February found many CRA members in Ottawa for the Annual Scientific Meeting. We were housed in the lovely Chateau Laurier and were very pleased with the layout available for the meeting.

One of the many highlights of the meeting is the opportunity to hear special invited guest speakers give their keynote address. This year did not disappoint! We started with our Distinguished Investigator Awardee, Dr. Janet Pope, who took us on a tour of her career highlights and provided advice and encouragement to junior colleagues regarding the development of an academic/research component to their careers.

Dr. Jan Dutz, a rheumatologist/dermatologist from the University of British Columbia (UBC), gave our State of the Art lecture. He provided a wonderful discussion of connective tissue disease-related dermatologic problems with an emphasis on shared pathogenesis. As always, he was both entertaining and informative.

Our Dunlop-Dottridge lecture pays homage to the early crusaders for arthritis care, Mr. Edward Dunlop and Mrs. Rita Dottridge. They launched the “Attack on Arthritis” in the late 1940s, which saw each medical school establish a Rheumatic Disease Unit (RDU) to promote recruitment of future rheumatologists and train physicians in the complexity of arthritis care. Carrying on this tradition is Dr. Joel Kremer, a leader in clinical rheumatology research in the United States who was able to shed light on the challenges of answering the tough questions in rheumatology with clinical trials and large database analyses.

We look forward to next year’s meeting in Whistler and three more excellent keynote addresses!

RHEUMINATIONS

As part of a community, we wish to share in your celebrations. Announcements of births, academic appointments, marriages, and significant life events are most welcome, and will be published in the next issue of the CRAJ. Please submit details to katiaoa@sta.ca.