



## Update from Department Head **Dr. Athanasios Zis**

### New Divisional Structure

I am pleased to present the new divisional structure for the Department of Psychiatry. As we work together toward fulfilling our mission, I believe that the new structure (outlined below) will provide the necessary framework for the Department to meet challenges and capitalize on opportunities that lie ahead. This process is not yet complete. We need to make appointments in the two vacant positions, i.e. Head, Division of Adult Psychiatry and Director, Eating Disorders Program. We also need to develop programs in new areas of critical importance and in areas where there is already significant strength. Most importantly, we need to engage all of our Faculty in active participation.

### Strategic Planning Process

The Department has a solid foundation upon which we can continue to build. Our strength is derived from the dedication and accomplishments of our faculty and staff, the energy and enthusiasm of our students, and our record of attracting external funding to support our research activities. We are now in the early stages of a strategic planning process. A questionnaire will be distributed shortly to faculty, students, and staff. We are employing the services of the YES Resolution Group to coordinate the entire project, which we expect to be completed by Spring 2003. The purpose of this exercise is to:

- identify priorities and develop an implementation plan for the next five years,

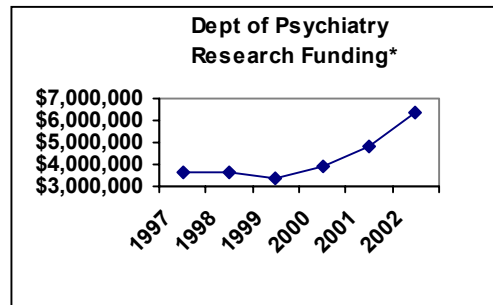
- recognize and reflect the values and aspirations of our faculty, students and staff, and
- contribute to an open and congenial working environment.

### Administrative appointments

Following a successful 5-year term as Co-Directors of Postgraduate Education in our Department, Drs. Kris Sivertz and Kamal Rungta were appointed as Co-Associate Deans of Postgraduate Education in the Faculty of Medicine. They were replaced by Dr. Jon Fleming, who was appointed Director of Postgraduate Education. Dr. Elliot Goldner was appointed Director of Undergraduate Education, replacing Dr. Stuart Fine who retired in June.

### Research

Our Department experienced significant growth in research funding for the third consecutive year (see figure below) and is rapidly rising as one of the strongest research units in the Faculty of Medicine in both the basic and clinical science domains. ■



\*Data provided by UBC Office of Research Services

### Department of Psychiatry Divisions & Programs

<b>Adult Psychiatry</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>TBA</b>
Programs: Cross cultural Psychiatry	Director	Dr. S. Ganesan
Sexual Medicine	Director	Dr. R. Stevenson
<b>(Basic ) Neuroscience</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. S. Vincent</b>
<b>Behavioural Science</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. W. Piper</b>
Programs: Psychotherapy	Director	Dr. W. Piper
Eating Disorders	Director	TBA
<b>Clinical Neuroscience</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. R. Lam</b>
Programs: Mood Disorders	Director	Dr. R. Lam
Neuropsychiatry	Director	Dr. T. Hurwitz
Schizophrenia	Director	Dr. W. MacEwan
<b>Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. D. Smith</b>
<b>Forensic Psychiatry</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. R. O'Shaughnessy</b>
<b>Geriatric Psychiatry</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. M. Donnelly</b>
<b>Mental Health Services &amp; Policy</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Dr. E. Goldner</b>
Program: MHECCU	Director	Dr. E. Goldner

### Event Calendar



#### "Frames of Mind"

A Department of Psychiatry sponsored monthly Mental Health film series held the 3rd Thursday of each month at the **Pacific Cinematheque**  
1131 Howe Street, Vancouver  
Tickets \$6.50 at the door- all screenings start at 7:30 p.m.

