January 2014

Dear Applicant:

On behalf of our entire department, it is a pleasure for Jo-Ann Latkowski, M.D., the Director of the Residency Training, Miriam Pomeranz, M.D., Chair of the Residency Selection Committee, and me to welcome you to interview for a Residency position in Dermatology at New York University. We receive applications from a large number of highly qualified individuals, making our interview decisions especially difficult. You should be very proud of your accomplishments – you’re among an elite group.

We’re dedicated to making our residency the best experience it can be in all respects: academic curriculum, clinical training and exposure to critical thinking and research. Our residency training program was recently re-accredited by the ACGME for the next 10 years, the maximum allowed.

We’ve put together this booklet to introduce our department to you. We’re proud of the breadth and depth of our department, its rich history and exciting future, and would enjoy answering any questions this booklet prompts.

We look forward to your visit, and we hope that your time with us will be informative, stimulating and enjoyable.

Seth J. Orlow, M.D., Ph.D.
The Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology

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Departmental Mission and Overview

The Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology at New York University is recognized nationally and internationally as a vital contributor to the field of dermatology. Indeed, the Department counts among its faculty members and graduates many of the field’s leaders. Throughout its history, beginning with its origins as the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital, the Department has upheld a tradition of excellence that spans the development of dermatology in the United States.

The Department’s mission is fourfold: 1) to deliver the highest quality of care to patients with skin disorders, by applying the latest advances in the diagnosis and treatment of skin diseases in an atmosphere of compassion and respect; 2) to train medical students, dermatology residents, graduate dermatologists, and other physicians both to render the highest quality of patient care and to extend the clinical and basic-science boundaries of medicine; 3) to advance the frontiers of knowledge concerning the mechanisms, diagnosis and treatment of skin diseases, applying cutting-edge science to skin-related research questions; and 4) to study our patients' behaviors and identify risk factors that contribute to skin diseases, and to communicate this information to the public in lay journals, lectures in community settings, and dermatologic health-care screenings.

Through the general and specialty clinics of the Skin and Cancer Unit at NYU’s Ambulatory Care Center and the Departmental Faculty Group Practice, as well as those at Bellevue Hospital Medical Center and the New York Harbor Health Care System- Manhattan Veterans Administration Hospital, the staff members of the Department provide primary outpatient and in-patient consultative dermatologic care to over 100,000 patients yearly. The Department also provides dermatologic instruction for medical students, residents and fellows through a variety of ACGME-accredited and non-accredited training programs. In addition, the faculty members of the Department conduct multiple research projects aimed at the most significant dermatologic problems of our day including but not limited to melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, pigmentary disorders, psoriasis and hair loss.
Clinical Education

Our Department has designed its clinical education to ensure that residents master the medical and surgical components of dermatology, so that they can render the highest quality of medical care to patients with skin diseases.

Residents rotate through ambulatory clinics and in-patient consultation services at three different adjacent Medical Centers: Skin and Cancer Center Unit at NYU’s Ambulatory Care Center, Bellevue Hospital Medical Center and the Manhattan Veterans Administration Medical Center. Each resident is on a team made up of residents from all years of training. The team spends four months at each hospital before rotating to the next training site.

This rotational system affords residents exposure to a broad spectrum of dermatologic patients and disease. It also allows for continuity of care, as residents see their own follow-up patients during their rotation to each site, as well as in a weekly continuity clinic at one of the three teaching sites. Finally, it fosters a valuable camaraderie and nurtures the development of “team-players.”

To complement the clinical education they receive at the three primary clinical sites, residents gain valuable training rotating through the practice offices of faculty members whose careers are focused on various facets of medical and procedural dermatology.

Clinic Sites

The Skin and Cancer Unit at NYU’s Ambulatory Care Center:

The attending staff at the Skin and Cancer Unit is comprised of sixteen full-time and thirty-six active voluntary physicians, under the Chief of Service, Dr. Nicholas Soter.

