and dermatology residency at Geisinger Medical Center. She recently completed her pediatric dermatology fellowship at Lurie Children's Hospital/Northwestern. Dr. Kondratuk has research and clinical interests in immunogenetics, immunodeficiency disorders, and autoinflammatory syndromes. In her free time, she enjoys international travel, music, dance, and anything that involves coffee.



Matt Schultz

My name is Matt Schultz and I became the Division Administrator for Pediatric Dermatology in May 2024. I joined Children's Specialty Group/MCW/CW in April 2023 as the Division Administrator for Pediatric Surgery. Prior to joining CSG/MCW, I was with City of Hope at their Zion, Illinois hospital/clinic. I did my undergraduate work at Carthage College and completed the Executive MBA program at UW-Milwaukee.

My wife, Ashley, and I have been married for 15 years and have 2 children, Lily and Sully. We enjoy tent camping as a family and take in a lot of sports. Our kids play volleyball, softball, soccer, baseball, basketball and bit of tennis. Autumn in southeastern Wisconsin is truly the best place to be and we are excited for football season, chili cook-offs, and apple orchards.



Alexa Ries

Alexa Ries, a medical student at the University of Utah, joined us at MCW as the predoctoral research fellow in July. She has a background in medical laboratory science and a passion for infectious disease. Her additional interests are in pediatric dermatology, complex medical dermatology, and global health. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, paddleboarding, and mountain biking. When the weather turns colder, you'll likely find her curled up with a good book or a crafting project.



Chris Allen

Chris Allen transferred to Dermatology as the Education Coordinator after two years working with medical students in the Department of Emergency Medicine. Prior to that he was in the Pediatrics Division of Asthma/Allergy/Immunology for three years. Before joining MCW, Chris worked in the Emergency Department at Aurora St. Luke's Hospital. Healthcare has been a career change for Chris—he originally began working in non-profit fundraising and communications. Chris and his wife are adjusting to being empty nesters as they have one child (a son) at UWM pursuing a degree in teaching.



Jessica Bevan

Hay, I'm Jessica, the new Dermatology Administrator. Before turning to healthcare as a career, I held positions in business, information technology, and design. It was these experiences that allowed me to look at healthcare from a different perspective and speak expressively to the issues that affect healthcare today. I have experience as a health care administrator in both the private sector and in academic medicine. I love turning innovative ideas into reality! I worked at both Froedtert and MCW from 2005-2013 and have an excellent understanding of the dynamics of our institution and our hospital partners. Prior to returning to Wisconsin 3 years ago, I held the role of Chief Administrative Officer for the Department of Dermatology at the University of California, Irvine. Go Anteaters! In my free time, I enjoy traveling, exploring the outdoors, and spending time with my husband and our 3 kids & 2 Frenchie's.



Sarah Bieschke

Hi! I'm Sarah, one of the new Administrative Associates for Dermatology. Health care has always been a part of my life, as my aunts were Labor and Delivery nurses at Froedtert, along with my grandmother, who did administration here at MCW. I knew that I wanted to continue that long stretch of health care, but wasn't sure how I fit in. I have held positions as a patient facing receptionist at a chiropractic clinic, a dental clinic, and even at Froedtert. But I didn't feel that patient facing care was quite for me, so I dove into the back end of health care, which is how my path began and led me to where I am today.

I have a background in Healthcare Administration with some Public Health insight as well. I found myself enjoying learning about all of the back-end workings of health care. I have found that without those, the patient facing side, can be difficult. With all my patient facing experience and education of the administrative pieces, I was able to find myself diving into the different workflows and tasks that help keep healthcare afloat, from all angles. This gave me a great perspective to dive into an administrative role in Pathology and now here in Dermatology at MCW! I have now been able to experience the administrative duties and clinical duties working together, hand in hand. When I am not at work, you can usually find me with my fiancé traveling and being outdoors, wedding planning, or snuggling up with my 2 kitties!



Becky Belott

Hey there, my name is Becky Belott, administrative associate in dermatology. I grew up in West Allis, my mom still resides in the house my sister and I were raised in. My father passed in May due to pancreatic cancer, the doctors at Froedtert took such great care of him for which we are very thankful. I currently live in Milwaukee with my husband Brandon, he is the Director of the cage at Potawatomi

Hotel and Casino. We have two dogs, Jedi a Boston, and Neza a rescue. I enjoy decorating for all the holidays and seasons, both indoor and out and am a big fan of gnomes. You will see various ones at my desk. Previously I worked as a Sr. Admin for a marketing firm in Milwaukee followed by being a Sr. Admin at UnitedHealthcare for 13 years and most recently worked at Michels Construction doing billing and certified payroll.

I enjoy spending time with friends and family, hanging out with my pups, reading mystery and suspense novels, spending as much time outdoors as I can and doing word searches and various other puzzles.

Most of all I enjoy assisting people, hoping with my background in the administrative field I will be an asset to the team. I look forward to getting to know and working with everyone.

BABY CORNER!



Ziggy Goemar (Goesser)



Nora Maloney



Milo Kasian



Evelyn Lanham



Lily Katz



Elleanor Saab



Millie Humphrey



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The Department is still fundraising for the Master Dermatologist Endowed Fund. Through this fund, we can celebrate and honor the leadership and inspiration Drs. Thomas J. Russell, James L. Troy, and Barbara D. Wilson have provided to generations of dermatology residents and medical students at MCW. This Fund will help ensure their outstanding tradition endures and resources will remain available to help the Department maintain its excellence. The fund will help support our education mission, including textbooks for residents, meeting attendance for trainees, trainee research projects, and other worthwhile endeavors.



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