**Nov 21**— "Requiem for a Dream"

**Dec 19**— "West 47th Street"

**Jan 16**— "Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter"

### Teaching Hospital Grand Rounds

Information /details available on line at :

[www.psychiatry.ubc.ca/profdevelop/](http://www.psychiatry.ubc.ca/profdevelop/)

### Other Activities

#### Nov 22, 2002

Geriatric Psychiatry Conference  
Riverview Hospital. To register or for further information call Barb Bell at 604 524 7518.

#### Dec 12, 2002

Dept. of Psychiatry "Holiday Dinner and Dance" at the Four Seasons Hotel. Co-sponsored by Departments of Psychiatry at UBC, VGH, St Paul's and C&W. For more information contact Linda Kompauer at 604 822 7313.

#### Feb 28 & Mar 1, 2003

Clinical Neuroscience Conference  
"Linking Research to Clinical Care in Schizophrenia & Mood Disorders". SFU Harbour Centre Campus. For information please contact the Faculty of Medicine CME Office.

#### June 13, 2003

UBC Dept. of Psychiatry Annual Clinical Day. Further details to be announced.

**Editor - Dr. Harry Karlinsky**

**Managing Editor - Michelle Purcell**

This newsletter is published quarterly as a vehicle to promote communication within the UBC Dept. of Psychiatry as well as with its wider community. Feedback and suggestions for invited submissions can be forwarded to the Editor at [har-ryk@telus.net](mailto:har-ryk@telus.net).

## Post-Graduate Education

Dr. Jonathan Fleming

The summer months in the Postgraduate Office are busy with the Royal College examinations, the graduation of the final year class and the welcoming of the new PGY 1s and 2s to the Department. This year was more hectic than usual with the departure of the joint Directors - Drs Rungta and Sivertz - who took a short break before moving across town to take on the challenging roles of Associate Deans of Postgraduate Education. I, like the residents, appreciate their hard work and support throughout their term and we all wish them the very best in their new positions.

Before the new Associate Deans were appointed, Martha Sellitti had been actively recruited to join the administrative team at the Vancouver Hospital branch of the Associate Dean's office. This was both an honour and a promotion for Martha and, sad as we all are to see her go, it is good to know she is just around the corner. Over her five and a half years with the Department she has been a calm, effective and supportive force politely pulling the various parts of the curriculum together, matching lecturers with available times, assisting in placing the residents and keeping tabs on the new applicants and the new arrivals. We will all miss her and wish her well in her new job.

One of the reasons I took on this job was that Martha would be there to help me out in my rookie year. In my years of administrative undergraduate work, I had learnt that it was the administrative assistants and secretaries that kept the show on the road so, when I learnt that Martha would be going, I had several panic attacks. However, we were very fortunate that Lynn Falconer who, in addition to filling in for vacation relief, has been the coordinator, editor and producer of the Annual Report for the past two years, was coming to the end of her temporary placement in the Department and was looking for a challenging administrative position. I am delighted to report that Lynn has just been appointed as Program

Coordinator and we welcome her to her new role.

In July we welcomed 10 new PGY1 residents to the program; five are graduates from our own medical school and five from elsewhere. In September Dr. Divya Kundhur who had previously worked with Dr. Yatham, joined our PGY1 group.

Earlier this year Dr. Riho Kalda stepped down from his role as stream coordinator for Syndromes and Special Areas. He richly deserves our thanks for a sustained contribution to our program both as an administrator and esteemed teacher. Dr Paul Waraich has agreed to take on this important task and has begun to review the PGY1 and PGY2 curricula.

Dr. Valerie Gruson has stepped down from the Selections, Evaluations and Promotions Committee and we are all grateful for her for her years of service on this important committee.

A variety of organizational tasks are underway. The College expects CanMEDS to be incorporated into all aspects of our training program - from curriculum to evaluation. We will have a new evaluation format by the beginning of the New Year with residents, teachers and rotations being evaluated using the CanMEDS format. Currently the terms of reference for all the Postgraduate Committees are being redrawn and a draft will be presented to the Department shortly.