In addition to eight general medical and two surgical and procedural dermatology sessions per week, a unique feature of the Skin and Cancer Unit is the extensive array of specialty clinics centered there. In these specialty clinics, residents provide patient care under the guidance of experts in the field. These specialty services include clinics dedicated to bullous diseases and immunodermatologic conditions—attended by Drs. Nicholas Soter and Marie Leger; connective-tissue disease—attended by Drs. Andrew Franks Jr. and Sarika Ramachandran; contact dermatitis—attended by Drs. David Cohen and Ronald Brancaccio; cutaneous lymphoma—attended by Dr. David Ramsay; pediatric dermatology—attended by Drs. Philip Orbuch and Julie Schaffer; photomedicine—attended by Drs. Nicholas Soter and Ahou Meydani; pigmented lesion—attended by Drs. David Polsky and Jennifer Stein; psoriasis—attended by Drs. Jerome Shupack and Andrea Neimann; wound care—attended by Dr. Eugene Zappi; hair and scalp—attended by Dr. Jerry Shapiro; and nails—attended by Dr. Chris Adigun.
While at the Ambulatory Care Center, residents also rotate through preceptorships in several areas, including cosmetic dermatology, Mohs’ micrographic surgery, and the consultative practices of Drs. Seth Orlow and Nicholas Soter.

There is an active consult service for both adult and pediatric inpatients at Tisch Hospital. There is no adult Dermatology in-patient service; patients with dermatologic disorders requiring admission are hospitalized by a hospitalist, and the consult resident and a dermatology attending provide close consultation and supervision.

The Dermatopharmacology Unit was established in the 1970s, and the unit has developed into one of the nation’s most distinguished clinical research centers in dermatology. Our mission is to advance the understanding of the mechanisms of skin disease acquired through basic and clinical research and apply them by utilizing novel therapeutic interventions. The unit is primarily responsible for carrying out clinical trials relating to inflammatory skin diseases, skin cancer, infections, and auto-immune illnesses. Clinical trials are research studies designed to investigate the effectiveness and safety of new therapies for diseases in human subjects, suffering from common skin illnesses such as psoriasis, atopic dermatitis/eczema, alopecia (hair loss), acne, skin cancer, and skin infection. Rarer diseases including autoimmune illnesses like skin lupus, pemphigus vulgaris, and cutaneous T-cell lymphoma are also studied.

Bellevue Hospital Medical Center:

The epicenter of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, Bellevue Hospital is the oldest public hospital in the United States and one of the largest public hospitals in the world. As part of the New York University Department of Dermatology, Bellevue has played a historic role in the emergence of Dermatology as a specialty. From the time its floors first opened, the hospital was the first institution in the city to respond to the challenges of epidemics of syphilis, measles and other infectious diseases. More recently, the hospital squarely met the emerging AIDS epidemic by creating the first Dermatology clinic for the care of HIV-infected persons in the country. Bellevue was selected as the main referral site by the New York City Department of Health to evaluate patients with possible bioterrorism-induced infectious diseases. The Department has the contract from the National Hansen’s Disease Program to provide care for patients with Hansen’s disease in the region encompassing New York and bordering states. Also, patients with challenging genital skin disease from the STD clinics run by the NYC Department of Health are
routinely referred for evaluation and treatment.

The Bellevue Hospital Department of Dermatology provides medical, surgical and in-patient services. The outpatient center is housed in an Ambulatory Care facility designed by the I.M. Pei architectural firm. Each week there are ten General Dermatology clinics, two Pediatric Dermatology clinics - supervised by Drs. Julie Schaffer, Helen Shin and Emily Berger four Skin surgery clinics - supervised by board certified Dermatologic surgeons, Drs. Ariel Ostad, Robert Anolik, Julia Tzu and Adele Quintana, three Procedural Dermatology clinics - supervised by faculty with impeccable credentials in procedural dermatology, Drs. Paul Frank, Edwin Joe and Linda Franks, a first year resident Dermatology Surgery Clinic, three Sexually Transmitted Disease clinics - supervised by Dr. Miguel Sanchez, three Wound Healing Clinics - supervised by Drs. Miriam Pomeranz and Miguel Sanchez, three Hansen’s disease clinics - attended by Dr. William Levis and five specialty clinics: Connective Tissue Diseases (Dr. Andrew Franks, who is triply board certified in Dermatology, Internal Medicine and Rheumatology and Dr. Alisa Femia, who is fellowship trained in medical dermatology), Vulvar diseases (Dr. Miriam Pomeranz), Complex Medical Dermatology (Drs. Franks, Femia, Pomeranz and Sanchez) and Ethnic dermatology (Dr. Samayah Jamal), Cutaneous Lymphoma (Dr. Jo-Ann Latkowski). Phototherapy is provided all day from Monday to Friday. Nail procedure cases are performed on a special clinic day. As part of continuity, residents are encouraged to develop clinics to foster their areas of interest, such as Acne, Pigmented lesions, Hair disorders and Bullous diseases. At their request, senior residents are provided with the opportunity to start an independent clinic in which they have a greater degree of autonomy that helps them to prepare for the rigors of future practice while counting on optional attending assistance for any case.

