From the Chair

Dermatology at UMMC has come a long way in seven years from the inception of our department. We have provided compassionate care to approximately 180,000 patients including 51,000 children, performed 5,350 Mohs surgeries, 14,500 narrow band UVB treatments, and 730 patch tests. The department has grown to 12 faculty, five nurse practitioners, 11 residents, two fellows, and 75 support staff. We have done a very good job, but we must always continue to do everything we can to improve!

This fall, we will be launching a plan to enhance the culture of the Department of Dermatology. This will involve an eight-week training program for our leadership and a retreat for the entire faculty and staff Nov. 15, 2019. Then, there will be a concerted, prolonged, focused effort to develop a culture worthy of Disney, the Ritz-Carlton, or Chick-Fil-A. The department has taken deep root in Jackson and Louisville, Mississippi, but we plan to continue to grow and flower while we also do everything possible to make our university and state proud.

Bob Brodell, MD
Professor and Chair
UMMC Department of Dermatology
Cell: 330-883-5302

The UMMC Department of Dermatology is making good progress toward a goal of developing a world-class department. Our mission is clear:

1. to enhance the patient-centered care provided by dermatologists in Mississippi
2. to focus on subspecialty care needs of patients and to support our dermatology colleagues throughout the state
3. to provide high quality educational programming for medical students and residents
4. to provide timely and focused continuing medical education (CME) for dermatologists and other health care providers in the State of Mississippi and throughout the region
5. to develop basic science, translational and clinical research programs that extend the knowledge base of dermatology
Department Updates

Renovation at Face and Skin Center
The renovation of our cosmetic office, the Face and Skin Center (FSC), is nearing completion. New flooring, paint, and artwork have given the office a fresh look! Of course, the improvements are more than “skin deep.” The GentleMax Pro System that permits hair removal in all skin types has been installed and is proving to be everything we hoped. Microneedling with platelet-rich plasma has been added to our cosmetic menu for individuals with hair loss, and we are running a pilot Kiosk system at FSC that allows patients to check-in promptly when they enter the office without even coming to the window. If you have a chance, stop by for a quick tour!

The Skin Cancer Center
The Skin Cancer Center will will open in December 2019. Will Black, M.D., Ritika Bhandari, M.D., (Mohs Fellow), and their staff will be moving to a facility directly below the FSC which will offer more space and expanded services. These new services include Mohs surgery for lentigo maligna and lentigo maligna melanoma.

The New Louisville Clinic
Adam Byrd, M.D., and Carmen Matzek, NP, are currently seeing patients in their established office in Louisville, Mississippi. A Louisville clinic in the rehabilitated physical therapy building of Winston Medical Center will soon be opening.

UMMC Dermatology Relay for Life
The UMMC dermatology/dermatology interest group Relay for Life team raised over $8,000 this year! This is the largest amount that we have ever raised as a team. The theme was Mardi Gras and our team had as much fun as the revelers at any New Orleans event! Thank you to all that helped make that happen, as well as a special thanks to the medical students who became Robert T. Brodell, M.D., Philanthropy Award winners: Drew Desrosiers, Hannah Badon, David Duff, Caroline Daggett, Casey Spell, Hollis Burrow, Augustin Casals, Summer Morrissette, and Phillip Qu. Caroline Daggett received a special award for raising the most money for any individual on our RFL team.

Of course, Jennifer Bryant and Mary Ann Craft donate their treasure, food, and scores of hours organizing this great event.

UMMC Annual Skin Cancer Screening
The annual UMMC/American Academy of Dermatology skin screening event was held May 15, 2019. We examined more than 80 people identifying a number of individuals that needed follow-up visits with the “dermatologist of their choice” for possible malignancies and other cutaneous maladies. Thanks to all who volunteered.
Welcome New Faculty

Allison Cruse, M.D.
Dr. Cruse is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in 2014. She completed her preliminary year in internal medicine at the University of Virginia and her dermatology residency at the University of Mississippi in 2018, serving as chief resident in her final year. She recently finished a one-year fellowship in dermatopathology under the guidance of Drs. Robert Brodell, Jennifer Schulmeier, Buu Duong, and Billy Walker. Dr. Cruse now joins the dermatology department as an assistant professor, serving as both a clinical dermatologist and a dermatopathologist. She is certified by the American Board of Dermatology and will be taking her dermatopathology certification examination this fall. She lives in Jackson with her husband, Blake, and two-year old daughter, Eleanor.

