



# THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN JOHN M. SHELDON ALLERGY SOCIETY

TRAVIS A. MILLER, M.D., PRESIDENT

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[HTTP://WWW.MED.UMICH.EDU/SHELDONSOCIETY/](http://www.med.umich.edu/sheldonsociety/)

## 2010

### Dear Sheldon Society Members:

Happy New Years and many wishes for a health and prosperity in 2010! 2009 was a very successful and eventful year for the Sheldon Society and The Allergy Division, and we look forward to many great things ahead. Hopefully you can join us!

I'd like to take a few moments to reflect and look forward to what's happening with The Society:

On an academic level, it's been a busy 12 months. Our members have criss-crossed the East, from Washington, DC back home to Ann Arbor, MI. Next Up, The Big Easy, New Orleans, LA for the AAAAI Meeting. The educational opportunities afforded at these meetings are second to none. We hope you agree.

From a fundraising perspective, it was a groundbreaking year for the Endowment, as well. The Endowment gratefully received a \$50,000 gift from a distinguished Alumni! This amazing gift puts the Endowment back on track to reach its goal of a \$1 Million base, in order to fully fund a fellowship position. But we need your help to get to the top! Please consider the Society and the Endowment as top priorities for your charitable giving.

Below are some further highlights and information regarding the Society, Division, Endowment and our activities.

### 2009 AAAAI Annual Dinner

The 2009 John M. Sheldon Society Annual Dinner Meeting was held in Washington, DC, during the annual AAAAI meeting, on Sunday, March 15, 2009 at Morrison Clark Inn Restaurant. Dr. Kenneth Rundell, Ph.D., discussed the finer points of Exercise Induced Asthma. Dr. Rundell's experience at the US Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY and recent involvement in the Beijing Olympics made him expertly qualified for the interesting discussion.

### 2010 AAAAI Annual Dinner

The 2010 John M. Sheldon Society Annual Dinner Meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA during the annual AAAAI meeting, on Sunday, February 28, 2010 at Arnaud's Restaurant. <http://www.arnauds.com/>

Dr. Deborah Gentile, Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Director of Research, Allegheny General Hospital Pittsburgh, PA will present, "The Role of Viral Infections in Atopy and Asthma".

### John M. Sheldon Allergy Society Tri-Annual Meeting a Great Success

The Society hosted its Fifth Tri-Annual Scientific Meeting on July 24-26, 2009 at the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor, Marriott Hotel drawing nearly fifty attendees. The educational events were highlighted by 12 hours of CME, with the Sheldon Lectureship delivered by Mark Ballow, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Fellowship Program Director, Division of Allergy & Immunology, SUNY Buffalo. Also speaking in their areas of expertise were several division faculty members, Sheldon members Robert Glinert, M.D., Jay M. Portnoy, M.D., Anna Kovalszki, M.D. Travis Miller, M.D., fellows, and prominent clinician-scientists from the U-M's ranks. Many participants commented on the high quality and applicability of the lectures that were delivered. Social events over the weekend included an outdoor barbeque on the patio overseeing the golf course Friday night, golfing and tour of the new Allergy Food Specialty Clinic at Domino's Farms Saturday, and the formal Sheldon dinner Saturday evening. Saturday evening's formal festivities included presentation of plaques commemorating the lectureship awards to Dr. Ballow and Dr. Portnoy and an enlightening keynote speech on "*The Importance of Leadership in the Allergy*" delivered by Dr. Ballow, Dr. Baker and Dr. Portnoy. (Where else could you hear an AAAAI President-elect, ACAAI past-President, and ABAI Director/Exec Committee Member weigh-in to a crowd of loyal alums?)

Also, recognized were Dr. James R. Baker, Jr. for serving as Program Director of the Fellowship Training Program and Dr. Ben Gold for serving as President of the John M. Sheldon Society for 12 years.

Recognized for their contributions to the Division and to the University were Drs. Emily Bandera and William Solomon. The Society also thanked Echo Reed for her continued support of the educational mission of the Division and Society. Finally, we extend thanks to CSL Behring for their generous support of this meeting.

### Allergy Specialty Clinic & Food Allergy Clinic

The Food Allergy Service (FAS) is progressing into its sixth year with Marc McMorris, M.D., as Director and Nancy Polmear-Swendris, MS, RN as the Food Allergy Clinical Program Coordinator.

## TRAINING PROGRAM

### Program Director Announcements

James L. Baldwin, M.D., continues as the Program Director for the Fellowship Program and Alan Baptist, M.D., M.P.H., was named Associate Program Director as of July, 2009.

We are extremely pleased to announce that Dr. Alan Baptist received the 2009 AAAAI Gail Shapiro Clinical Faculty Award at the Annual Meeting. This research award will provide support over the next 3 years for his project "Asthma Self-Management for Older Adults." Congratulations Alan!

### New Fellows



**Dr. Sara Dever**



**Dr. Nastaran Safdarian**

The Training Program's incoming fellows are Sara Dever and Nastaran Safdarian.

