

Cooper Dermatology Newsletter

January 2025
Volume 3

A word from the Program Director Dr. Lacy Sommer

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Cooper cases @ PAD
Annual Meeting**

**Alumni Spotlight:
Erum Ilyas, MD, MBE**

**Faculty Spotlight:
Camille Introcaso, MD**

**Fellow Spotlight:
Shayna Rivard, MD**

**Join us at the AAD:
Alumni Dinner
Saturday, March 8, 6-8pm**

As 2024 has come to a close, our academic year is halfway over. Our residents and faculty continue to provide exceptional outpatient care in Camden while attending to a bustling inpatient service. With the addition of **Dr Robert Duffy** this year, we are now able to have dedicated residents and faculty on-site at the Cooper campus Monday-Friday allowing us prompt triage of outpatient appointments and staffing of inpatient consults. Without the ongoing dedication to patient care and commitment to resident education by our faculty, this wouldn't be possible. I'm thankful to have the opportunity to work alongside such wonderful role-models and colleagues.

We are also in the midst of interview season and I continue to be impressed with the accomplishments of our applicants. Many of the applicants cite our close-knit department, our dedication towards providing dermatologic care for the residents of Camden, our ever-growing pediatric dermatology population, and the extensive exposure to skin of color as their top reasons for interest in our program and I couldn't agree with them more. These are a few of the highlights of what our program has to offer and I'm glad these attributes are evident to the applicants. Our interviews will remain virtual, and we will be ranking two residents this cycle for start in July 2026.

Tune in after **Match Day** on **March 21, 2025** to find out who we matched!



Meetings and Invited Lectures



In September, **Dr Introcaso, Kristen Randolph (PGY-3), Erika Tvedten (PGY-3)** and **Matthew Taylor (PGY-2)** presented several cases for Grand Rounds at the 56th Annual Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology Meeting. Cases of interest highlighting the complexity of patients we care for included Dengue fever, cutaneous leishmaniasis, Darier's disease, and xylazine-induced ulcerations.

Kristen Randolph (PGY-3) also presented an interesting case while reviewing diffuse melanosis cutis and tumoral melanosis at the Resident Symposium.



congratulations!



Congratulations to alum and faculty member **Dr Robert Duffy** and alum **Dr Erum Ilyas** (see page 4) on their election as Members at Large to the Philadelphia Dermatologic Society Executive Committee.

Follow us on social media:



@cooperdermresidency
@hmgdsderm

Faces and Places



Matt Taylor (PGY-2), Dr Introcaso, and **Carlos Vieira (PGY-4)** are all smiles for a Monday morning clinic in Camden!



It was great to catch up with Cooper Alumni involved in resident education at the Association of Professors of Dermatology Annual Meeting in Chicago November 15-16, 2024. Pictured: **Dr Min Deng** (Program Director and Director of MMS at MedStar Health-Washington Hospital Center), **Dr Bilal Fawaz** (Associate Program Director at Boston University) and **Dr Sommer**. We are proud of our alumni involved in continued resident education!

In the Community



For the 2nd year, the **HMGS Team** had a great time running and walking for a good cause and handing out sunscreen at the Cooper-Norcross Bridge run!



Alumni Spotlight

Erum Ilyas, MD, MBE

Medical School: MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

Residency: Cooper University Hospital, Dermatology, 2006

Current practice location:

Clinical Practice: Schweiger Dermatology, King of Prussia, PA

Academic Practice: Academic Chair and Associate Professor
Department of Dermatology
Drexel University College of Medicine

Instagram: @drerumilyas

Website: www.ambernoon.com



Clinical interests or scope of practice:

Clinical: Medical & Surgical Dermatology, Adult & Pediatric, Cosmetic & Laser. I love to see everything and offer full-service care to our community.

Research: My research interests focus on the interactions between textiles and cutaneous health, exploring how fabric properties influence skin physiology, protection, and overall dermatologic outcomes.

As an aside, I vividly remember seeing the framed patent on Dr. Heymann’s wall—if I recall correctly, it was for topical thyroid hormone. I was so impressed and inspired by it that I carried that memory with me for years. I’m proud to say that as of this week, after years of research, I received my first patent for UV protection in textiles, based on construction without the use of sunscreen finishes. It’s a moment of immense pride and a tribute to the inspiration I drew from my training.

What is your fondest memory of Cooper Dermatology?

