



# International League of Dermatological Societies

## *Skin Health for the World*

Newsletter No 01/17

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Willan House  
4 Fitzroy Square  
London  
W1T 5HQ  
United Kingdom

+44 (0)20 7388 6515  
info@ILDS.org  
<http://www.ILDS.org>

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## Why you should take part in World Skin Health Day



### ■ How did the World Skin Health Day campaign come into being, what inspired it?

The World Skin Health Day is a collaborative initiative of the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and the International Society of Dermatology (ISD). The idea for the campaign came from Dr Evangeline Handog at the ILDS Summit in 2012 in Berlin, Germany. The ISD leadership, led by her and Drs Jean Bologna and George Reizner, met with Prof. Wolfram Sterry to propose an activity which would engage ILDS Societies in a global campaign to increase awareness of skin health around the world.

### ■ What makes World Skin Health Day different from other campaigns?

World Skin Health Day is an equal opportunities campaign. Each Society can focus on whatever issue is most relevant to their local community. Also, there is no fixed date when World Skin Health Day can take place; this means that an activity can be planned for a time that best suits each Society. This flexible approach means that World Skin Health Day can be a year-long campaign which reflects the needs of local communities.

### ■ Why is it important for societies to take part in World Skin Health Day?

The ILDS and ISD together represent a unique combination of dermatology societies and individual dermatologists. World Skin Health Day allows us to use our global reach to raise awareness of skin health all over the world. The more Societies that take part in the campaign the more people we can help through our activities, be they education – or treatment-oriented.

### ■ What are the best types of World Skin Health Day activities to promote skin health?

The type of World Skin Health Day activity is up to you and the needs of your community. It can take the form of dermatological missions where consultations and treatment are undertaken. Other popular activities are training opportunities for health workers or parents/children of underserved communities. In the past Societies have organised walks to raise awareness of a particular skin disease that affects the local population, with other examples including prevention/treatment of head lice and scabies, sun protection, and many more. Visit the <https://www.worldskinday.org> website to see what is happening in 2017.

### ■ What advice would you give to a society for their World Skin Health Day activity?

Working in partnership with local non-governmental organizations, local government agencies or religious leaders can be a real bonus. This can potentially provide access to different community groups, as well as helping to organise the activity on a date where people have already arranged to gather for an event.

### ■ What do you hope the World Skin Health Day campaign will achieve in the future?

We would like more Societies to take part every year and share their experiences of increasing awareness of skin health around the world. Our ultimate goal is for World Skin Health Day to be recognised at an international level. Skin disease can affect anyone so it is important to reach as many people as possible.

### Harvey Lui & Evangeline Handog

Want to join World Skin Health Day 2017?  
Please visit <https://www.worldskinday.org>  
to download the campaign pack.



## Editorial



**Hassan Galadari**  
ILDS Board Member  
Editor, ILDS Newsletter

The ILDS board meeting took place in January in Moshi, Tanzania. This also coincided with the Board's visit to the Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC) which happens every four years. For some, it was their second visit, for others, even more. It was my first. This was also my first trip to any Sub-Saharan African nation. Without knowing what to expect, I had to make sure that all my travel vaccinations were in order, and let us not forget making sure to start my malaria prophylaxis. With Kilimanjaro in the backdrop, one cannot help but feel the awe of nature in its most raw of forms. The simple life amongst the very complicated world we live in.

One of the core objectives of the ILDS is to promote the improvement of dermatological care, education and science around the world. In Tanzania, the ILDS, through the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD), established and built in partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC). Founded in 1990, the RDTC has trained over 250 clinicians from 17 different countries in Africa. Through this work, the RDTC has helped care for the lives of many and has changed many more. A visit to the centre is truly a humbling experience when you begin to realise that so little can go so far.

Built on land gifted by the neighbouring Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, the RDTC consists of a main building with a number of examination rooms, lab (including dermatopathology services) and a pharmacy. Over time other facilities, such as a library, a pharmaceutical compounding unit, a student hostel, and accommodation for visiting teaching faculty, have been added. Projects that the RDTC provides are not restricted to patient care and education. Research is performed and encouraged. The most important of which was devising a new sunscreen formula to help and aid people suffering from albinism in Africa and to protect their skin from the sun's harmful rays. It was remarkable seeing the work of other ILDS projects that have contributed to making the Centre thrive. One of the funniest and most unforgettable moments of the visit was when asked what book students read as a reference, the residents answered Bologna's Dermatology. Seeing them giddily taking a photo with her was a highlight. Not only were they star-struck, they genuinely felt grateful.

The ILDS will continue the charge of increasing awareness, cooperation and communication within the global dermatology community to promote high quality education and clinical care as part of its vision to attain the best possible skin health for all people around the world. The RDTC does just that to many in that part of the world. You will learn in this newsletter of another joint project between the ILDS and the International Society of Dermatology: World Skin Health Day. We hope this campaign will also change the lives of those suffering from skin conditions.

