



The American Society of Cosmetic  
Dermatology & Aesthetic Surgery  
(ASCDAS) Presents...

# ASCDAS Physician Profile



**Ranella J. Hirsch, MD,**  
current president  
of ASCDAS.

**Name:** Ranella J. Hirsch, MD

**Hometown:** New York, NY

**College:** Touro College, New York, NY

**Medical school:** SUNY Downstate  
Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

**Dermatology training:** SUNY  
Downstate Medical Center; Wellman  
Center for Photomedicine, Boston, MA

**Current practice:** Cambridge, MA

**Greatest accomplishment:** Becoming a  
mother this past year.

**Most important mentor in life:** My life  
has been filled with many people who  
have generously shared their knowledge  
and wisdom.

- Alan Shalita, MD—The wonderful man who allowed me to join the family of dermatology. His nurturing meant the world to me then and now.
- Samuel Moschella, MD—My clinical paradigm. I would consider myself successful to help the number of people in one year that he helps in one day.
- Rox Anderson, MD—Why, indeed, would anyone think “inside the box”? The genius who, on a daily basis, makes me think before I pick up any laser handpiece.

- Alastair Carruthers, MD, and Jean Carruthers, MD—The extraordinary duo who consistently define excellence in cosmetic dermatology.

I sincerely hope that I continue to be blessed with many more mentors in the years to come.

**Favorite book, quote, or movie:** “Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth that ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves, too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one’s favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamed would have come his way. Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now.” (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)

**Favorite place to be:** Anywhere my husband and son are.

**Best thing about being a dermatologist:** The company I keep.

**In another life, I would be:** Trying very hard to come back to the one I am living now.