



# News *Release*

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**Frances J. Storrs, M.D.**

## **Receives Dermatology Foundation Lifetime Career Educator Award**

At its recent annual meeting of membership in San Diego, the Dermatology Foundation recognized the tremendous contribution Frances J. Storrs, M.D., has made to the specialty of dermatology by honoring her with the Lifetime Career Educator award. The award honors Dr. Storrs' distinguished career and the high standard she has set for the next generation of teachers in all areas of dermatology.

Dr. Storrs, Professor Emerita of Dermatology at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU), is a Local Legend of Medicine in the National Library of Medicine. OHSU formally recognized her as "an impassioned mentor" who has "distinguished herself through her unwavering commitment to and passion for the education of young people. As an educator and mentor she's touched so many people, including those just starting out and those already on their career path. She loves this work—and it shows."

Teaching and mentoring during her 43 years on the faculty were a joyful and energizing passion. In recognition of her impact, Dr. Storrs received numerous teaching awards and honors from students over the years.

Dr. Storrs knew first hand the value of good mentorship and provided it for others through her Contact and Occupational Dermatitis Clinic. When Dr. Storrs had entered medical

school in 1960, “it was a different time for women in medicine.” She was one of only seven women in her class at Cornell Medical College, the first woman to complete the dermatology residency program at OHSU, then remained their sole female faculty member for 21 years. In 1993, Dr. Storrs worked with June Robinson to found the Mentorship Awards Program in the Women’s Dermatologic Society.

Virtually all of Dr. Storrs’ mentees entered medicine, many in dermatology. One gratefully notes that “Fran, more than any other physician or teacher, has empowered me to do things I never thought possible.”

Dr. Storrs, a sought-after speaker in contact dermatitis, has played a major role in advancing the field through her focus on new allergens and testing the validity of accepted concepts. Her many awards include the AAD’s Master Dermatologist Award, the AAD’s Gold Medal (their highest award), and the WDS’s first Mentorship Award. At OHSU, an annual endowed dermatology lectureship in her name is intended to become a named professorship.

In retirement, Dr. Storrs still wouldn’t miss the department’s Wednesday morphology conference and scheduled talks. “It’s too interesting and so much fun to inhale all this fascinating information. I feel so lucky that I was able to become a dermatologist!”

*The Dermatology Foundation was established in 1964 and is the leading private funding source for skin disease research. It provides funding that helps develop and retain tomorrow’s teachers and researchers in dermatology, and enable advancements in patient care.*

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