Chelsea Mockbee, M.D.
Dr. Mockbee grew up in the small town of Fulton, Mississippi. She attended Mississippi State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in microbiology. She earned her M.D. at the UMMC School of Medicine and then completed one year of training in pathology at Duke University Hospital before returning to UMMC to complete a residency in internal medicine followed by a dermatology residency. She served as chief resident and was awarded the Robert S. Caldwell, M.D., Award for UMMC’s top resident. She is excited to be joining the faculty! Dr. Mockbee has a special interest in allergic contact dermatitis and patch testing, but she will also be practicing general dermatology, complex medical dermatology, cosmetics, and surgical dermatology. Outside of medicine, Dr. Mockbee and her husband, Wesley, live in Jackson with their two boys, Steele and Mac, and are active members of Fondren Church.

Vinayak Nahar, M.D., Ph.D., M.S.
Dr. Nahar received his medical degree from Vitebsk State Medical University, Belarus, a master’s degree in health promotion and a doctorate with an emphasis in health behavior from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Nahar’s research focus is the utilization of health behavior theoretical models to conceptualize preventative behavioral approaches to guide effective interventions and provide a deeper understanding of the underlying factors of behavior change. Dr. Nahar has published in many high impact, peer-reviewed journals, including JAMA Dermatology, Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology, JAMA Oncology, Psychiatry Research, and Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology. Dr. Nahar has presented his work at national and international conferences and is currently a reviewer for several journals. He also is on the Board of Editors of the International Journal of Women’s Dermatology and the Journal of Dermatology Nurses’ Association.
Congratulations

Dr. Chelsea Mockbee wins UMMC Resident of the Year

Dr. Chelsea Mockbee was honored with the 2019 Robert S. Caldwell, M.D., Memorial Award during UMMC’s Quality Leadership Rounds April 9. Bestowed by the Medical Assurance Company of Mississippi, the Caldwell Award is given in recognition of excellence in medical care, record keeping, and leadership. The award also is given to an avid teacher of medical students and fellow residents and comes with a $1,000 monetary gift. Congratulations, Chelsea!!

2019 American Academy of Dermatology Diversity Mentorship Program

Dr. Brodell had the honor of being an American Academy of Dermatology minority mentor, and the UMMC medical student selected for this program this year was Kandice Bailey, UMMC M4. He felt everyone should read her personal statement since it made him think about why he became a dermatologist:

“As a third-year medical student at the UMMC School of Medicine beginning to think about my future, I found myself thinking about my past! I grew up in Lorman, Mississippi, and graduated from Millsaps College with a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry. My interest in dermatology began as a teenager when I suffered from a skin condition that dramatically affected the way I thought about myself. This personal experience first sparked my interest in dermatology. Working with dermatologists throughout my medical school career confirmed this interest because I recognized that dermatology combines information from many medical disciplines, such as allergy/immunology, oncology, physiology, biochemistry, surgery and more. Additionally, this field offers the opportunity to develop long-term relationships with patients with chronic skin problems.

“Increasing diversity within dermatology has been a mission of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) for several years. The lack of ethnic diversity within dermatology significantly affects minority patients who may wish to see a physician who looks like them or resides in their community. If they do not seek medical care or come in late in the course of a disease, treatment may be less successful. The lack of access to care certainly affects the underrepresented minorities from my rural community. As a recipient of this award, I look forward to gaining experience that will undoubtedly help me to become the best physician and perhaps the best dermatologist I can be.”