There has been an opportunity for fun too! The Faculty - Resident soccer match was a great success (in case you hadn't heard the Faculty won!). I have never participated in a soccer match with so many players on the field. Thanks to all who turned up to play and to the spectators who cheered us on. A special thanks to Dr. Astrid Vik who inspired us to play well and then rewarded the participants with great prizes. Our next ath-

letic challenge will be 5 pin bowling in January. Unfortunately due to my error, the welcome party for the PGY1s was held on the same night as a Vancouver Hospital Active Staff meeting and the first Film Night. Next year I will get the timing right so those of you who want to come won't feel torn in different directions. Thanks to Dr. Andrea Chapman and the senior residents who organized the event and a special nod of appreciation to Dr. Chris Murray who did most, if not all, of the cooking.

It is a pleasure to conclude by mentioning the academic achievements of the residents. In my first three months I have received three spontaneous letters from faculty members praising individual residents and I have just finished reviewing the medical student evaluations of the teaching by residents on their service. They are uniformly positive and emphasize the important and mutual benefit of having medical students and residents work together in clinical settings.

Dr. Carolina Vidal co-authored a paper on Pretrial Diversion which was published in the Canadian Journal of Psychiatry, Dr. Michael Shabbits has co-authored, with Dr. Lam, a review on Seasonal Affective Disorder which will be published in Medicographia in January 2003. With Dr. Yatham as Principal Investigator, Dr. Astrid Vik has commenced a double-blind, placebo controlled trial of the effects of calcitonin in mania. This follows on from her interesting observations in a patient of Dr. Trevor Hurwitz's and a review that was published in the Journal of Psychiatry and Neuroscience. Dr. Vik is looking for patients who have a YMRS score of more than 18 after 3 weeks of treatment with a mood-stabilizer and antipsychotic and she can be reached through her pager (604-978-7908). ■

## Continuing Professional Development

Dr. Harry Karlinsky

Over the past year, activities undertaken by the Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development office within our Department have included the establishment of an annual Clinical Day and the delivery of basic and advanced workshops on utilizing Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) in psychiatry (in collaboration with the Digital Medicine program, Faculty of Medicine, UBC). A Department-wide Grand Rounds web site has also been launched. This involves the CME directors at each of the teaching hospitals submitting details of each of their Grand Round programs on a collective 'Grand Rounds' web page (see [http://www.psychiatry.ubc.ca/profdevelop/current\\_rounds1.htm](http://www.psychiatry.ubc.ca/profdevelop/current_rounds1.htm)).

In addition, this website facilitates broadcast of a monthly email which lists all of the Grand Rounds presentations in the upcoming month. Additional features include the opportunity for

viewers to download the content of the 'Grand Rounds' web page to their PDA and an option for new viewers to automatically receive the monthly updates by adding their email address to a list-serve.

As a new initiative in the upcoming year, a monthly mental health film series has been launched in collaboration with the Pacific Cinémathèque Theatre. Screenings are now held at 7:30pm on the third Thursday evening of each month at the Pacific Cinémathèque Theatre, 1131 Howe Street. (Please note - tickets are available at the door only). Each evening event is eligible for 1.0 hour Section 1 of the Royal College's Maintenance of Certification Program and 1.0 hour of MAINPRO-M1 credit. The learning objectives of the series are to promote professional and community education of issues pertaining to mental health and illness, and in doing so acquaint the

audience with award-winning, thought-provoking cinema. Suggestions for films or discussants are welcome and can be emailed to [harryk@telus.net](mailto:harryk@telus.net). Details of upcoming screenings can be seen on the Event Calendar on the preceding page.

Please reserve June 13, 2003, the date of the next Annual Clinical Day, which again takes place at the UBC Robson Campus.

Special thanks to the members of our Dept's CPD Committee (Drs Peter Chan, Sarv Bains, Mike Myers, Stephen Schertzer, Tony Sehon, Jana Davidson) & to Archana Harit. ■

Articles appearing on this page of the newsletter will profile updates on UBC Department of Psychiatry Educational, Clinical and Research programs on a rotating basis.