The Medical Director of the Department of Dermatology at Bellevue is Dr. Miguel Sanchez. All the dermatology services provided at Bellevue are resident-run with close attending supervision. The residents have primary responsibility for all aspects of the care of the patients under the direct supervision of 8 full-time and 26 voluntary faculty members. In addition to her busy outpatient teaching and supervisory responsibilities, Dr. Miriam Pomeranz is also the principal physician in the inpatient service and, in addition, conducts Walk Rounds on the more interesting hospitalized cases once a week. Close to 100 consultations are done every month on the wards and Emergency Services Department. The consult resident rounds with an attending, (Drs. Miriam Pomeranz, Peter Reisfeld, Michael Berry, and Miguel Sanchez) from Monday through Friday and, as needed, on weekends. Dr. Julie Schaffer directs the busy Pediatric Dermatology Service and, together with the Pediatric Dermatology fellow, conducts consult rounds with residents.

As an integral part of the NYU Department of Dermatology, the missions of the Bellevue department revolve around the delivery of cutting-edge, evidence-based patient care and maintaining the highest standards of academic training for Dermatology residents. The Dermatology Clinic and Consult services also provide popular educational opportunities for medical students from around the country, foreign physicians, and Internal Medicine and Primary Care residents. Fellows from the departments of Ob/Gyn, ENT, Infectious diseases, and Rheumatology have rotated through the department, affirming the close relationship and interactions between Dermatology and other departments.
departments in the hospital. The faculty participates in numerous projects ranging from research, to assisting survivors of torture, to educating students from elementary up to high school about skin issues. Well-known for their ability to provide comprehensive dermatologic care to persons from all socioeconomic levels, our clinics are the leading referral sites for skin disease of multiple institutions within the city, which guarantees a steady influx of fascinating cases and a wide spectrum of disease from around the world.

**New York Harbor Healthcare System—Manhattan Veterans Administration Hospital:**

Dr. Jo-Ann Latkowski is the Acting Chief of Service at the Manhattan Veterans Administration Hospital. Full and part-time faculty include Drs. Jo-Ann Latkowski, Jennifer Stein, Vickie Levine, Brent Wainwright, and Lisa Gruson. In addition to the full-time faculty, clinic is attended by twenty-five voluntary faculty members. The outstanding space occupied by the Department of Dermatology at the VA includes two surgical rooms, six exam rooms, phototherapy unit and a teaching conference room.

The Manhattan Veterans Administration Hospital rotation differs from the other sites in its emphasis on cutaneous surgery. There are five surgical clinics weekly, including one half-day dedicated exclusively to first-year surgical cases. The VA rotation includes nine general dermatology clinics weekly, a weekly dermatopathology conference plus specialty clinics in cutaneous lymphoma, pigmented lesions, skin ulcers, contact dermatitis and treatment of HIV-lipoatrophy with cutaneous fillers. In addition, narrow band UVB therapy, photo dynamic therapy with a newly acquired Omnilux LED device and laser therapy with the V-Beam Perfecta and Lumenis Ultra Pulse laser are also available.