You climb Kilimanjaro by taking your first step.  
It's time to take yours ...

*H.G.*



## Global Psoriasis Atlas Update

Work on the Global Psoriasis Atlas (GPA) is underway. Researchers in Manchester will perform a systematic review on the published and unpublished literature on the epidemiology of psoriasis to provide an updated overview of the current gaps in our knowledge. The research team in Hamburg will gather information on current methodologies used to study the epidemiology of psoriasis “in the field”. Meanwhile the ILDS and its partner organisations, the International Psoriasis Council and the International Federation of Psoriasis Associations, are currently identifying regional and national coordinators for the Atlas. The GPA has appointed Prof. Chris Griffiths as Global Psoriasis Atlas Director. He will have responsibility for leading the overall strategic development of the GPA and ensuring the timely delivery of the project.



The GPA will be the leading online epidemiological database on psoriasis. By detailing the disease prevalence and incidence worldwide, it will enable extensive global comparisons between countries and over time. The GPA will evolve to provide data on the burden of psoriasis, including societal costs, comorbid diseases and patients’ access to treatment.

To find out more about the GPA please visit <https://globalpsoriasisatlas.com>

## 24<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Dermatology Update

The 24<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Dermatology (WCD) is now just two years away. The Organising Committee is working tirelessly to spread the word about Milan 2019 which will be held from 10-15 June 2019. Their Ambassador Project is a key part of this process; in which representatives from all over the world are selected to be ambassadors who will increase awareness of the Congress amongst their friends and colleagues.

There have already been a number of official receptions held to promote the WCD. Those during the CILAD Congress in Buenos Aires, the American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting in Orlando, and Dubai Derma were particularly memorable. On these occasions we also had the pleasure of being entertained by the Italian Ambassador or Consulate.

The Scientific Programme Committee is busy developing the Congress Programme considering the many options for speakers, chairs and co-chairs for the plenary sessions. We look forward to sharing more information with you later this year.

For further information please visit <http://www.wcd2019milan.org>





# ILDS 2016 Certificate of Appreciation Presentations

## Hugo Cabrera

### Argentine Society of Dermatology

Professor Hugo Nestor Cabrera is a prolific writer who has authored over four hundred articles and has been on the editorial boards of at least a dozen journals in three continents. He has been a professor at the University of Buenos Aires for almost a quarter century where he served as Chair of Dermatology. He is also an Emeritus Teaching Professor of the Ministry of Health at Hospital Posadas where he served as Chief of Dermatology. His areas of interest and expertise range from cutaneous manifestations of somatic mosaicism to mycobacterial infections, with noteworthy contributions in the areas of leprosy, cutaneous tuberculosis, and nevoid disorders/conditions. Professor Cabrera has also served as President of the Argentine Society of Dermatology and as the Director of Careers for Specialists in Dermatology at the University of Buenos Aires. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including honorary membership in the Argentine Medical Association and CILAD as well as several Latin American dermatological societies. Most recently he was awarded honorary doctorates of science in medicine of Argentinian dermatology and Ibero-Latin American dermatology.



## Toby Maurer

### American Academy of Dermatology

For decades, Professor Toby Maurer has been a dynamic force within the international dermatology community. She has played a key role in a number of projects in Africa, including studies of the impact of HIV/AIDS-associated cutaneous diseases, in particular Kaposi sarcoma. Professor Maurer has also shared her knowledge via numerous publications and lectures and is determined to build two dermatology residency programs in Kenya and Uganda.



## Mohamed Amer

### African Association for Dermatology

Professor Mohamed Amer has spent 45 years working in the field of dermatology in Egypt, Africa and Middle East. He has played an important role as the Chairman of the Dermatology and Venereology Department in the Medical School at Zagazig University and developed a top-notch department during this time. He has also been the President of the African Association for Dermatology and supported many physicians from all over the African continent to develop themselves by attending AFRAD congresses, as well as by awarding scholarships to doctors from different African countries to advance themselves.



## Angela Christiano

### North American Hair Research Society

Dr Angela Christiano's work has had a transformative impact on the field of investigative dermatology for nearly 20 years. She began her research career by studying epidermolysis bullosa, a severe inherited blistering disease for which she discovered many of the causative genes and provided a framework for molecular diagnosis of the disease. More recently, she has turned her attention to studying the genetics of alopecia and other hair disorders, primarily because she herself suffers from alopecia areata, an autoimmune form of hair loss. Her team led a series of large scale genetic studies that defined the genetic basis of alopecia areata over the past few years, which revealed important insights about unexpected therapeutic targets. As a result of these accomplishments and a series of landmark publications in top-tier scientific journals, her work has received extensive worldwide media coverage, and she was recognized by the Faculty of 1000 as "heralding in a new era of translational research in alopecia areata".