– Kandice Bailey, UMMC M4

Dr. Stephen Helms Awarded for Meritorious Contributions

Stephen E. Helms, M.D., was recently elected to membership in the American Dermatological Association (ADA) for meritorious contributions to the field of Medicine and Dermatology. The ADA was the first national dermatological society in the United States when it was founded in 1876. Its members are recognized leaders in dermatologic research, education, organizational medicine, and patient care. It is responsible for the development of the American Academy of Dermatology, the Society for Investigative Dermatology, and the American Board of Dermatology.
2018 Galderma SKINPACT Awards

In early 2019, the Department of Dermatology received one of only four 2018 Galderma SKINPACT Awards for its project “Using Telemedicine to Extend the Reach of Dermatology into the Mississippi Delta.” The project was chosen out of 43 submissions from North America and then was determined as a winner in the Community Leadership category through an international dermatology community vote. The focus of the project is to use tele-dermatology to work through primary care physicians and close the 60-mile gap in dermatology care across the Mississippi Delta, the poorest region of the United States. The Galderma SKINPACT Awards aim to grow a responsible dermatological community working towards advancing skin health and is co-sponsored by the Women’s Dermatological Society and the Canadian Dermatological Society.

Dr. Robert Brodell, third from left, and Dr. Chelsea Mockbee, third from right, receive the Galderma SKINPACT Award on behalf of the department during an awards ceremony in early March. Those presenting the award are, from left, Kamel Chaouche-Teyara, Head of Global Medical Affairs, Galderma; Julie Powell, Past President of the Canadian Dermatology Association; François Blanchette, Medical Professional Relations Director, Galderma; and Pearl E. Grimes, Past President of the Women’s Dermatological Society.

Thirty-second Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working for Academic Excellence

Dr. Robert Brodell attended the 32nd Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) on Tuesday, Feb. 26, with Malik Nelson. Only one student per school was chosen, and Malik was honored to represent Jackson State University (JSU) at HEADWAE. Dr. Brodell has mentored Malik for four years since he was a freshman at JSU. Malik is now attending Emory University Medical School and would like to pursue a career in dermatology.
Residency and Fellowship Program Update

The UMMC Dermatology Residency Program currently boasts 11 residents in training in the PGY-2 through -4 years with 3 PGY-1s joining us next year. Our fourth class of graduates finished in June 2019 and took their boards in July. Our residents have been very active in research and also enthusiastically teach medical students and their faculty and lead the department’s quality assessment/quality assurance program.

Our fourth class of residents graduated in late June. Dr. Neelam Patel will be working at a VA hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, seeing patients both by teledermatology and in the general Dermatology clinic for one year while her husband completes a fellowship in regional anesthesia. Dr. Chelsea Mockbee will be joining us full-time at UMMC as an assistant professor, with special emphasis in contact dermatitis. Dr. Ritika Bhandari also is staying on with the department, as the second-ever Mohs Fellow.

The department saw its first graduating class of fellows in June as well. Mohs Fellow Dr. Meredith Orseth will be at Platinum Dermatology in Dallas, Texas, performing Mohs surgery and providing general dermatology care. Dermatopathology Fellow Dr. Allison Cruse is joining the department full-time as an assistant professor, specializing in dermatopathology.

We would like to welcome our new residents, Drs. Caitlin “Alex” Cochran, Jordan Ivey, and Ross Pearlman. All are excellent candidates with superb credentials who will contribute much to the residency program and the future of dermatology practice. We are pleased to have you learn a bit more about them on the next page.

Dr. Neelam Patel and Dr. McCowan
Dr. Chelsea Mockbee
Dr. Ritika Bhandari and Dr. McCowan
Dr. Meredith Orseth and Dr. Will Black

Dr. Allison Cruse and Dr. Brodell

The UMMC Department of Dermatology
Welcome New Residents and Fellows

Ross Pearlman
Ross was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. He attended Birmingham-Southern College, where he graduated *summa cum laude* with Honors in biology. He remained in Birmingham for medical school at the University of Alabama School of Medicine where he was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha and graduated *cum laude*. Ross then completed his internal medicine internship at the University of Colorado in Denver. He is excited to join the UMMC Dermatology family to focus on providing care to Mississippians, especially in rural areas. Outside of medicine, his interests include backpacking, fishing, paddling, and skiing.