My fondest memories of Cooper Dermatology are from the resident clinics and, believe it or not, inpatient call! During my training, these clinics offered a unique opportunity for continuity of care over three straight years of training, allowing me to learn how to develop strong, ongoing relationships with patients and a deeper understanding of providing outpatient care. Unlike many programs where rotations last only weeks or months, we had the privilege of seeing the full spectrum of the patient experience and dermatologic disease, from initial visits to long-term outcomes. This immersive experience not only deepened my clinical knowledge but also gave me the confidence to enter practice seamlessly the day after completing my residency. It was an invaluable foundation for my career in dermatology and allowed me to build and grow my private practice rapidly.

Words of advice to current dermatology residents?

Recognize how fortunate you are to train in a program with such highly skilled, knowledgeable, and well-regarded faculty who genuinely care about your education and success. Take full advantage of their expertise and dedication—not only are they committed to offering the best possible patient care, but they are also deeply invested in shaping you into confident and capable dermatologists. Be open to learning, ask questions, and make the most of every opportunity to grow under their guidance. This is a truly unique and invaluable time in your career.

Words of advice to recent dermatology graduates?

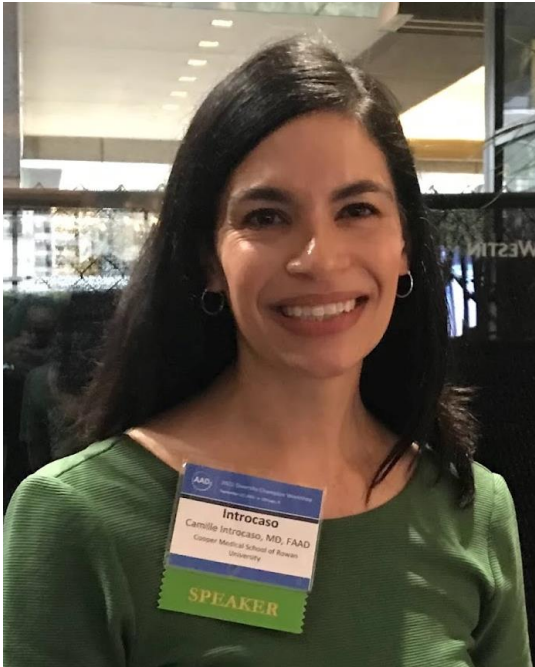
If you’re inclined to consider starting your own practice, don’t shy away from it—it can be a truly rewarding path. Establishing a practice gives you the opportunity to provide care in the manner you believe is best, while also building your own name and reputation in the field. With careful planning and a strong commitment to your vision, you can create a practice that reflects your values and delivers exceptional care to your patients. Trust in your training and take the leap if it feels right for you.

Favorite clinical pearl:

Dr. Heymann shared numerous pearls however the one that I use every single day is this: If you can answer these four questions for patients—what’s the diagnosis, is it contagious, is it a sign of something worrisome, and can you treat or manage it—you will provide them with immense comfort and ease. Simply assigning a name to their condition can bring relief, as it shifts the experience from something unknown to something understood. Patients then want reassurance that it won’t harm them or their loved ones, and knowing there’s a treatment or management plan is an added bonus. This approach has held true throughout my career, and every explanation I give for a dermatologic diagnosis incorporates these points. It makes a world of difference within seconds with every patient encounter.

Faculty Spotlight

Camille Introcaso, MD



Hometown: Collingswood, NJ

Medical School: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA

Dermatology Residency: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (four-year program including one year of cutaneous oncology fellowship)

Fellowship: Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in the Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

When did you join Cooper Dermatology? I started in September of 2020. It was months before I saw my colleagues without masks!

Clinical interests: Infectious disease, global health, sexually transmitted disease, inpatient dermatology

What is your favorite thing about Cooper Dermatology? I get to work with curious, friendly, caring people who want to make a difference in the world. I learn new things from my colleagues and the residents everyday, and they help me to be the best doctor I can be.

Words of advice to current dermatology residents? Take advantage of this time and dig in to learn as much from every patient as you can. It doesn't always feel like it, but residency is short and you never have the same kind of support and learning opportunities again.

Words of advice to recent dermatology graduates? Stay connected to your co-residents. My friends from residency have been a wealth of information about jobs and other opportunities. Attend regional or national meetings even if it feels like you don't have the time—the energy and connections that you get from conferences as a young attending are invaluable.

Favorite clinical pearl: When you're seeing a patient, introduce yourself to everyone in the room; it demonstrates that you're interested in the patient and who they brought with them, and it shows confidence.

Hobbies/Interests: Cooking, yoga, running, and spending time with my husband and two children and our extended families

Resident and Fellow Spotlight

Shayna Rivard, MD



Shayna is our current Mohs Fellow graduating in June 2025. After fellowship, Shayna will be providing Mohs surgery in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire.