Dr. Dever received her medical degree in 2005 from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Connecticut in 2008.

Dr. Dever's Research is titled, "An Intervention to Improve Quality of Life in Food Allergic Families". Her research mentor is Dr. Alan Baptist. Dr. Dever has submitted a case to present at the 2010 AAAAI Annual Meeting.

Dr. Safdarian received her medical degree in 2005 from Texas Tech University Health Sciences, School of Medicine and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in 2008.

Dr. Safdarian's Research is titled, "Detection of Eosinophilia in Rhinitis Patients Ex Vivo Study". Her research mentor is Dr. Emily Wang. Dr. Safdarian presented a case of familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome at the 2009 AAAAI Annual Meeting.

## Second-year Fellows



**Dr. Carrie Dichiaro**



**Dr. Whitney Dunlap**

Dr. Carrie Dichiaro, a graduate of University of Kentucky, College of Medicine, and Dr. Whitney Dunlap, a graduate of the Eastern Virginia Medical School University are scheduled to complete their A/I training on June 30, 2010.

Drs. Dichiaro and Dunlap were selected to present their research at the 2009 AAAAI Annual Meeting in Miami, FL and the 2010 AAAAI Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Dichiaro's title of research project: Exhaled Nitric Oxide Levels in African American Children With and Without Asthma. Her research mentor is Dr. Alan Baptist.

Dr. Dunlap's title of research project: A Novel Intranasal Streptococcus pneumonia Vaccine Using a Nanoemulsion Adjuvant. Her research mentor is Dr. James R. Baker.

## 2009 Graduates



**Dr. Darlene Kassab**



**Dr. Anna Kovalszki**

Drs. Darlene Kassab and Anna Kovalszki successfully completed their training in June 2009.

Dr. Kassab accepted a position at Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC doing Pediatric Allergy and Dr. Kovalszki accepted a position at the Harvard Medical School, Division of Allergy and Inflammation, Division of Allergy and Inflammation, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Dr. Kassab and Dr. Kovalzski presented their research at the AAAAI Annual Meeting held in March, 2009.

### **MEMBER NEWS**

Dr. Cem Akin accepted a position as Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Associate Director, Allergy and Immunology Training Program Brigham and Women's Hospital in July, 2009 after 5 years at the University of Michigan. We wish him all the best.

Dr. Matthew Greenhawt, a 2008 graduate of the University of Michigan training program joined the University of Michigan Allergy Division in August, 2009.

***If you have updates, information or news from our fellows, please don't hesitate to submit an update to us. We'd love to hear from you!***

### **DUES & CONTRIBUTION RESPONSE FORM**

If you haven't submitted your dues for 2010, please visit The John M. Sheldon Allergy Society web site at: <http://www.med.umich.edu/sheldonsociety/about/dues.htm> and return your information form along with your annual dues payment of \$100.

***\*Dues are optional for retired members.***

### **ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE**

To help support the training program fellowship position, we continue to seek your contributions to the Endowment Fund. As you are aware, this fund was established more than 10 years ago. The main goal of the endowment is to support continual funding for at least one Allergy Fellow position. Each year we strive to meet this objective, and it is only through your continued support of the U-M Allergy Division that we will achieve this important goal.

#### **How You Can Help**

**Gifts** - Make a planned gift or a bequest. These gifts are wonderful ways to commit to the promises that lie ahead in the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Your **charitable remainder trust** or **charitable gift annuity** provides income during your lifetime as well as the assurance that your gift will have an impact on the future

of medicine. These giving opportunities have been well received because of the high distribution rate, simplicity, and tax benefits.

**Endowments** - A gift of a permanent endowment is a gift forever, a gift that will generate distributions to benefit the Division in perpetuity. What does this mean? It means that the Allergy Division Endowment Fund, year by year, will be able to help more and more Fellows complete their fellowship.

If you are interested in establishing your own perpetual fund or if you would like to discuss the tax advantages or income possibilities of making a gift now or through your will, you may do so by contacting Gary Dettling. Gary is available at your convenience to assist you with establishing your fund and also with making year-end stock transfers. For more information, please contact Gary at (734) 998-6071.

For details on these programs and others, please visit the Office of Medical Development and Alumni Relations web site at:

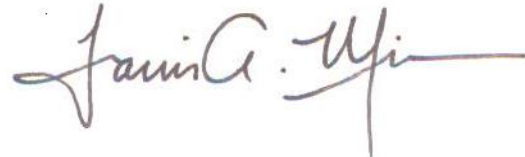
<http://www.med.umich.edu/intmed/about/make.htm>

Again, I would like to thank you for your attention to this newsletter and also for your continued support of the Allergy Division.

Please do not hesitate to contact me:  
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or you may contact Echo Reed in the Allergy Division at (734) 232-2154 or [echoreed@umich.edu](mailto:echoreed@umich.edu) if you have any questions or need assistance.

# **BEST WISHES,**



**TRAVIS A. MILLER, M.D.,  
PRESIDENT, SHELDON SOCIETY**



**The University of Michigan John M. Sheldon Allergy Society**

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