Dr Christiano is an avid proponent of mentoring investigators in the field and participates in the North American Hair Research Society Mentorship Program. She regularly has research fellows and a variety of students visiting and learning from her where she teaches and helps foster their skills. Her passion for sharing, teaching, and mentoring are contagious as we now see her students following her excellent example, and in turn, giving back by sharing, leading, uniting.



### Mario Marini

#### Argentine Society of Dermatology

Professor Mario Alberto Marini has played a key role in Argentinian dermatology, in particular the area of cutaneous oncology. He is well known for his online course entitled “Cancer de piel” and his multi-edition textbooks on basal cell carcinoma and soft tissue sarcomas. He has also authored consensus statements on various cutaneous malignancies, including melanoma, as well as skin cancer prevention strategies. Professor Marini has served as president of both the Argentine Association of Dermatology and the Argentine Society of Dermatology. He is an Honorary Professor of Dermatology at the University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine and Buenos Aires British Hospital where he was Head of the Department of Dermatology. He has served as a Director of the Dermatology Training Board and has received numerous awards for both his research efforts and his educational efforts, including from the National Academy of Medicine. This is in addition to being awarded honorary membership in multiple Latin American dermatological societies.



### Reinhard Kirnbauer

#### Austrian Society for Dermatology and Venereology

Professor Reinhard Kirnbauer has worked for more than 25 years on the pathobiology of human papillomaviruses (HPV). His major contribution to science is the preclinical development of prophylactic HPV vaccines. These vaccines are administered worldwide and are predicted to prevent millions of anogenital (in particular cervical) and oropharyngeal cancer deaths in the coming decades. He was the first to introduce a VLP-based ELISA that has been widely used in HPV seroepidemiology and vaccination trials. Professor Kirnbauer also teaches courses on Papillomavirus Biology and Vaccinology, training fellows and thesis students, and has served on Advanced Training courses and Thesis and Professorship Promotion committees. In addition to this he has served as Principal Investigator (PI) on Austrian Science Foundation (FWF) funded grants, as co-investigator on EU-funded grants, and currently serve as PI on a Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF) grant to develop broadly efficacious HPV vaccines.



## New Member Societies

Applications from the following new societies were approved by the Board for membership of the ILDS. We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following societies to the ILDS community.

### Member Societies



American College of Mohs Surgery



American Society for Mohs Surgery



Association of Dermatology of Magna Grecia

### Affiliated Society



Dermatologic and Aesthetic Surgery International League

### Observer Society

Italian Group for Laser in Dermatology

# World Skin Health Day 2017 Activities

World Skin Health Day is a joint project of the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and the International Society of Dermatology (ISD). The aim of World Skin Health Day is to recognise and promote skin health around the world.

World Skin Health Day can take place on any day of the year, in combination with an ongoing activity or as a standalone event. There is no specific date; you can pick whichever day suits your organisation best! The choice of activity for World Skin Health Day is left to your society so that you can tailor activities to the needs of your communities.

A number of activities have already taken place, including:

## International Dermatology Update, 19 February, India

The Indian Society of Teledermatology's (INSTED) International Dermatology Update was held under the theme of "Moving for improving". This was a Continuing Medical Education (CME) event which included lectures delivered by senior professors in the specialty of Dermatovenereology. Prof. Jayakar Thomas, National President INSTED, spoke on "Lichenoid reaction - an algorithmic approach" alongside other lectures delivered by Heads of Department of Dermatovenereology of the City Colleges.

## Awareness Rally, 31 March, Nepal

The Society of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists of Nepal (SODVELON) celebrated World Skin Health Day with an awareness rally under the theme of "love your skin and be healthy". More than 350 people from all walks of life took part in the rally. They wore T shirts and caps with the theme of the day printed on them, and carried placards and banners with awareness messages. Pamphlets were distributed to the general public with messages about how to keep their skin healthy. They received nationwide media coverage on TV, radio and in print.

## National Skin Day, 14 May, Malaysia

National Skin Day aims to reduce the stigma associated with skin diseases such as Ichthyosis and Epidermolysis Bullosa. The Dermatological Society of Malaysia held a 'costume charity walk' on 14 May 2017. The public met and walked together with many skin-related support groups during the event. There were prizes for the most creative costumes.

Other Member Societies have activities planned for 2017 including: the British Association of Dermatologists, the Canadian Dermatology Association and the International Society of Dermatology.

Join them and sign up to take part in World Skin Health Day at <https://www.worldskinday.org>



SOVELON awareness rally



INSTED CME event



# MEMBERS' CORNER

## Fundraising for the IFD's Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Moshi, Tanzania

In Santiago de Chile on 16 December, 2016, Dr Nelson Navarrete, President of the Chilean Society of Dermatology, and Dr Raúl Cabrera, ILDS Board Member, organised their first meeting to benefit the work of the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD) at the Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Moshi, Tanzania. \$5,000 was donated towards the purchase of a piece of equipment. A highlight of the meeting was the wonderful singing of a choir from a local suburban school.



