

Seniors' Research Wins First Place and Award at APMA Conference; NYCPM Students Also Present Novel Research



Jered Stowers and Alexandra Black pose with the first-place poster they created with Rosario Saccomanno (all 2018).

Three seniors -- Alexandra Black, Jered Stowers, Rosario Saccomanno and their faculty advisor Bryan Markinson, DPM ('81) -- presented research on melanoma (acral lentiginous melanoma) at the APMA National Conference in July and won first place in the public health category. The Class of 2018 students won a monetary prize and were honored with the Arthur E. Helfand, DPM Award, to be presented at the APHA Public Health Conference in Atlanta this November.

According to Jered, the melanoma project included three case reports of misdiagnosed acral lentiginous melanoma (ALM) that were diagnosed as onychomycosis, paronychia, and trauma.

In addition, Alexandra and Jered also presented novel research on Keracis Icelandic Cod Dermal Grafts along with coauthors Sahar Zadeh (2018), Daniel Stevens (2018), Rosario Saccomanno (2018), Amber Kavanagh (2019), and faculty advisor Anthony R. Iorio, DPM, MPH.

Jered reports: "In the research, the graft, which is a novel product laden with omega-3 fatty acids, was applied to a long-term, hard-to-heal diabetic ulcer. Within 12 weeks we had complete closure. The product is harvested from the Icelandic cod and after processing leaves an acellular dermal matrix scaffold for the cells to use as they re-epithelialize."