LinkedIn: Shayna Rivard, MD

@skincancersurgeon



Hometown: Poland, Maine

Medical School: University of Vermont College of Medicine, Burlington, VT

Residency: National Capital Consortium (NCC) Dermatology Residency Program at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD

Why did you choose dermatology or Mohs Fellowship? I initially went into medicine with a desire to pursue medical missions work. I was drawn to the field of surgery and when I was introduced to Mohs surgery, I knew I had found my niche and ultimately pursued a fellowship in Mohs surgery. I feel incredibly blessed to have received training and board certification in dermatology with a specific focus on skin cancer detection and treatment while serving in the Navy in austere locations. I was stationed in Guam for close to 3 years, Bahrain for 2 years, and deployed on the USNS Comfort hospital ship to Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic where my team and I provided skin cancer related care. Many of my patients are outdoor enthusiasts, which leads to fun interactions while providing the treatment they require. I am very grateful for this fellowship year with Dr. Lawrence and look forward to providing Mohs surgery in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire just outside the White Mountains after completion of Mohs fellowship in June 2025.

Favorite clinical pearl: An alcohol pad can serve you well when diagnosing skin cancer and detecting its borders.

What will you take away from your fellowship training here? Learning from Dr. Lawrence and benefiting from her years of experience has been amazing. She is truly an expert in reconstruction, especially nasal reconstruction, and my flap differential continues to be sharpened and honed; she literally has broken down each flap into steps leading to optimal results. As a result of this fellowship, my ability to select the best flap for each defect and research skills have been notably strengthened. I will be practicing in a rural setting and need this knowledge to perform high quality advanced reconstruction. Dr. Lawrence has also involved me in the DermSurgery Digest Podcast, which is a fabulous resource.

Words of advice to current dermatology residents? Don't be afraid to go after what brings you passion. Patients can see when you love what you do a mile away and will in turn benefit greatly. Inspire your team; everyone is good at something; find out each team member's unique skill or strength and encourage them to use this.

Dream vacation location: New Hampshire in the White Mountains: next adventure

Recommended Podcast: DermSurgery Digest Podcast

Departmental Scholarly Activity

Selected Recent Publications:

Moturi R, **Introcaso CE**. Disseminated gonococcal infection of pharyngeal origin: Test all anatomic sites. *Cutis*. 2024 Sep;114(3):E23-E26. PMID: 39413329

Walkosak CC, **Jennings T**, Coriell P, Dickler D, Pivonka AE, **Lawrence N, Decker A**. Infection rate using tissue adhesive versus suture for epidermal closure in dermatologic surgery: A retrospective cohort study. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2024 Oct 28:S0190-9622(24)03054-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2024.10.039. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39476974.

Heymann WR. Turning our attention to melanoma risk in turner syndrome. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2024 Nov 20:S0190-9622(24)03228-6. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2024.11.024. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39571754.

Perry NJ, Wang S, Smith R, **Duffy RF**, Queenan M, Perman MJ, Lerman MA, Larijani M. Rapidly Progressive Idiopathic Pyoderma Gangrenosum in a Pediatric Patient Successfully Treated With Infliximab. *Pediatr Dermatol*. 2024 Nov 25. doi: 10.1111/pde.15828. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39586834.

Huang CY, Trinidad Hasbún M, **Duffy RF**, Smith RJ, Do N, Rastogi S, Queenan M, Yang S, Lee JB, Perman MJ, Yan AC. Infantile Hemangioma With Aggressive, Early-Onset Ulceration, and Kasabach-Merritt-Like Phenomenon in a Newborn. *Pediatr Dermatol*. 2024 Dec 27. doi: 10.1111/pde.15836. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39727084.

Pluta NA, Kemp TL, **Rivard SC**. Treatment Considerations for Pyoderma Gangrenosum After Reduction Mammoplasty in an Unsuspecting Patient Demographic. *Plast Reconstr Surg Glob Open*. 2025 Jan 10; 13(1):e6448. PMID: 39802275

Welcome to
Dermatology World Insights and Inquiries
for perspectives on current dermatologic literature



Stay current with
Dr. Warren Heymann's
weekly commentary on
new and relevant articles
and topics in the
dermatologic literature.



Don't miss *The DermSurgery Digest*, a monthly podcast hosted by **Dr. Naomi Lawrence** and co-host **Dr. Michael Renzi** where you can hear a concise monthly review of journal articles from "*Dermatologic Surgery*."



From the Archives



From left to right: **Preston Chadwick**, **Lindsay Eminger**, **Naomi Lawrence**, **Lacy Sommer**, and **Austin Liu** in the Mohs Surgery office May 2013.