## An introduction to the Dermatologic & Aesthetic Surgery International League

This organization which is known as "DASIL" was formed in 2010. Over 60 physicians and surgeons from around the world were brought together as an Organizing Committee. All had a common wish and goal: to create a global community for the open exchange of knowledge and innovation by physicians specializing in Dermatologic and Aesthetic Surgery. This was to be accomplished through ongoing educational activities and by establishing a higher standard of care for people living around the world, who will benefit from safer, more effective dermatologic and aesthetics treatments.

The Organizing Committee believed there needed to be a series of overarching value statements that would underpin all that DASIL undertook. The Committee developed twelve (12) value statements. Among them were:

1. Transparency for all organizational governance activities
2. Younger members will be a priority and will be given a chance to lead the organization
3. DASIL will be an open and welcoming organization
4. Governance and selection of leaders will be in the hands of the membership and will be accountable to the membership.

The flagship activity of DASIL is its Annual Congress. The 2017 Congress will be held in Shanghai. It will be DASIL's 6th World Congress. DASIL's leaders recognized that it needed to employ the latest and best technology if it was to reach its members and the larger world of Dermatologic and Aesthetic Surgery. One of its first strategic decisions was to become an Internet-based organization for communication, recruitment, governance and engagement of the world of Dermatologic and Aesthetic Surgery. DASIL even conducts its election of leadership electronically.

For more information about DASIL go to its website <https://www.theDASIL.org>



## Dermatology Nurses' Association update



The Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA) is committed to quality and excellence in dermatological care through sharing knowledge and expertise. We are proud to have members among us who are frequently called upon for expert commentary on dermatology issues.

In 2015 DNA leaders attended the World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver. It was wonderful to collaborate with dermatology nurses from around the world during the Nursing Scientific and Leadership Meetings. We commend the ILDS for allowing nurses to participate and vote at the Assembly of Delegates - an historic first. A special thank you goes out to Dr Harvey Lui who helped to make this possible. We are looking forward to our continued collaboration and participating in the 24<sup>th</sup> WCD in Milan in 2019.

Our programmes and accomplishments keep growing.

With the publication of *Dermatology Nursing Essentials*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Nicol, 2016), nurses around the world have access to the latest information that is crucial in order to provide the highest quality Dermatology nursing care.

Certification validates knowledge, experience, and proficiency in the dermatology specialty. The Dermatology Nursing Certification Board administers certification exams for both Registered Nurses (RNs) and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) who, upon successful completion, may proudly add DNC or DCNP to their credentials.

DNA held its Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida, March 1-4, 2017. Our premier event with the theme "Embracing the World of Dermatology" was well attended and offered diverse learning opportunities to members at all levels.

DNA invites authors to submit articles to *The Journal of the Dermatology Nurses' Association* (JDNA) which has international reach. "Providing critical information and research that applies directly to practice, the journal is dedicated to helping dermatology nursing professionals build their knowledge and skills to improve patient care." Visit: <https://www.dnanurse.org>

Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Maura Flynn, MA, RN, DNC  
Past President  
Dermatology Nurses' Association

References: Nicol, N. (2016). *Dermatologic nursing essentials: a core curriculum* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.).

## An update from the European Society of Contact Dermatitis



The European Society of Contact Dermatitis (ESCD; <https://www.escd.org>) is a distinctive society with about 250 members from nearly 40 countries, well beyond Europe. In addition to publication of pertinent research from clinical perspectives, basic research, and epidemiology in the society's journal *Contact Dermatitis* (2016 IF: 5.7), scientific impact is achieved by organising international congresses. These usually attract many of the society's membership every two years; the next congress is to be held in Milan, Italy, 18-20 October 2018 – please mark this in your diaries!

In the meantime, the ESCD liaised with the much larger European Academy for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) to organise a CME-oriented "Skin Allergy Meeting" in Zürich, 27-29 April 2017, devoted to the full field of cutaneous allergy to immediate to delayed type. On 13 September 2017 the ESCD is organising a scientific session devoted to "Current data and perspectives in contact allergy" as a joint meeting with the EADV task force on contact dermatitis prior to the EADV Congress in Geneva.

All dermatologists, but also specialists from other fields, interested in contact dermatitis and cutaneous allergy are invited to join the ESCD. Information on the application procedure and other aspects of the society can be found on the new ESCD website, which has recently been completely updated.

Wolfgang Uter, President of the ESCD, on behalf of the executive committee (Magnus Bruze, Malmö [SE], past president; Thomas Rustemeyer, Amsterdam [NL], president-elect; Vera Mahler, Langen [DE], treasurer; David I. Orton, Hillingdon [UK], secretary).



# Report of Dermatology Community Outreach Project & Gene Hunting Clinic in Malaysia



There were two community outreach projects specially planned for the year 2016/2017. These projects were led by Dr Leong Kin Fon, Dr Tan Wooi Chiang, Dr Michelle Voon and Dr Chan Lee Chin.