**Sub-specialty Curricula**

**Dermatologic Surgery:**

The dermatologic surgery curriculum at The Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology offers a wide and varied experience over the residency’s three years. Dr. John Carucci, Chief of Dermatologic Surgery, and Dr. Ladan Shahabi are involved in ongoing work to advance the understanding and surgical treatment of benign and malignant skin disease. Residents rotate with them and with numerous volunteer attending physicians at NYU’s three clinic sites. Residents also participate...
in a surgery specific didactic program of lectures and journal clubs throughout residency. Surgical training begins with basic procedures in the first year of residency and progresses to intermediate and advanced procedures in the second and third years. More specifically, during the first year, residents learn pre- and post-operative management, the basics of anesthesia and layered closure on the face, trunk and extremities. First-year residents rotate through surgery clinics at all three clinic sites. Second and third-year residents rotate through the Dermatologic Surgery Section and participate in Mohs micrographic surgery, flap, and graft reconstruction, staged repairs, cartilage grafts, and other advanced procedures. Residents learn cosmetic procedures including sclerotherapy, filler and toxin injection, and laser surgery. Residents gain first-hand experience with vascular, pigmented-lesion and hair-removal and resurfacing lasers. A distinguishing feature of the surgical program at NYU is that the residents themselves perform the overwhelming majority of surgical procedures, whether excisional or cosmetic. Consequently, NYU dermatology residents graduate with strong skills, well equipped to perform the full array of dermatologic surgical and cosmetic cases.

Dermatopathology:

The Dermatopathology section of the Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology is one of the largest and the most well known in academic dermatology in the world. Residents learn dermatopathology in a well-structured curriculum providing a wide range of diagnostic services in the interpretation of skin specimens that repeats each year. Introductory didactic sessions, which focus on the histology of ‘normal’ skin, are followed by weekly sessions in which unknown glass slides provide the cornerstone for discussions by dermatopathology faculty. The subject matter includes all aspects of neoplastic and inflammatory dermatopathology. Additionally, the Section trains two dermatopathology fellows per year.

To round out the dermatopathology curriculum, residents spend dedicated time in the dermatopathology section, which has a teaching collection with thousands of glass slides. First- and second-year residents spend three weeks signing out cases with dermatopathology staff; third year residents rotate through dermatopathology for a full six weeks.

Pediatric & Adolescent Dermatology:

The Pediatric & Adolescent Dermatology Unit at the Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology is one of the oldest in the country, tracing its beginnings to 1962. The full-time faculty includes Drs. Julie Schaffer and Seth Orlow. The voluntary faculty includes a number of experienced attending pediatric dermatologists.
Residents care for children with skin problems in the pediatric dermatology clinics at Bellevue Hospital and the Skin & Cancer Unit and participate in inpatient consultations at Bellevue Hospital, NYU Langone Medical Center, and the Rusk Institute for Rehabilitative Medicine. Residents also perform neonatal and emergency department consultations at NYU Langone Medical Center and Bellevue Hospitals and rotate with Dr. Orlow in his consultative faculty practice.

To gain exposure to complex pediatric dermatologic problems, residents also take part in subspecialty clinics dedicated to genetic skin disease and pediatric contact dermatitis. In addition, residents regularly participate in pediatric dermatology journal club sessions and can choose to have a pediatric focus in their continuity clinic.

Educational Curriculum

The educational curriculum was structured with the Department’s mission in mind, and seeks to provide the skills needed to pursue and achieve lifelong learning in dermatology.

Introductory Course for First Year Residents:

Under the direction of Dr. Julie Schaffer, the initial six weeks of the year are dedicated to providing first year residents with the basic tools they need as dermatology residents. A curriculum of reading centered around some of the more common dermatoses is coordinated with a differential diagnosis course. The goal is to arm residents with a sound approach to clinical diagnosis. During this time period, second and third-year residents review CME articles.

Morning Didactic Sessions

After the first six weeks of the academic year, the first-year residents join the second and third year residents for the morning didactic teaching sessions which include lectures, seminars and conferences. Dr. Schaffer directs resident education. A core curriculum in medical and pediatric dermatology, dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology and the basic sciences is supplemented by Journal Club, which is aimed at developing residents’ skill in critical review of the literature. There are also several clinical conferences, where the translation of academic knowledge into clinical practice is emphasized.

Residents meet daily from 8 to 9AM for didactic sessions and twice weekly from 12:15 to 1:00PM for case-based clinical sessions. All sessions are moderated or led by full or part-time faculty who possess a range of expertise that covers the spectrum of dermatology.

