

Dermatology News

Spring 2024



Meera Kattapuram
July 2024
*University of Michigan
Medical School*



Kristina-Noel Donohue
July 2025
*Georgetown University
School of Medicine*



Sneha Pooundru
July 2025
*University of Missouri-Kansas
City School of Medicine*



Advaitaa Ravipati
July 2025
*University of Miami Leonard M.
Miller School of Medicine*



Rebecca Yim
July 2025
*Tulane University
School of Medicine*

It's a MATCH! New Residents Starting in July 2025

On March 15th, the UNMC Dermatology team announced our four new future resident physicians to our ACGME dermatology program! We are excited to have matched with such a strong group of individuals and are eager to add them to our growing department. Starting with our Dermatology Team on July 1, 2025, are Kristina-Noel Donohue, Sneha Pooundru, Advaitaa Ravipati and Rebecca Yim. Due to a recent compliment increase from ACGME we also interviewed for a reserved position to join our 2024 class that will start this summer increasing our class size from three to four. Joining the 2024 class will be Drs. Morgan Zabel, Delice Kayishunge, Divya Sharma and Meera Kattapuram. The official announcement came on March 15th, the annual “Match Day”, when hopeful residency candidates await the life-changing news of where they will be continuing their educational journey. The dermatology department and departments across UNMC have been working tirelessly to ensure that UNMC matches with the best possible candidates for the growing dermatology department. Collectively, the faculty reviewed over 450 applications before narrowing the search down to 57 candidates invited to a virtual interview in January. The new members of the dermatology residency program were welcomed with excited phone calls from faculty and our current nine residents.



Fellowship Update

Katie Wright, UME Educational Program Coordinator I

Our department was very excited to learn in January 2024 that we had received accreditation for our first fellowship in Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology! This was a huge step for us and we're ready to get the ball rolling by hosting weeklong rotations in June and August 2024 for resident physicians interested in applying for the fellowship. The department will then utilize the SF Match system nationally to select our fellow for the official start date in July 2025.



Zoe Brown-Joel, MD



Jesse Hirner MD, MS



Luke Witte, MD

Welcoming Three New Physicians to Our Dermatology Family!

Exciting news! We are thrilled to announce the arrival of three exceptional physicians to the UNMC Department of Dermatology and Nebraska Medicine. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Zoe Brown-Joel, Dr. Jesse Hirner and Dr. Luke Witte, who bring with them a wealth of knowledge, experience, and a passion for providing top-notch patient care, education and academic excellence. Each of our new physicians brings a unique set of skills and specialties that will undoubtedly enhance the services we offer to our patients. Allow us to introduce them briefly:

Dr. Zoe Brown-Joel graduated with Highest Distinction from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health and Human Physiology and a Minor in Biology. She then received her MD at the University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine. After completing an intern year at Gundersen Health System in Wisconsin, she continued her residency training for Dermatology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, where she was a chief resident from 2022-2023. She is now completing a Dermatopathology fellowship at the University of Massachusetts. Dr. Brown-Joel brings a fresh perspective and cutting-edge knowledge to our practice. Her enthusiasm for learning and dedication to excellence makes her a valuable addition to our team.

Dr. Jesse Hirner is an esteemed dermatologist and Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri Health Care and School of Medicine. With a wealth of experience, including roles at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Harvard Medical School, Dr. Hirner is recognized for his expertise in complex medical dermatology. He holds degrees from the University of Missouri School of Medicine and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, where he achieved top honors. His leadership extends to directing cutaneous oncology and chairing melanoma and cutaneous oncology tumor boards at the University of Missouri Health Care. He actively contributes to medical education through teaching and supervision of dermatology residents, medical students, and fellows, demonstrating his commitment to advancing dermatological care.

We are excited to welcome back Dr. Luke Witte, who completed Medical School here at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in May of 2020. Dr. Witte is a dedicated dermatology resident currently pursuing his residency at the University of Missouri-Columbia, with an anticipated completion in June 2024. Throughout his academic journey, Dr. Witte has been recognized for his exemplary commitment to patient care and medical education, earning memberships in prestigious honor societies such as the Gold Humanism Honor Society and the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Additionally, he was awarded the Intern Resident Teacher/Mentor of the Quarter in Fall 2020 and consistently appeared on the University of St. Thomas Dean's List. Dr. Witte is known for his hardworking nature, collaborative spirit, and passion for both patient care and medical trainee education.

As we welcome our new physicians, we reaffirm our commitment to fearlessly innovate and provide meaningful dermatologic care to our community. With their addition to our team, we are confident that we will continue to uphold the highest standards of medical care and exceed the expectations of our patients.

