I have this opportunity to reflect on my time as a resident in the Department of Psychiatry. I had to pinch myself when Mary Spachek asked me to write this column, as the past four years have passed by at a furious pace. It still seems like yesterday Dr. Brada was orienting me to the world of inpatient psychiatry at Via Christi-Good Shepherd Campus and Dr. Bober was educating me on the importance of a complete seven-page history and physical.

The last four years have brought exciting change within the department and new opportunities for residents. The implementation of the night float system has improved quality of life for junior residents, without sacrificing the educational experience of overnight call. Efforts to enhance education are apparent with the addition of the journal club, additional child psychiatry experiences for PGY-4 residents and the diversity of elective experiences open to PGY-4 residents.

It is truly an exciting time to be involved in the field of psychiatry. The enthusiasm for the field can be seen with our program’s recent induction into the APA’s 100% Club, resident involvement in teaching medical students, and the numerous research and scholarly activities of our faculty and residents. Recently residents have become involved at the state level by serving on numerous KPS subcommittees. PGY-3 residents continue to give back to the community by serving as guests at monthly NAMI meetings. I encourage my fellow residents to carry on this enthusiasm and love for this most important specialty.

I am confident that my training has prepared me to be a competent clinician and an advocate for psychiatry and those afflicted with mental illness. I am grateful for the teaching and guidance that my attending and fellow residents have provided. It was an honor to serve my colleagues as chief resident, and I will reflect back on the relationships with my fellow residents, attendings, and departmental staff with fondness for years to come.

Farewell
The 34th annual meeting of the American Academy of Clinical Psychiatrists (AACP) was held at the Marriott Fisherman’s Wharf Hotel in San Francisco, CA, March 14-16, 2008. Every year, AACP selects one article published in the journal of Annals of Clinical Psychiatry for the “George Winokur Clinical Research Award.” This year, Dr. Carol North, president of the AACP and chair of the George Winokur Clinical Research Award Committee, selected M. R. Rafique Shaikh, MD, as the recipient of the award for his article on “Clinical and Demographic Factors Associated with DSM-IV Melancholic Depression,” published in the second issue of the journal last year. The AACP established this award in 1979 in memory of Dr. George Winokur, founder of the AACP. The award includes a cash prize, engraved plaque, complimentary one-year membership in the AACP, and travel and accommodations to attend the meeting. Congratulations to Dr. Khan! Keep up the good work.

The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita (KUSM-W) is seeking exceptional candidates for three (3) full-time faculty positions in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Successful candidates must be board-certified or board-eligible in Psychiatry, licensed to or with the ability to obtain a license to practice medicine in the State of Kansas, and will have relevant experience and KUSM-W requirements. For the full job descriptions and to apply, please go to http://jobs.kumc.edu.

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences held its resident graduation ceremony Saturday, June 7. Donald Brada, MD, interim resident director, recognized the following fourth-year residents: Mazhar Golewale, MD, Lynn Ludvigson, MD, Victor McNerney, DO, M. Rafique Shaikh, MD, and Sheila Williamson, MD. Along with the graduates, many others were recognized for their work. The awards given and recipients:

- Bharati Patient Care Award: Matt Macaluso, DO
- Bharati Scholarly and Community Activity Award: Rafique Shaikh, MD
- Laurie Coyner Inpatient Care Award: Kathrine Girrens, MD
- CRI Research Award: Rafique Shaikh, MD
- Teacher of the Year Award: Mercedes Perales, MD

Mazhar Golewale, MD, will be moving to Chicago, IL. Lynn Ludvigson, MD, has plans to locate to the East Coast to be closer to her son and his family. Victor McNerney, DO, will be going into private practice in Jonestown, AR. M. Rafique Shaikh, MD, will be moving to California. Sheila Williamson, MD, is staying in the Wichita area and plans to go into private practice.