## 1. Dermatology Community Outreach Clinic and "Thin Skin Gene Hunting Clinic" at Pitas, Sabah, Malaysia

DSM in collaboration with Department of Dermatology, Hospital Queen Elizabeth, Kota Kinabalu and DEBRA (Malaysia) organized this project for the aborigine population in rural Pitas, Sabah, Malaysia. This is a deprived population, where the needy have limited access to healthcare services.

The Pitas Community Skin Check and Epidermolysis Bullosa project was successfully implemented on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2016. We provided basic dermatology care to the community, with a total of 79 patients examined and treated. We also offered counselling and educated them about their diagnosis and proper skin care. Complimentary dressing, multi-vitamin supplements and skin care products were also distributed to patients. The common dermatoses seen were eczema (50.6%), followed by cutaneous infection (17.7%). Three known epidermolysis bullosa (EB) patients were also treated, as well as 4 new EB cases being detected. Skin biopsies and saliva samples were collected for immunofluorescence mapping and DNA analysis at the Institute of Medical Biology, Singapore. A special thanks to Dr John Common and his team for their assistance.

## 2. Baling Dermatology Camp and "Thick Skin Gene Hunting Clinic" at Baling, Kedah, Malaysia

The event was organized by the DSM, Department of Dermatology, Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Kedah, Health Department of Kedah Stat, and Malaysian Ichthyosis Patient Support Group and was supported by student volunteers from AIMST and a local NGO. Baling is a rural area in Kedah.

More than 300 patients took part in the dermatology camp on 18 February 2017 at Health Clinic Kupang, Baling. A series of activities were held, including aerobic exercise, sport competition, skin health exhibition, skin health screening, skin health talks and free blood screening for diabetes, dyslipidaemia and hypertension. A total of 12 congenital ichthyosis patients were treated and 100 non-ichthyosis volunteers' (as control) blood samples were taken for gene analysis. A special thanks to Dr Zacharias A Dwi Pramono and their team from National Skin Centre, Singapore for their assistance.

Dr Tan Wooi Chiang, MRCP AdvMDerm  
Dermatological Society of Malaysia (DSM)



DSM Group Photo of Baling Dermatology Camp



DSM Group Photo of Dermatology Community Outreach Clinic at Pitas, Sabah, Malaysia

# Psychodermatology in the Dermatology World

The European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry (ESDaP) aims to encourage more patient-centred dermatology and individual treatment options including addressing the burden of skin symptoms and the comorbidities of depression and anxiety. Chronic inflammatory skin diseases lead - in at least 20% of the patients - to a high burden and impairment of quality of life as shown in a study from the ESDaP group in the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology* (Dalgard et al. 2015). Suicidal ideation was reported by up to 12% of patients with skin disease.



The ESDaP Psychodermatology Group have published new guidelines on self-inflicted skin lesions (Gieler et al. *Acta Derm Venereol*, 2013), followed by a recent paper on the management and therapeutic approach for these difficult to treat patients (Tomas-Aragones et al. *Acta Derm Venereol*, 2017).

The recent ESDaP congress on Psychodermatology at the end of June 2016 in Brest, France, highlighted many aspects of the development of understanding of psychosomatic aspects of skin diseases. Body dysmorphic disorder has gained greater importance over the last decade (Gieler T et al *Acta Derm Venereol*, 2016), especially in cosmetic dermatology patients where high anxiety about their image and obsessive-compulsive behaviour in front of the mirror present the dermatologist with difficult to handle situations.

Also, the new classification of the so-called "Skin Picking Disorders" in the American Psychiatry Classification system stimulates many new ideas about treatment options. ESDaP would like to help the ILDS and dermatologists improve their knowledge of dermatologist-patient communication and how to become a "well-educated psychodermatologist" (Poot et al *J EADV* 2007), with training on how to handle difficult patients and difficult situations that are often present in routine dermatology. To do this, ESDaP regularly offers workshops in November in Venice to improve communication skills in dermatological practice (<http://www.psychodermatology.net>).

# International Peeling Society (IPS)



During the general assembly at the IMCAS in Paris in January 2017, Prof. Dr Claudia Borelli was elected as the new President of the IPS. Professor Borelli is head of the unit of Aesthetic Dermatology and Laser in the Department of Dermatology and Professor of Dermatology at the University of Tübingen, Germany. Dr Peter Rullan was elected as the new Vice-President. The IPS thanks Dr Harold Brody for his fantastic work during his presidency in 2016.

In January the IPS had an intensive 3-day hands-on-workshop on chemical peels with many live demonstrations in Aarau, Switzerland. Together Dr Boudny Frey, Dr Luitgard Wiest and Dr Peter Paul Rullan lectured on many important, interesting and striking aspects regarding peels. All the attendees were very happy after these intense but excellent three days.

