

I am so grateful for the Medical Dermatology Society for granting me the opportunity to spend time under the mentorship of Dr. Lindy Fox at the University of California, San Francisco. This mentorship experience was awarded in 2020 but delayed due to the national pandemic. Thanks to the commitment and flexibility of Dr. Fox and MDS, I was able to pursue this experience in May 2024.

Dr. Fox designed a comprehensive schedule that allowed me to gain exposure to both the UCSF inpatient dermatology consultative service and the specialty outpatient clinics. In addition to working with Dr. Fox, I was fortunate to spend time with Drs. Tim Berger, Anna Haemel, Ryan Arakaki, and Sarah Parakhbar. The collaborative environment at UCSF lends itself to thoughtful discussions and group decision-making, which is so valuable in managing complex patients. In this dynamic clinical setting, Dr. Fox emboldens her trainees to expand their diagnostic toolbelt so they may be better prepared to synthesize challenging cases. A seemingly classic case of HSV was disproven with multiple negative viral swabs, but frequent visits back to the drawing board to expand and hone our differential diagnosis was a memorable exercise in diagnostic nimbleness. Through this case and others, Dr. Fox challenged us to continually ask, *What else could we be missing?* – a mantra I revisit often to resist anchoring too tightly onto a diagnosis.

Moreover, Dr. Fox is a remarkable clinician-educator. Managing a busy practice while teaching trainees can be challenging, but the time and heart-felt commitment she devotes to meeting with every individual on the team before, during, and after a rotation underscores her dedication to trainee education. Even on the busiest of days, she took pause to highlight salient teaching moments. I still frequently revisit my notes and clinical pearls jotted down from our discussions. Having a mentor like Dr. Fox has helped me see how dedicated time set aside to establish goals and expectations can lay a foundation for trainees to maximize their potential. Learning how to be an effective teacher to my own trainees is a constant work in progress, and I am eager to employ strategies learned through this experience to become a better mentor to my residents and students.

I am deeply grateful for Dr. Fox and MDS for this exceptional opportunity to enhance my career in academic dermatology. This experience has made me a stronger clinician-educator, and I am excited to implement clinical management tricks and teaching tactics learned from this experience in my own practice. I am so fortunate to have the life-long mentorship of Dr. Fox, who is an incredible academic dermatologist and role model.