Dear Sheldon Society Members:

Happy New Years and many wishes for health and prosperity in 2011!

The Endowment remains on track to reach its goal of a $1 Million Base, in order to fully fund a fellowship position. We need your help to get to the top! You will be hearing shortly about a new fundraising program to put the Division on safe stead to continue its tradition of training top-notch allergists.

On an academic level, the Division has had many exciting changes. Members have been seen at varied locations including The Big Easy, New Orleans, LA, The Breakers, Florida Lanai, Hawaii, Mexico and Phoenix, Arizona. The educational opportunities afforded at these meetings are top-class. We hope you agree.

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

2010 AAAAI Annual Dinner

The 2010 John M. Sheldon Society Annual Dinner Meeting was held in New Orleans, LA, during the annual AAAAI meeting, on Sunday, February 28, 2010 at Arnaud’s Restaurant. Dr. Deborah Gentile, Associate Professor of Pediatrics & Director of Research, Allegheny General Hospital Pittsburgh, PA presented “The Role of Viral Infections in Atopy and Asthma”.

Dr. Stephen Fritz was presented with a picture of University of Michigan’s Football Stadium – The Big House from graduating fellows from the class of 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 in appreciation of the yearly football tickets he donates to the training program.

The 2nd Annual Brainiac Competition was won by Susan Hungness (Class of 2008)! She received the John M. Sheldon Allergy Society Brainiac Trophy. Congratulations to Dr. Hungness. The 1st Brainiac Competition was won by Dr. Lawrence Sweet at the 2009 John M. Sheldon Allergy Society Dinner Meeting in Washington, DC.

2011 AAAAI Annual Dinner

The 2011 John M. Sheldon Society Annual Dinner Meeting will be held in San Francisco, CA during the annual AAAAI meeting, on Sunday, March 20, 2011 at 5:45 p.m. at Farallon Restaurant. http://www.farallonrestaurant.com/

Dr. Bruce L. Zuraw, Professor of Medicine, Chief, Section of Allergy and Immunology, Director, Allergy & Immunology Training Program University of California, San Diego will present, “Hereditary Angioedema, A New Beginning”.

Allergy Specialty Clinic & Food Allergy Clinic

The Food Allergy Service (FAS) is progressing into its seventh year with Marc McMorris, M.D., as Director and Nancy Polmear-Swendris, MS, RN as Food Allergy Clinical Program Coordinator. Under the direction of Matthew Greenhawt, M.D., M.B.A. an Eosinophilic Esophagitis Clinic was started in August 2010 with colleagues in Pediatric Gastroenterology. We continue to expand our food allergy research activities with numerous publications and presentations at both the ACAAI and AAAAI meetings.

Welcome

… Carrie Dichiaro, M.D., who joined the faculty of the Division of Allergy in July of 2010 upon graduation from the training program. Dr. Dichiaro sees both pediatric and adult patients. Her clinical interests are allergies, asthma, dermatitis, eosinophilic esophagitis, food allergies and mastocytosis.

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., as the Associate Program Director.

We are extremely pleased to announce that Dr. Matthew Greenhawt received the Young Faculty Award at the 2010 ACAAI Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. This research award will provide support for 1 year for his project involving further investigation into the safety of influenza vaccine in egg allergic children.” Congratulations Matt!
New Fellows

Dr. David Robertson              Dr. Jacqueline Ross

The Training Program’s incoming fellows are David Robertson and Jacqueline Ross.

Dr. Robertson received his medical degree and Master in Public Health in 2005 from the Tulane University School of Medicine and Public Health and completed his residency in Internal Medicine/Pediatrics at Baystate Medical Center in 2009.

Dr. Robertson presented research titled, “Allergy Health Beliefs Among Patients, Non-Allergist Physicians & Practicing Allergists” at an oral session at the ACAAI Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ in November, 2010. He is also investigating the use of food extract for the evaluation of cell-mediated hypersensitivity in Eosinophilic Esophagitis. His research mentors are Drs. Matthew Greenhawt and James Baldwin.

Dr. Ross received her medical degree in 2007 from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 2010.

Dr. Ross’s Research is titled, “Exhaled Nitric Oxide During Aspirin Desensitization”. Her research mentor is Dr. Alan Baptist. Dr. Ross has submitted a case to present at the 2011 AAAAI Annual Meeting.

Second-year Fellows

Dr. Sara Dever                   Dr. Nastaran Safdarian

Dr. Safdarian’s Research is titled, “Identification of nasal eosinophils using two-photon excited fluorescence”. Her research mentor is Dr. Emily Wang. Dr. Safdarian presented a case of familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome at the 2009 ACAAI Annual Meeting.

Dr. Sara Dever, a graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Dr. Nastaran Safdarian, a graduate of Texas Tech University Health Sciences, School of Medicine are scheduled to complete their A/I training on June 30, 2011.

Drs. Dever and Safdarian were selected to present their research at the 2010 ACAAI Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ and the 2011 AAAAI Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA.

Dr. Dever’s research project is: “Quality of Life in Food Allergic Families” and the project includes an intervention for quality of life improvement. Her research mentor is Dr. Alan Baptist.

2010 Graduates

Dr. Carrie Dichiaro               Dr. Whitney Dunlap

Drs. Carrie Dichiaro and Whitney Dunlap successfully completed their training in June 2010.

Dr. Dichiaro joined the University of Michigan Allergy Division and Dr. Dunlap accepted a position at the Nemours Children’s Clinic/ Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL.

Dr. Dichiaro and Dr. Dunlap presented their research at the AAAAI Annual Meeting held in February, 2010.

MEMBER NEWS

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 2011, 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 $200.

*Dues are optional for retired members.
ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

We continue to make progress towards our goal of building an endowment large enough to fund a fellowship position independent of any hospital or departmental funding. The Endowed Fellowship Fund was established 11 years ago and with the generous contributions of many of our members has grown steadily. We continue to move closer to the day where we can offer a fellowship, but have a long way yet to go and we can only reach this goal through the continued support of our membership. Please keep this giving opportunity in mind as you consider the many worthwhile causes that vie for your attention.

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 Anne Cooper. Anne 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 Anne at (734) 998-7587.

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: (916) 580-2424 voice mail or (916) 770-7080 mobile tmiller@capitalallergy.com or tncmiller@msn.com

or you may contact Echo Reed in the Allergy Division at (734) 232-2154 or 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

2011 • Volume 7