Alex Cochran
Alex was born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Louisiana State University with a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences. She then went on to attend Louisiana State University-Shreveport where she earned her medical degree. During medical school, she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She completed her internship in Internal Medicine at Louisiana State University-Shreveport. Outside of work, Alex enjoys baking, going to the movies, and watching LSU football.

Jordie Ivey
Jordie was born in Washington, D.C., but grew up in Dothan, Alabama. She attended Auburn University, where she graduated *summa cum laude* with a major in biomedical sciences and a minor in Spanish. She attended medical school at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and was inducted as a senior member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. She completed her internship in internal medicine at UMMC and is thrilled to be joining the Dermatology Department at UMMC. Her husband, Ross, works for the Mississippi Development Authority. She and Ross enjoy exercising together at Orange Theory in Jackson, eating Mexican food, attending Auburn football games, and walking their dog Louie.

Ritika Bhandari
Ritika was born and raised in Lake Charles, Louisiana. She relocated with her family to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she completed her undergraduate degree at Drexel University, majoring in biomedical engineering. She attended medical school at Rosalind Franklin University in Chicago, where she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha society and graduated *magna cum laude*. Ritika completed her dermatology residency at UMMC and is now working with Dr. Will Black as our Mohs fellow. She and her husband are enjoying parenthood with their new baby girl, Navya. Her main interests lie in all outdoor activities, including long runs and hikes, especially with her little dog, Truffles!
Drs. Caroline Doo and Mark Braswell were each awarded a 2018-19 Resident Teaching Award for making learning easy and fun for medical students and inspiring interest in the field of dermatology. M4 students who rotated throughout the year selected Drs. Doo and Braswell for the award.

The 2018-19 Resident Research Award went to Dr. Thy Huynh for the enormous impact her writing and research has on physicians and their patients. Of interest, Thy will be completing her Pediatric Dermatology Fellowship at the Boston Children’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School program and returning to UMMC in July 2021 to practice Pediatric Dermatology in our department.

The 2018-19 Resident Quality Improvement Award was given to Dr. Ira Harber, whose QI Moment research and presentation had the greatest impact on preventing harm to our patients.

Drs. Madelyn King and Caroline Crabtree were each awarded the 2018-19 Resident Professionalism Award for inspiring trust and confidence through compassionate care.

The Department of Dermatology, in conjunction with Dermatopathology Associates, awarded the 2018-19 Resident Award in Dermatopathology to Dr. Caroline Doo for excellence in diagnostic and clinical dermatopathology.

The residents voted to present the 2018-19 Faculty Teaching Award to Dr. Stephen Helms for being an energetic, dedicated, creative and inspiring dermatologist who strives for excellence in teaching, research, and clinical care.

The residents awarded the 2018-19 Affiliate Faculty Teaching Award to Dr. Jennifer Schulmeier, a truly kind and caring physician, whose dedication to dermatopathology teaching and mentorship brings out the best in her students.
Publications


Brodell, RT.  Game Changer: Public perception of dermatologists and comparison with other medical specialties: Results from a national survey. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. Accepted July 9, 2019.


Tintle S, A Cruse, RT Brodell, B Duong. Classic Findings, Mimickers and Distinguishing Features in Primary Blistering Skin Disease. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine. Accepted for publication 7/22/19.


Brodell, RT, JD Jackson, J Grant-Kels, Ethics of Service as a Department Chairperson. In Dermatoethics eds. J Grant-Kels, Lionel Bercovitch, Clifford Perlis, and Benjamin Stoff. Springer. 2020.


**Presentations**


Brodell, R. T. Instructive Cases from UMMC. What’s New in Medical and Surgical Dermatology. Jackson, Mississippi. June 1, 2019.


Helms, S. E. Contact Dermatitis Update. What’s New in Medical and Surgical Dermatology. Jackson, Mississippi. June 1, 2019.


Brodell, RT. The Importance of Making a Dermatologic Diagnosis in Wound Care. St Dominics Wound Care Symposium Aug 23, 2019.
