I. Leonard Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI, served as president of the AAAAI (then known as the American Academy of Allergy) in 1982. He was admired for his encyclopedic knowledge of the field of allergy and asthma, and was a founding member of the committee that conceived and wrote the first practice parameters for our specialty.

I. Leonard was an expert in environmental and occupational allergies, and published extensively. He was devoted to training future allergists, and developed a Fellowship program at the University of Cincinnati through which he trained more than 60 physicians.

Dr. Bernstein’s contributions to our specialty were vast, and he especially valued good research done in the interest of improving outcomes for our patients and growing the field of Allergy/Immunology. The AAAAI Foundation exists to fund research that leads to the prevention and cure of asthma and allergic and immunologic disease, which was a cause near and dear to his heart.

2019 marks the 3rd year of the AAAAI Foundation and I. Leonard Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI Memorial Lectureship. It will be presented in Plenary Session 4101: Atopic Dermatitis: Bench to Bedside and Back on Monday, February 25, 2019: 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM, Moscone Center South, Hall A.
Jonathan Silverberg is an Associate Professor of Dermatology, Medical Social Sciences and Preventive Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, IL. He is also founder and Director of Northwestern Medicine’s Multidisciplinary Eczema Center, and Director of the patch testing clinic at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Jonathan received his doctorate in neuroimmunology, medical degree and Master of Public Health degree in biostatistics and epidemiology from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, in Brooklyn where he also completed his internship in internal medicine. He completed his residency training in dermatology at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center and Beth Israel Medical Centers in New York, NY.

Dr. Silverberg’s area of clinical subspecialty is inflammatory skin disease, particularly atopic and contact dermatitis. Dr. Silverberg developed a multidisciplinary atopic dermatitis clinic, including providers from dermatology, allergy and immunology, neurology and sleep medicine. His research interests include drug development, biomarkers, dermato-epidemiology, health services research, patient-reported outcomes, comorbidities and burden of inflammatory skin disease and evidence-based dermatology. His publications include more than 400 peer-reviewed articles, abstracts, books and book chapters. He has also been a local, national and/or international principal investigator for numerous clinical trials for novel treatments in atopic dermatitis and other inflammatory disorders. He has been recognized with several honors, including the Young Leadership Award from the American Dermatological Association in 2017, Teacher of the Year Award from the department of dermatology in 2015, the Outstanding Teacher’s Award from the Feinberg School of Medicine in 2016, and the inaugural Rajka Award from the International Society for Atopic Dermatitis in 2014.