The weekly didactics schedule is as follows:

Monday: Textbook Review

The medical and basic science dermatology curriculum is covered in this session, which is resident-run under faculty direction. Residents become ‘mini-experts’ in the topics they review and are provided with a structured framework for their weekly reading. An interactive format is encouraged, with a focus on synthesis of the material in current major dermatology textbooks, clinical pearls, and pertinent information from the recent literature.
Tuesday: Residents’ Lecture Series

Senior residents invite faculty and other experts to lecture on dermatologic surgery, pediatric dermatology and the basic sciences. In addition, the medical dermatology curriculum is enhanced through lectures by specialists on a variety of topics and regular case review sessions in which differential diagnoses and therapeutic strategies are discussed in an interactive manner.

Wednesday: Journal Club

Residents review journal articles from major dermatology journals as well as the relevant non-dermatology literature; discussion takes place under the direction of multiple faculty. Other faculty members also attend. This session serves not only to keep residents and faculty abreast of the advances in our field, but to encourage critical reading and knowledge of evidence-based medicine.

Thursday: Dermatopathology

Dermatopathology faculty lead this discussion of “unknown slides” that have been reviewed by residents prior to the session. A well-established and successful curriculum is updated annually. Clinico-pathologic correlation sessions are held approximately once per month.

Friday: Grand Rounds (Howard Fox Lecture Series)

Formal lectures on topics of dermatologic relevance are presented by leading members of the national academic dermatologic communities as well as related experts from outside the field of dermatology. Residents are thus exposed to the latest advances across the spectrum of the specialty.

Noon Conference:

Twice weekly at noontime, residents attend clinical conferences during which NYU faculty lead a discussion on interesting cases from the clinics and consult services at NYU Langone Medical Center and Bellevue, particularly those that have presented diagnostic or therapeutic challenges. In addition to clinical images and patient viewing at both sites, histopathologic correlation is provided by dermatopathology faculty and fellows at NYU’s Ambulatory Care Center.
Weekly Didactic Sessions

Department of Dermatology, New York University

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Other Teaching Sessions

Tuesday Night Conferences:

This conference series, directed by Dr. Nicholas Soter, provides residents with a live patient viewing opportunity. Residents prepare protocols on interesting and unusual cases and a member of the full-time or voluntary clinical faculty leads a discussion based on these cases. Dermatologists throughout the New York Metropolitan area attend the conference. The evening also provides a forum for residents to hone their presentation skills. Each resident and clinical fellow speaks on a subject of his or her choice at one of these conferences yearly. There are five such conferences per year.

Basic Science Research Seminars:

A dedicated basic science seminar on topics relevant to dermatology takes place monthly. It is delivered by members of the scientific community from around the world.

Other Educational Experiences

Advances in Dermatology:

Each year in June, the Department hosts a multi-day conference to report the latest developments in the field. Presentations are made by NYU faculty from Dermatology and other departments, fellows, and visiting faculty. The goal is to expose participants to current knowledge in dermatology and related topics. This popular conference, entering its 27th year, draws a national audience.

Local Conferences:

Residents attend meetings of the New York Academy of Medicine’s Section of Dermatology and the Dermatologic Society of Greater New York, the country’s largest regional dermatologic organization. The society meets four times yearly.
National Conferences:

All first and third-year residents attend the annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). Second-year residents divide coverage for clinical responsibilities during the AAD Meeting. Additionally, residents may be sponsored to attend other national dermatologic meetings, with prior approval, at which they present clinical or research findings.

Special Programs

Resident Research Program

The Resident Research Program is a required program for all NYU dermatology residents. Its goals are to increase the interactions among residents and full-time faculty, to expose residents to academic opportunities in dermatology, and to assist each resident in developing special expertise in a defined area of dermatology. Residents work directly with a full-time faculty mentor on an original project throughout their time at NYU. Projects could encompass topics in medical dermatology, pediatric dermatology, clinical research, dermatopathology, dermatopharmacology and dermatologic surgery. The program begins with project proposals due in the second half of the first year of residency. Projects begin as soon as possible, but not later than the beginning of the second year. By graduation, residents are expected to submit their research results for presentation at local and/or national meetings and for publication.

The resident research committee is led by Drs. Jo-Ann Latkowski and Shane Meehan.
Research

The Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology at New York University has an extremely active research program. Through the Resident Research Program, residents are encouraged to participate in research projects with the clinical or laboratory-based faculty.