In April the first IPS Workshop in the US took place in St. Petersburg, Florida. Nine doctors were in attendance and worked with the faculty: Dr Laurence Kass, Dr Harold Brody and Dr Peter Rullan, with the course being given at the Kass Center for Cosmetic Surgery. Patients were treated all day on Friday and Saturday with the patients returning Sunday morning for follow-up. Attendees focused on the Hetter phenol/croton oil peels and medium depth CO2 dry ice +35% TCA. It was very valuable for the doctors to directly observe and then actually use the peeling agents themselves.



IPS Orlando



IPS Workshop St. Petersburg

# The Philippine Dermatological Society at 65: Equipped to Heal, Empowered to Lead

The stars shine brightly this year as the Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS) celebrates 65 years of excellence and leadership in dermatology. Led by its current President, Dr Ma. Angela M. Lavadia, the PDS continues its commitment to furthering progress in dermatology.

Service lies at the heart of the society. We organize activities with local government units, non-governmental organizations and lay communities for medical missions. Among our most recent activities were the medical missions with the Philippines' SAF (Special Action Force) for the victims of international typhoons Haiyan and Ketsana, the Banaue Medical and Dermalurgical Missions in the mountain highlands, and the more than seventy free clinics all over the country during our National Skin Week every November.



Dermatological expertise is a core priority of the society. Monthly Continuing Medical Education activities further our academic competencies and foster healthy discourse among dermatologists on topics of interest. The "Life Enhancement Action Program" (LEAP) has brought to the forefront interesting medical and non-medical topics for a well-rounded educational experience. Core groups within the society actively hold lectures and workshops to promote knowledge on specialty areas. The PDS has also continued to grow in the field of research. Young and bright-eyed, residents from accredited institutions have proven that, with hard work and dedication, the Filipino dermatologist competes well in the international arena.



The true nature of the PDS goes far beyond that of a professional society. The PDS seeks to provide its members with ethical guidance, educational enrichment and professional fulfillment. More than anything, the PDS has transcended into a family of physicians who let our lives and our dermatology practice reflect the leadership, the integrity and the excellence that the PDS stands for: we are the DermAuthority: equipped to heal, empowered to lead.

Zharlah Gulmatico-Flores, MD, FPDS, Hester Gail Y. Lim MD, DPDS

## SODVELON at AAD and World Skin Health Day



The Society of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists of Nepal (SODVELON) has achieved two significant milestones in the year 2017. The first is the participation in the American Academy of Dermatology's international day on March 2, 2017 in Florida, USA. This was the first time that our society went abroad with its own session, with 20 participants and nine papers presented by the most notable dermatologists of the country. This has definitely opened the door for more opportunities in the future.

The second event was our first ever celebration of World Skin Health Day. Our society is going to celebrate it every year on our foundation day, March 31<sup>st</sup>. This year the theme was "Love your skin and be healthy". Most of the teaching hospitals throughout the country celebrated it on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. But the main event was organized on Saturday April 1 in the capital city Kathmandu. More than 350 participants from all walks of life participated in an awareness rally. Everyone wore t-shirts and caps with the theme of the day printed on them. They carried placards and banners with awareness messages. The general public was given pamphlets with messages regarding important measures to keep their skin healthy. There was nationwide media coverage with TV, FM and print. We hope for positive feedback throughout the year. This has been a very good start, and we expect to make it a bigger event in the coming years.

This event was managed by Dr Anil Kumar Das, Assoc. Prof. at IOM TUTH, Kathmandu and his team. We thank him for his wonderful ideas and their executions.

Dr Sushil Paudel, General Secretary, SODVELON





# Skin of Color Society 13<sup>th</sup> annual scientific symposium recap:

**Advancing Diversity in Action as a growing international organization.**



The Skin of Color Society (SOCS) 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Symposium was presented to 145 attendees on March 2, 2017 in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with this year's American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) Annual Meeting. This programme included a General Business Meeting, the President's Report by Dr Amy McMichael, and fascinating presentations.



SOCS leaders, from left: Dr Seemal R. Desai, President, Dr Amy McMichael, Immediate Past President, and Dr Marta Rendón, former President.

We reported on membership growth, continued mentorship participation, the record number (28) of abstracts submitted, increased sponsorship support, and our technology committee's efforts to ensure search engine optimization of our website.

We heard from Dr Roopal Kundu about the SOCS Diversity in Action Task Force, dedicated to building supportive networks and resources for those underrepresented in dermatology. We presented outcomes from our recent successful Media Day involving eight SOCS experts. Eleven SOCS mentor-mentee pairs were recognized for their one-year mentorships with 21 residents/research fellows displayed posters, and seven resident/research fellows presented their original research.

We recognized outgoing Board of Director members: Drs Pearl Grimes, Roopal Kundu, and Susan Taylor, and presented new officers: Dr Seemal R. Desai, President, and Dr Lynn McKinley-Grant, Secretary/Treasurer. Dr Amy McMichael transitioned to Immediate Past President.