The department also says farewell to Gene Weston, MD, 3rd-year resident, who is leaving to do a child fellowship in Akron, OH. Lynn Ludvigson, MD, has plans to locate to the East Coast to be closer to her son and his family. M. Rafique Shaikh, MD, will be moving to Chicago, IL. Sheila Williamson, MD, is staying in the Wichita area and plans to go into private practice.

Kathrine Girrens, MD, is moving to Chicago, IL as well. Natasha Tandori, MD, is moving to California. Sheila Williamson, MD, is staying in the Wichita area and plans to go into private practice.

She will enable the department to offer more therapy opportunities to the community and will be involved in the establishment of an Anxiety Disorders Clinic.

Karin Yarnout is from Argosy University-Atlanta and will be working with neuropsychologist Lyle Baade, PhD, in a pre-doctoral internship in neuropsychology. Karin grew up in Saudi Arabia and Lebanon and came to the United States to pursue his interest in psychology. He has a research interest in the neuropsychology of cognitive aging and would like to work with the geriatric population.

Amie Austin is from the University of Georgia and will also be working with neuropsychologist Lyle Baade, PhD, in a post-doctoral neuropsychology fellowship. This year she expects to defend her doctoral dissertation, “Brief Measures of Cognition and Mental Status: An Examination of Anxiety, Depression and Cognitive Functioning in a Community Dwelling Aging Sample.”

Resident Retreat 2008

Under the leadership of outgoing chief resident Victor McNerney, DO, and the new chief resident Matthew Macaluso, DO, the team of Psychiatry residents met for a retreat on Friday, April 11 in the Meadowlark Room at KUSM-W. The meetings provided an opportunity for residents to reflect on their experience in the last year and to collectively ponder and come up with the constructive feedback for improving the program. We focused on what operations, approaches and styles are conducive to our training. We also pointed out what methods are counterproductive or inefficient in fostering learning and confidence in residents. The team came up with a few doable suggestions after some insightful comments and heated discussions. But it was not all work. We had fun, too! The team gathered that evening at Crown Uptown Dinner Theatre for a comedy and dinner. It was interesting! The next morning we met for paintball games in El Dorado. It was a great physical workout and an incredible exercise in team building! The credit goes to Jeremy Handy, MD, Rachel Wilkenson, MD, and Matthew Macaluso, DO, of the Retreat Committee for their astute planning and hard work!

New Residents Welcome

We are pleased to welcome our new first-year residents:

Krishna Vijayasratharathi, DO, attended Western University of Health Sciences/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific.

Noel Eboh, MD, attended the University of Toledo College of Medicine.

Olga Kereches, MD, attended University de Medicina Si Farmacie Tirgu-Mures in Romania.

Monesh Mittal, MD, attended Government Med College Aurangabad in India.

Muhammad Bhatti, MD, attended Allama Iqbal Medical College in Pakistan.

Rachna Kalia, MD, a new second-year resident, attended Government Medical College in India.

By: Brian Schmidt

Early Welcome…. By: Brian Schmidt

The Psychiatry Department is pleased to announce that Susan Dutcher, MS, MA, Karim Yamout, MS, and Amie Austin, PhD, have accepted psychology training positions beginning Aug. 18.

Susan Dutcher is from George Fox University and will be working with psychologists Glenn Veenstra, PhD and Don Morgan, PhD in a pre-doctoral internship in general clinical psychology. Susan is a Wichita native who graduated from Wichita State University and started her career as a family support worker in the court system. Deciding that she wanted to be able to work more with clients, she attended Friends University and earned a degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. After working as a case manager, she decided that she wanted to do more intensive therapy and assessment, so she entered the Clinical Psychology program at George Fox University. While completing her pre-doctoral internship in general clinical psychology, she will be working with Dr. Morgan to increase her assessment skills and with Dr. Veenstra to refine her therapy skills.

Ready, aim, fire…Rachel Wilkenson, MD, taking cover and firing.