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His international awards include:

- the German Dermatology Society's Paul Gerson Unna Prize
- the Times Higher Education (THE) Supplement Research Project of the Year
- many lectureships from groups such as the American Academy of Dermatology; American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology; Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh; University of Minnesota; and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania.

Irvine completed his dermatology training in Belfast, Northern Ireland, with post-residency fellowships in Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London and Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago as a Fulbright Scholar.