The International Travelling Mentorship Program (ITMP) now encompasses both mentoring and formal fellowship training. Founded in 2010 by Professor Lawrence M. Field, MD, the ITMP now boasts 194 members from 34 countries. ITMP members serve as hosts and mentors to provide education and hands-on training for general dermatologic surgery, cosmetic dermatology and Mohs surgery.

**Mentorship:** Be a mentor! Travel! Teach! Learn! Mentorship provides rewards to the mentor and the mentee. Mentors can travel to teach or host a trainee. In the past year, highlights included trips by Peter Rullan, MD, who traveled to Switzerland to teach medium depth and deep chemical peeling; David Sudarto Oeiria, MD, who participated as a faculty member at several cosmetic procedure workshops in Indonesia; and Nilesh Goyal, MD, of India, who mentored Amina Al Amiri, MD, of UAE, in liposuction.

This spring, there will be an ITMP-affiliated hands-on course to teach Mohs surgery in Bucharest, Romania. Mihaela Leventer, MD, will be inviting mentors and other dermatologists from around Europe and Asia to attend the meeting, which will take place in her new facility. Vanessa Lichon, MD, Sheethal Mehta, MD, and Matt LeBoeuf, MD, and I will be leading a team to perform challenging surgery cases, and to present didactic lectures and videos.

**Fellowship:** Apply to be an international fellowship director!

Late in 2016, the ASDS Board of Directors approved the framework for certification of international fellowship programs in dermatologic surgery. Led by Todd Holmes, MD, the Fellowship Recognition Work Group has developed three pathways by which international programs can obtain ASDS recognition and certification: General dermatologic surgery; Mohs surgery and reconstruction; and cosmetic dermatology. Programs may apply for any or all certifications. As of October 2017, five applications have been submitted, and two site visits have been completed.

The first program to be certified was Skin Matters in Pretoria, South Africa, where Fellowship Director Pieter du Plessis, MD, has obtained approval for a program in Mohs micrographic surgery and general dermatologic surgery. The second program is in Bucharest, Romania, where Dr. Leventer has obtained certification for all three pathways and will be training her first fellow. Upcoming site visits in Pakistan and the Netherlands will round out the current cycle, with further applications expected by Feb. 1.

“Being recognized by ASDS as an International Fellowship Training Program improved our Mohs Unit at every level and brought out the best in the whole team,” said Dr. du Plessis.

Fellowships are one year in length and must meet criteria approved by the international fellowship committee and the ASDS Board of Directors. The cost of application is largely offset by a grant from ASDS. The fellow is a junior dermatologist who receives direct one-on-one mentoring for a full year while meeting the required case volume, with a progressive shift from observation to hands-on training and the training competencies.
2017 ASDS Annual Meeting: The Annual Lawrence M. Field, MD, Honorary Lecture was given this year by Doris Hexsel, MD. Dr. Hexsel is a world-renowned cosmetic dermatologist from Brazil. Her lecture was very well attended and included fascinating content. The Saturday afternoon ITMP session featured accomplished lecturers from all over Europe and Asia. Each year, this session showcases more and more excellence, and attendees look forward each year to seeing and learning from colleagues from around the world.

International Dermatologic Surgery Fellowship Recognition Program application process

2. Provide supporting documentation (CV’s, proof of training, licensure, letters of support) and application fee.
3. Eligibility review by the ASDS International Dermatologic Surgery Fellowship Recognition Work Group.
4. Site review conducted.
5. Final review and program status determination.

Questions? Contact Hana Herron at hherron@asds.net or visit asds.net/International-Fellowship-Recognition.

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