Chaired and moderated by Andrew Alexis, MD, MPH, the Scientific Symposium included expert presentations by: Sewon Kang, MD "Factoring in Skin Pigment in Phototherapy;" Michael H. Tirgan, MD "Medical Management of Keloids Disorder;" Roy G. Geronemus, MD "Lasers/Light Based Technologies for the Treatment of Hyperpigmentation;" and Buffie Longmire-Avital "I Fought So Hard to Get Here?: Navigating Microaggressions in Historically White Spaces."

At the subsequent Skin of Color Awards Reception, the Skin of Color Research Grant Award was presented to Temitayo A. Ogunleye, MD, whose research will examine "Molecular Analysis of Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia."

Learn more: <http://www.skinofcolorsociety.org>

Seemal R. Desai, MD, President, Skin of Color Society

## The Golden Dermatoscope Award is established in Russia

The first ceremony of awarding the Golden Dermatoscope took place in Moscow, on March 17, 2017 during the fifth All-Russian Congress of Dermoscopy, organized by the Russian Dermoscopy Society (affiliated with IDS) together with Interregional Society of Teledermatology. The Golden Dermatoscope will be awarded annually for significant achievements in dermoscopy and non-invasive diagnosis of skin disease, as well as for recognizing outstanding academic careers in dermatology at the national and international levels.

Two Russian dermatologists were recognised during the ceremony. Dr Alexey Getman, MD, PhD, head of dermato-oncology department in Tyumen (Western Siberia, Russia), became the Laureate of 2015 for his initiative of Russian consensus in dermoscopic terminology (accepted by consensus conference in 2013) and the illustrated textbook he published based on the nationwide consensus (2015). Dr Vladimir Dobrovolskiy, the head of dermatology polyclinic in Nizhniy Tagil (Urals region, Russia), became the Laureate of 2016 for his efforts in free education and mentorship for beginners in dermoscopy, publishing his own cases and commenting on their dermoscopic cases in the cloud network of the Russian Dermoscopy Society.

The <http://www.dermatology.ru> website connects over 19,000 professionals in Russia and CIS. The Awards received high acclaim from the Congress delegates representing most regions of Russia and from international participants. Congress delegates have advised the Society to award the Golden Dermatoscope not only to the nationals of Russia, but also to internationally renowned dermatologists.

Through the Interregional Society of Teledermatology, national and international Dermatological Societies may submit the nominations of their candidates for awards in upcoming years (no later than October each year).

Prof. Alexey Sergeev, MD, Ph.D., D.Sc.Med.

President, Interregional Society of Teledermatology



The Laureates from left to right: Dr Vladimir Dobrovolskiy and Dr Alexey Getman

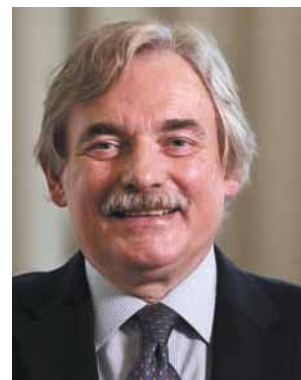
# Meet the ILDS Board: Thomas Luger

We will be showcasing ILDS Board Members in each newsletter.  
This edition features Thomas Luger.

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS), as well as being Director and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology, and also the Director of the Institute of Cell Biology and Immunobiology of the Skin at the University of Munster, Germany. My Department is one of the largest in Germany and very recently was ranked by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) among the top 10 Departments of Dermatology worldwide.

The major emphasis of my clinical research is on inflammatory skin diseases such as psoriasis and atopic dermatitis, pruritus and autoimmune diseases of the skin. This involves translational research, in particular the development of novel therapeutic tools for the treatment of inflammatory skin diseases and pruritus. Preclinical investigations recently resulted in the detection of promising novel small molecules which may improve the treatment of pruritic inflammatory skin diseases. Moreover, a group of small neuropeptides in vitro turned out to exert significant anti-inflammatory and immunomodulating effects. This was further confirmed in animal models of psoriasis, vasculitis, inflammatory bowel diseases and even multiple sclerosis. Some of these molecules already are being investigated in early clinical trials. Another area of research is the investigation of the role of the microbiome in patients with psoriasis.

I will be the incoming president of the Rene Touraine Foundation, an international foundation of Dermatology, after Prof. Louis Dubertret. The strategy of the foundation is to meet dermatologists in every country during national meetings, and to discuss with them, as well as patient associations, the unmet need of patients. In addition to this, the foundation fosters the development of dedicated outpatient consultations on rare genetic and on chronic inflammatory skin diseases. The foundation facilitates health care organisation at the national level by nurturing the development of national networks on these topics. These national networks are connected at the international level thanks to international actions such as "Therapeutic Education Programmes" and the development of inexpensive therapies. We also offer free access to an e-book on the management of skin diseases for young dermatologists and GPs.



