

**January 2009, UCLA Children's Hospital – Dr. Nancy Halnon (1993-94 Fellow), UCLA Children's Hospital and Dr. Leslie Cooper (1988-89 Sarnoff Fellow), Mayo Clinic College of Medicine**

***Leslie Cooper, Jr., MD 1988-89 Sarnoff Fellow, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine:***

I had the privilege of being the first visiting Sarnoff professor in January. I visited Dr. Nancy Halnon at Mattel UCLA Children's Hospital and spoke to audiences at the Children's Hospital and at UCLA Cardiovascular Grand Rounds. The visit developed out of a common research interest in myocarditis that Nancy and I have had for a number of years. During my visit, I learned a great deal about Nancy's primate model of myocarditis and the challenges of studying T regulatory cell function. Over dinner, we were joined by Nancy's husband, and by Christine Rongey, one of the recent Sarnoff graduates; we discussed ways to enhance further the alumni connections in the Los Angeles region.

***Nancy Halnon, MD, 1993-94 Sarnoff Fellow, UCLA Children's Hospital:***

From my standpoint, I had an opportunity to hear two great talks on myocarditis. My research mentor and collaborators had a chance to meet with Les. We had some great discussions about our scientific projects, and we exchanged some helpful advice. A big bonus was an opportunity for one of our Pediatric Infectious Disease research Fellows to meet with Les and get information about the Myocarditis Foundation. She later submitted an application for and was awarded a fellow research grant.

In all it was a great experience and a superb networking opportunity. The first visiting professorship provided a chance for scientific exchange not only for Les and me but also for my collaborators and trainees in my department, a social event with new and recent alums, a superb networking opportunity for me and my colleagues, and a way to publicize the Sarnoff Foundation to UCLA scientists and MDs through acknowledgement at Grand Rounds.



*Drs. Christine Rongey, Nancy Halnon & Leslie Cooper*