AAAAI Foundation and Donald Y. M. Leung, MD PhD FAAAAAI - JACI Lecture: Investing Together in Our Future

The AAAAI Foundation and Donald Y. M. Leung, MD PhD FAAAAAI-JACI Lectureship: Investing Together in Our Future will be presented by Lisa A. Beck, MD FAAAAAI in session 2521 National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID): New Insights Into the Immunoregulation of Atopic Dermatitis in Convention Center, North Building, 100 Level, Room 120A on Saturday, February 26 at 12:55 pm

Donald Y. M. Leung, MD PhD FAAAAAI

Dr. Donald Y. M. Leung, is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (JACI) and has served for the past 15 years. Under his leadership, the impact factor of our journal has risen from 3.7 to over 11.0, reflecting a marked improvement in publications of research dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of allergic and immunologic diseases. JACI is the most highly cited Journal in the field of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology and is the most visible official publication of The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI). Dr. Leung stepped down from his Editor-in-chief position in spring of 2015. As one of his initiatives to support and enhance research in our specialty and maintain JACI's high impact factor, he proposes to establish a new 4 million dollar research fund.

The “Donald Y. M. Leung, MD, PhD, FAAAAAI-JACI Lecture” commemorates the initiation of this effort and the opportunity to advance the knowledge and/or treatment of allergy, asthma and immunology by providing a source of funding for future research. The vision is to support quality, cutting-edge translational and basic research suitable for publication in JACI and further advance patient care and the credibility of allergy/immunology.
Dr. Beck is the Goldsmith Professor of Dermatology, Medicine (Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology) and Pathology. She has helped characterize cutaneous allergic inflammation with a specific focus on atopic dermatitis (AD). Her laboratory was the first to demonstrate that the activation status of white blood cells or leukocytes affected their in vivo responsiveness to chemotactic proteins called chemokines. More recently, her laboratory has been exploring the dynamic interaction between epithelial skin barrier and the innate and adaptive immune systems. She was the first to describe and characterize epidermal tight junction defects in AD. Dr. Beck is internationally recognized as an AD expert, her research was instrumental in the development of the first biologic drug called dupilumab for the treatment of moderate to severe eczema. She has had continuous NIH funding since 1994, to study allergic inflammation, epithelial barrier function and to better understand atopic dermatitis subjects susceptibility to cutaneous viral infections. She part of the NIAID-funded Atopic Dermatitis Research Network since 1993 and was the Protocol Chair for the largest AD Registry and biorepository of DNA, serum and skin swabs. Dr. Beck has been Associate and Section Editor for the Journal of Investigative Dermatology, past member of the ABD, member of the NEA Scientific Advisory Board, a Board member and VP of the SID, Secretary of the International Eczema Council and reviewer for NIH study sections. She has published >100 papers and review articles. Her work has been recognized by honorary memberships to the American Dermatology Association and Collegium Internationale Allergologicum, as well as named lectureships: Swinford Conference [UVa], Dr. Blum Visiting Professor Lectureship [Duke Univ], Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland (RAMI), Irwin Blank Forum [SID], Elliot F. Ellis Lectureship [AAAAI], Dr. and Mrs. Paul Cook Visiting Professorship [Duke/SE Consortium], Hermann Pinkus Memorial Lectureship [ASDP], Gail Shapiro Lectureship [AAAAI], Donald Leung Lectureship [AAAAI], Donald L. Levin MD Lectureship [Northwestern Univ], etc.