

Medical Dermatology Society Mentorship Program 2006

Mentor: Lindy Fox, M.D., University of California at San Francisco

Mentorship Grant Recipient: Daniela Kroshinsky, M.D., SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Dates: December 4-15, 2006

I would like to thank the Medical Dermatology Society for the opportunity to work with Dr. Lindy Fox at UCSF Medical Center. I initially approached Dr. Fox after hearing her speak about my area of dermatologic interest- inpatient consultative dermatology- at a summer AAD meeting. Her enthusiastic and warm response at that time proved to be consistent throughout my two weeks working with her in clinic and at the bedside.

While rotating, I was able to see how Dr. Fox successfully combines her inpatient and outpatient work and how she provides outstanding care to her loyal and grateful patients in the office setting as well as thorough evaluations of the most complicated inpatients.

She has created a model of quality inpatient care that benefits her patients by establishing a consistent caregiver who has a thorough understanding of medical and inpatient dermatology issues. She also serves as an outstanding teacher and role model to the UCSF dermatology residents by demonstrating a true passion in academic medical dermatology.

I learned an enormous amount of information by following her approach to inpatient consultations and in managing the complex cases we saw on the wards. We encountered many interesting cases including patients with Keratitis Ichthyosis Deafness (KID) syndrome, Incontinentia Pigmenti, Hailey-Hailey Disease, and Schnitzler's syndrome. In addition, I was able to see what a resource she is to the rest of the UCSF community through the noon conferences, grand rounds sessions, and even bedside rounds that she provided to residents and attendings from other medical specialties.

During my visit, we also began working on an article detailing the exhaustive differential diagnosis of cellulitis. This will serve as a guide to both dermatologists and other medical specialists in caring for patients who present with warm, erythematous skin.

Finally, I appreciate how generous Dr. Fox was with her time in discussing my future career plans and in providing me with advice based on her own experiences. After my time at UCSF, I am further committed to the field of inpatient consultative dermatology and I highly recommend an elective with Dr. Fox to anyone interested in medical dermatology.

Again, I am grateful to the Medical Dermatology Society for investing in my career and making this rotation possible.