CDA Meeting



Morning Rounds

# International Foundation for Dermatology Update

The International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD) has been working as hard as ever in the first half of 2017. We have been hearing from the humanitarian projects that we support on behalf of the ILDS about their achievements in 2016, and planning how we can continue to improve the skin health for all people around the world this year.

## Regional Dermatology Training Centre, Tanzania

Our largest project continues to be the Regional Dermatology Training Centre (RDTC) in Moshi, Tanzania. In July 2016, eight Community Dermatologists graduated from the RDTC's Advanced Diploma in Dermatology and Venereology, returning to work in Kenya, Malawi, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zambia. During the year more than 12,744 patients attended the three-weekly clinics at the RDTC and 56 patients received chemotherapy treatment. The Centre's Comprehensive Care Programme for Persons with Albinism visited local communities and reached 715 people with Albinism and 35 with Xeroderma Pigmentosum.

The RDTC was delighted to welcome members of the ILDS Board when they held their Board Meeting in Moshi during January. Past and Present graduates were honoured to participate in presentations from our internationally acclaimed Board Members including Jean Bolognia, Harvey Lui and Jerry Shapiro. Awards were presented to Apollo Odongo (Best Student), Ayiela Truphosa Seje (Best Student in HSR) and Juma Amini Mjereza (Best Student in STI Research). The next CME will take place from 10-13 January, 2018.



*Ayiela Truphosa Seje presentation*

## Argentina

In Argentina the IFD supported educational activities aimed towards the community, elementary schools and health care workers. 520 patients attended two Jornadas (two-day workshops that combine education of health workers with the opportunity for local community clinics); 5 patients required oral surgical biopsies and skin biopsies were performed on a further 11. Over 1,000 elementary school pupils and their teachers enjoyed the fotoeducational workshops run by Dr Isabel Casas and her team.



*Regional Dermatology Training Centre, Tanzania, CME*

## Mexico

A programme of community based dermatological care has been working for 25 years in Mexico, but in 2016 Dr Roberto Estrada and his team decided to switch to Telemedicine. Through this new approach they have reached over 1,120 people at 22 different health centres. Participants in the training programme are able to continue the communication through telederm methodology, referring any special cases that they are faced with.

## DermLink

In 2016 grants were awarded to Cambodia for field trips in rural areas to provide free medical attention for patients and training to local staff; to Brazil for an 'Action Day Against Sporothricosis' and to the Philippines for the purchase of equipment for testing blistering skin conditions in the field. Nominations for ILDS DermLink 2017 have just closed. The IFD Committee are currently considering the applications and will make an announcement in July.

## Community Dermatology Journal (CDJ)

The Community Dermatology Journal continues to be a valued resource around the world, particularly for those working in resource poor settings. We are delighted to announce that it is now possible to become a Friend of the CDJ by making a regular donation to help cover printing and distribution costs. For more information please contact [office@ILDS.org](mailto:office@ILDS.org)

## Priorities

The International Foundation for Dermatology volunteer committee meets via teleconference up to three times a year. We last met in March when we agreed that in 2017 we would offer financial support to the International Alliance for the Control of Scabies (IACS), to Kilisun for their work supplying sun protection to people with Albinism, to a project in Cambodia providing practical dermatology training to recent graduates, to the team in Mexico for further teledermatology courses, and to Argentina for more community-based education and health care. We would like to hear about other projects that could benefit from our support in 2018, particularly working with migrant communities.

We are grateful to all the IFD's generous supporters. 2017 supporters will be acknowledged in the next edition of the ILDS newsletter. If you would like to make a donation please contact [office@ILDS.org](mailto:office@ILDS.org)



# And Finally

## ILDS Appoints Associate Director from Africa

The ILDS is committed to ensuring representation of societies from all world regions within the organisation. In order to develop the representation of the African continent within the ILDS, the ILDS invited nominations for one representative from Africa to serve as an Associate Director on the ILDS Board.



Prof. Adebola Ogunbiyi

We are delighted to announce that there was good interest in the position and, following a nominations and recruitment process, we have appointed a new Associate Director.

We have pleasure in welcoming Professor Adebola Ogunbiyi, Nigerian Association of Dermatologists, to the Board of the ILDS.

Professor Ogunbiyi is a physician/dermatovenereologist with wide experience in clinical, mentoring and administrative skills. She is a seasoned clinical instructor and examiner, actively involved in the two postgraduate colleges of medicine in Nigeria.

She is the Immediate Past President of the Nigerian Association of Dermatologists and has helped the organisation to become more engaged at an international level. Other positions currently held are Director of the International Society of Dermatology and Vice President of the African Society of Dermatovenereologists (ASDV).

The term of the position of Associate Director of ILDS extends from June 2017 until June 2019.



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<http://commderm.ifd.org>

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