In addition to its outstanding clinical facilities, the Department has a dedicated Dermatology Clinical Studies Unit and the Department's Cutaneous Biology Research Program occupies an entire floor of the Smilow Translational Research Building.

The Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology
Summary of Full-time Faculty Interests

Miroslav Blumenberg, Ph.D.
Transcriptional profiling, signal transduction and regulation of gene expression in epidermis.

John Carucci, M.D., Ph.D.
Mohs micrographic surgery, Reconstructive surgery, Cutaneous oncology, Tumor immunology.

David Cohen, M.D., M.P.H.
Occupational and environmental dermatology. Evaluation and management of contact dermatitis.
Pamela Cowin, Ph.D.
Signal transduction in mammary gland and skin with particular emphasis on Wnt/ beta-catenin and Hedgehog/Gli pathways.

Alisa Femia, M.D.
Autoimmune connective tissue disease.

Andrew G. Franks, Jr., M.D.
Cutaneous lupus and autoimmune skin disease.

Roger Ho, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.
Dietary Vitamin D and Skin Diseases

Mayumi Ito, Ph.D.
Hair follicle and nail stem cell research.
Susan E. Katz, M.D.
Psoriasis, antiaging, and general dermatology.

Jo-Ann Latkowski, M.D.
Cutaneous lymphomas and lymphomagenesis.

Marie Leger, M.D., Ph.D.
Telemedicine, Dermatology and Global Health

William Levis, M.D.
Immunology of leprosy.

George Lipkin, M.D.
Reversion of the malignant phenotype by differentiating agents that could favorably alter the tumor-host relationship.
Prashiela Manga, Ph.D.
Biology of skin pigmentation. Interplay between genes controlling pigmentation in contributing to melanoma risk and resistance to therapy; Therapy for albinism.

Shane Meehan, M.D.
Dermatopathology, melanoma, dysplastic nevi, inflammatory dermatoses and cutaneous lymphoma.

Ahou Meydani, M.D.
Telemedicine, Dermatology in Global health, access to dermatologic care in underserved populations.

Andrea Neimann, M.D.
Medical dermatology, evaluation and management of psoriasis and other inflammatory skin diseases. Development of new dermatologic therapies.

Seth J. Orlow, M.D., Ph.D.
Biology of pigmentation of the skin, hair and eyes. Development of novel treatments for vitiligo, albinism and melanoma. Pediatric, adolescent and genetic dermatology.
Iman Osman, M.D.
Growth/Cell regulation in melanoma. Identification of cellular targets for treatments that are likely to have clinical relevance. Developing blood-based assays to better determine the prognosis of patients with advanced melanoma.

David Polsky, M.D., Ph.D.
Clinical and molecular pathology research involving melanoma, atypical moles, oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes. Developing genetic risk markers for melanoma and blood-based assays to help diagnose and monitor patients with metastatic melanoma.

Miriam Pomeranz, M.D.
General medical dermatology, diseases of the vulva, pregnancy related skin disease.

Sarika Ramachandran, M.D.
Connective tissue disorders affecting the skin.

Miguel Sanchez, M.D.
Skin signs of abuse and torture.
Julie V. Schaffer, M.D.
Congenital and genetic disorders affecting the skin, hair and nails. Pediatric and adolescent dermatology.

Ladan Shahabi, M.D.
Cosmetic and Medical and cosmetic dermatology, laser treatment.

Jerry Shapiro, M.D.
Diseases of the hair and scalp.

Jerome L. Shupack, M.D.
Development of new dermatologic therapies. Psoriasis.

Nicholas A. Soter, M.D.
Mast cells and urticaria. Itch, photomedicine.
Jennifer A. Stein, M.D., Ph.D.
Melanoma, non-melanoma skin cancers, dysplastic nevi, congenital nevi. Skin cancer screening. Skin cancer in organ transplant patients.

Tung-Tien Sun, Ph.D.
Assembly, targeting and disease implications of epithelial membrane proteins in the urothelium.
NYU Dermatology Residents
2013-2014
Welcome You
View from NYU Langone Medical Center
Joan and Joel
Smilow Research Center