The Skin Deep Podcast is Back!

Kasie Wilcox, Marketing & Communications Specialist

We're thrilled to announce that our podcast is back, bigger and better than ever! With a fresh perspective and a new voice at the helm, we're excited to reintroduce you to the world of The Skin Deep podcast with our new host, Kasie Wilcox, the Department of Dermatology's Marketing and Communications Specialist.

Since our return, we've hit the ground running, recording four captivating episodes already. But that's just the beginning! With a lineup featuring both esteemed faculty, current residents and more, we're committed to bringing you insightful conversations and unique perspectives throughout the year.

In our latest season premiere, this past January, we kicked things off with a bang, featuring none other than Dr. Wysong, the Founding Chair of the Department of Dermatology. Her invaluable insights set the stage for what promises to be an engaging and informative series ahead.

With a total of seven exceptional guests already gracing our podcast, we're confident that each episode will offer something special for our listeners.

As we look ahead, we're overflowing with excitement for the future of our podcast and our department. We can't wait to share more about the incredible work we're doing and the vibrant community we've cultivated here at the Department of Dermatology. Stay tuned for more captivating conversations, fascinating insights, and inspiring stories from our corner of UNMC and as always feel free to submit future topics to us on social media @unmcdermatology.



“Life doesn't stop when you're in medical training.”

- Dr. Kayla Clark





“We also had an amazing inaugural session at the AAD that had a full house in the main room and overflow”
— Dr. Erin Barrett (Wei)

AAD

Erin Barrett (Wei), MD
Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Trials

We had an amazing showing at the 2024 AAD this year in San Diego CA. Our students and trainees had 13 accepted posters and three oral presentations.

We also had an amazing inaugural session at the AAD that had a full house in the main room and overflow, featuring our amazing faculty, Drs Erin Barrett, Megan Arthur, Jennifer Adams, Corey Georgesen and Sarah Lonowski (U012 “Bread N’ Butter with a side of Nutella”-Short N’ Sweet High Yield updates on Management of Bread N’ Butter Dermatologic Diseases”). Dr Lonowski also gave an insightful talk on management of connective tissue diseases in S035 Challenging Adult and Pediatric Autoimmune Connective Tissue Disease Cases: Pearls for Diagnosis and Management.

Our amazing pediatric team, Drs. Nicole Harter and Mollie Oudenhoven shared their pearls during FRM F0067 Pediatric M&M.

Drs. Ashley Wysong and Adam Sutton had a successful session sharing their expertise on complex closures. Dr Sutton also shared his skin cancer and surgical pearls at C017 Dermatology Review: Skin Cancer, Surgical and Cosmetics. Additionally, Dr Wysong taught a hands-on innovative suture technique session (W001-Hands-ON: Innovative Suture Techniques Updates). She also shared her knowledge in management of varicose veins with Alesha Smith, Vascular Technologist at WRK W008 Hands-On : Varicose and Telangiectatic Veins. Dr. Wysong finally shared her expertise in management of high risk cutaneous SCC at FOC U068-Staging, Workup and Management of High Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma.

Our adjunct faculty, Dr. Melodi Whitley at Duke University, also gave an amazing talk on Complex Medical Dermatology- Clinicopathologic correlation.



Resident's Corner

Kevin Kwan, MD, PGY-3 Resident Physician

Spring is far more than just a changing of seasons; it's a rebirth of the spirit. Spring is here!

Major exciting events have happened over the last few months in our department. Our 3rd year residents, Dr. Lee, Dr. Borucki and Dr. Siller, have established their post-graduation plans. Hip Hip Hooray! Dr. Lee will be taking her talents and furthering her education in sunny California at the University of California San Francisco, where she will be completing a pediatric dermatology fellowship. Dr. Borucki will be taking his talents to the peach state of Georgia, providing general dermatology and cosmetic care to the people of Atlanta. Dr. Siller will taking his talents to the birthplace of professional baseball, Cincinnati, OH, where he will be receiving additional fellowship training in Mohs micrographic surgery. Though it is sad that they are leaving us so soon, we are happy to see them move on and further their education and careers.

Another round of applause for Dr. Grinnell and Dr. Fernandez. Dr. Grinnell was awarded the highly coveted Women's Dermatologic Society Mentorship Award. This award is meant for developing mentorships that are not otherwise available due to distance or limited funding. With this award, she will be heading to St. George Hospital, University of New South Wales in Australia, where she will be working with the Chairmen of the Dermatology department, Professor DeDee Murrell who is a research leader in blistering skin disease. Dr. Fernandez was awarded the Outstanding Trainee in Dermatology award by our department at the end of 2023.