Shared Alumni Database



Since the Program's inception by **Dr. Warren Heymann** in 1995, our aim has been to promote and foster competent and compassionate care for patients and instill in our residents a commitment to excellence and life-long learning.

We are proud of you, **our alumni**, for carrying on our mission and the many successes you have achieved along the way.



The goal of the shared database is to help our alumni, faculty, and current trainees to connect to one another for professional opportunities. Please add or edit your information as appropriate.

Important Dates for 2024-2025

Please join us for **Virtual Grand Rounds** for the upcoming academic year. You may use the Zoom Link below. The usual format is 7:45-8:00am Lightning Rounds, 8:00-9:00am in-depth case discussions, and 9:00-10:00am Guest Speaker Lecture. Dr Heymann and the residents present Journal Club 10:00-11:00am.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: **862 8443 8245**

Passcode: **000940**



Grand Rounds Dates:

- February 6, 2025 - **Dr Markus Boos** (Seattle Children's Hospital)
- March 13, 2025 - **Dr Ramone Williams** (Massachusetts General Hospital) on keratinocyte carcinomas in skin of color
- April 3, 2025 - **Dr Saranya Wyles** (Mayo Clinic) on exosomes and rejuvenation
- May 1, 2025 - **Dr Shayna Rivard** (Cooper)
- June 5, 2025 - No Guest Lecture

Philadelphia Dermatologic Society Meetings: 4:00 - 6:15pm EST (Virtual)

- Pennsylvania Hospital - January 10, 2025
- **Cooper Medical School of Rowan University - February 7, 2025**
 - Guest Speaker: **Dr Crystal Aguh** (John Hopkins School of Medicine)
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - March 21, 2025
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia - April 4, 2025
- The Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University - May 16, 2025

Other Conferences:

- **AAD Annual Meeting - Orlando, Florida - March 7-11, 2025**
 - If you are planning on attending the annual meeting in Orlando, please join us for our alumni dinner.
Saturday, March 8, 2025 - 6 - 8:00 PM.
The Pub - 9101 International Dr Suite 1003, Orlando, FL 32819
 - Please RSVP by filling out the following form by February 24, 2025:
<https://forms.gle/BidSika8tjYkyBH9>



From the Division Head

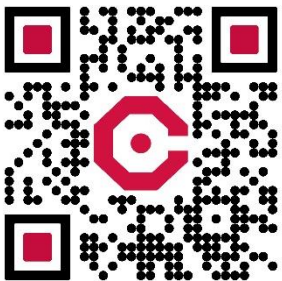


Dr. Camille Introcaso

I'm sure you all remember the significance and challenges of being on call for inpatient consults as a resident. The excitement of diagnosing a rare condition and the satisfaction of seeing a patient improve over days exist right along-side with the heart-sinking feeling of a page in the middle of the night and the frustration of missed questions on rounds. But high-acuity, high-volume inpatient consult services prepare dermatology residents to provide excellent care for all patients, in and out of the hospital.

Although it is critically important to patient care, many hospitals do not have access to inpatient dermatology consults. Cooper is the only hospital in South Jersey with inpatient dermatology, and we receive transfers from all over the region for our specialized care. **From 2022 through 2024, our residents and faculty saw 1,893 emergency room and hospital consults.** With only 4 residents, that's a lot of pages!

One way we thank our residents for all their work is by supporting them to attend conferences. This winter our second-year residents will attend the Dermatology Foundation meeting, and our upper-year residents will attend the AAD meeting, thanks in part to your donations to the Cooper Foundation. Thank you to the many of you who donated at the end of the year—I feel proud to be part of a community that supports its trainees. If you did not have the chance to donate in 2024, please consider contributing now. I hope to see you at our reunion dinner in Orlando on March 8!



To make a **donation to the Cooper Foundation** please scan the QR code or click [HERE](#) and choose the **Dermatology Education, Training, and Research Fund** from the drop down menu.

Please note that the Cooper Foundation is an independent, charitable, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization (Tax ID number is 22-2213715) and the philanthropic, community outreach and community development arm of Cooper University Health Care. The Cooper Foundation does not provide tax, legal, or financial advice. Any document or information shared by our staff is intended to be educational and informational. The Cooper Foundation strongly encourages all of our benefactors to seek counsel from their own legal and financial advisors. Please know that any information or documents shared by the Cooper Foundation staff cannot be used to avoid tax-related penalties.

We encourage you to send in updates so we can keep everyone apprised of current happenings in their personal and professional lives. Please send your updates and newsworthy information as well as any comments and suggestions to Sommer-Lacy@cooperhealth.edu