Dr. Fernandez published a fascinating study on Racial Differences in Anatomic Sites of Distant Metastatic Melanoma. I published a case report on Chemotherapeutic metabolism presenting as a recalcitrant case of hand-foot syndrome and mucositis and an interesting book chapter on Radiofrequency for Face and Body Contouring in the textbook Advances in Cosmetic Surgery. Dr. Clark is working on an interesting continuing medical education article on African American Haircare for the Journal of American Academy of Dermatology.



We had an excellent contribution to our "Day in the Life" Instagram series by Dr. Thieman. Where she highlighted her daily routine as a resident in our department. We had some riveting cadaver workshops where we got to hone our skills in filler and flaps with our very own cosmetic guru, Dr. Sulewski! We also had a great time performing sclerotherapy with 6 live patients with Dr. Sutton and Dr. Wysong. Dr. Lee graciously donated her time to lead two fantastic second look days for our potential applicants in the MATCH!

Outside of the hospital, the excitement doesn't stop!! Dr. Grinnell and her family are preparing to welcome a new member to their family and to our Derm family. Our residents and faculty also headed to sunny San Diego to attend our specialties largest national conference. There, many of us presented new research alongside our research fellows and medical students. We also had the chance to hear from experts in our field and meet other residents from all over the world!

Lastly, and most importantly, a big round of congratulations to Dr. Lloyd-McLennan who will be taking over Dr. Lee's position as the new incoming "Chief Resident"!



From the Chair

Spring is here in Nebraska which means the weather can range from 80 degrees and balmy to Winter flurries! It has been an outstanding first quarter in 2024 for UNMC Dermatology – we had residency interviews virtually hosting brilliant budding dermatologists from around the country culminating in an outstanding Match with 5 new resident physicians to be joining our team in 2024 and 2025!

We also had an outstanding showing at our American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting in San Diego where our faculty, residents and trainees delivered lectures and research abstracts to an international record breaking audience! In addition, we hosted our annual “Friends & Alumni of UNMC Dermatology” event with a wonderful turnout and fun had by all.

I am pleased to announce a few exciting accomplishments and promotions:

- Dr. Jennifer Adams has been promoted to Vice Chair of Dermatology and will assist me in providing strategic leadership and direction for clinical programs, educational activities and research initiatives within the department.
- Dr. Megan Arthur will be promoted to Associate Professor effective July 2024
- Dr. Mollie Oudenhoven has accepted the position of Assistant Program Director for the Dermatology Residency Program
- Dr. Erin Barrett will be the Nebraska Medicine Dermatology Medical Director of Specialty, Inpatient and Teledermatology effective July 1, 2024.

In May, we will celebrate 6 years as a department – this is an unbelievable milestone and in so many ways it is hard to believe how far we’ve come together as a team. On May 1, 2018, I was the solo employee in the UNMC Department of Dermatology that has now grown to an unbelievable team of over 150 individuals to support the clinical missions at our 6 Nebraska Medicine locations, our pediatric dermatology program at Children’s Nebraska, our Dermatology Clinics at the Omaha Veteran’s Affairs Hospital and our robust teledermatology platforms serving rural Nebraska and beyond! In addition, we’ve developed impactful educational programs for resident and fellow physicians, medical students, graduate students, and multiple levels of learners to train the next generation of medical professionals in dermatology. We’ve developed innovative research programs and clinical trials in our areas of expertise and community service and outreach programs of which we’re all very proud! Make sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook in May as we highlight some of our many accomplishments as a team through our anniversary celebrations!

Ashley Wysong MD, MS

Founding Chair and Professor
Department of Dermatology
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dermatology Newsletter

Spring 2024

This Newsletter is produced by the Department of Dermatology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

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Erin Dahms,
NU Foundation



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Ways to Support our Department

Developing new clinical programs, innovative education strategies, and cutting-edge research protocols depends on support from our philanthropic partners. UNMC alumni, grateful patients, and community partners have expressed an interest in learning more about our program, opportunities to enhance the impact we have at UNMC and across Nebraska, and our vision to become a national leader in treatment, physician training, and outreach. If you would like to learn more about private gifts and partnerships in these or other areas, or about volunteering for our programs, we welcome the chance to share them with you. We are grateful for every gift, as well as each person who would like to be a part of the team serving our dermatologic community.

We have immediate needs in the following areas:

- Dermatology Excellence Fund
- Education Funding -- Resident Education Fund, Medical Student Research Scholarships, Endowed Research Fellowship
- Patient Care and Clinical Support
- Endowed Faculty Sponsorship

For more information please contact:

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Erin Dahms (402) 509-5710

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