

# MindMatters

The Newsletter for the Regional Clinical Department of Psychiatry

Volume V, Issue III

Winter 2005

## From the Department Head

Congratulations to the residents who produced the final and most entertaining rounds of the year on December 16. Their skills in history taking, observation, and mental status examination ensure that these residents will meet professional qualifications. Their humour demonstrates their communication skills. They only have to find a way to get the Residency Director to sign off on their final ITERS in order to escape residency...

The Calgary Health Region received an early Christmas gift from the Minister of Health, who announced a three-year \$23 million in innovations funding for our mental health services. Rural and children's mental health services will receive the largest funding increase. In addition, there is funding for aboriginal mental health services. The priorities were set by the Minister and the funds overlap about fifty percent with the previously announced five-year

mental health growth strategy announced in 2004. The expansion of rural services includes a full range of programs that will provide residents with better access to comprehensive mental health services. This should lead to a reduction of hospital admission rates, which tend to be up to twice the rates observed in urban populations.

In the fall of 2005, the Calgary Health Region took a major step forward when it established a regional Addictions Program as part of the Mental Health & Psychiatric Services Program. Addictions affect a wide range of health services and patients with addictions present to the full range of health services, from cancer to heart disease and infectious diseases. The mental health growth strategy, which was approved in June 2004, laid the founda-

tion for the new program with the planned extension of addictions services across all the acute care sites. Also in the fall of 2005 a new

collaborative was established between the Calgary Health Region and AADAC to

better link and plan addiction services for the Region. The new program recognizes the expertise that has been developed at the Addiction Centre over the last fifteen years. We are fortunate to have strong leadership for the program in Dr. Nady el-Guebaly, who is the first Program Medical Director for addictions in Calgary.

The Specialized Services Program has a new Program Medical Director, Dr. Hugh Colohan. Dr. Colohan has been the Clinical Medical Director for the Claresholm Care Centre for several years. The Centre is going through a major re-

organization that will expand its mandate and make it an important resource for Southern Alberta. The plans have not been finalized, but they include a more streamlined referral process, increased resources for rehabilitation, treatment for individuals with both mental health and addictions services and extended care. In addition,

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*Season's Greetings*

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## Residents' Corner

The pace of the Residency Training Program seems to be set permanently on "full tilt". Second and third year residents will complete the first unit (Basic Sciences and Research Methods) on the revised curriculum on December 15, and practice exams and two PDM stations for fifteen residents - and therefore thirty-two faculty - wrapped up after three sessions, only in time for the Program to begin the process of selecting and interviewing applicants for July 2006 residency positions. My thanks in advance to the faculty and residents that will be involved in the upcoming months with meeting the applicants and representing the many aspects of our Department. We have once again a strong showing from our medical school with twelve percent of the students applying to our specialty, with neighbouring universities not far behind in numbers of applicants. The strong presence of our Department's faculty and residents in Med 440, Communications, Physician Wellness, Human Development, the MIND and the Integrative Course is certainly paying off! Interviews will be held January 12, 19 and February 2. If you are contacted by the Residency Training Program to participate, please consider the request as a sign of your value to the Program.

Residents have been involved in a series of exciting and unusual electives. I urge you to ask any of the following residents about their electives that are anywhere from Ecuador to Melbourne to New Haven to Seattle: Bina Nair, Karin Kerfoot, Jeremy Quickfall,

Monique Jericho, Tony Lo and Jessica Lyons.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention fellows also in the Program. Dr. Cindy Beck is continuing her fellowship in Psychiatric Epidemiology, Dr. Hussein Al-Humaid continues his term in Addiction Psychiatry and Dr. Alec Oskin began his one year Forensic fellowship in September.

Residents have been very productive in other aspects. We congratulate Helen Yeung, Rob Urquhart and Ursula Hines on their weddings this fall. Super-productivity awards go to Nina Gudeon for baby Alex and to Sheri-Lynn Cassity for twins Bianca and Ferris.

*Bev Adams*

## Undergraduate Education

Interest in Psychiatry continues to grow in our medical school, making it an ongoing challenge to find enthusiastic - and available! - teachers for electives in the Med 440 clinical research course or in the clerkship. My heartfelt thanks to the nine faculty that have given students their first look into Psychiatry via the Med 440 program.

Clerkship elective numbers are increasing. For this clerkship year (April 05-April 06) we have twenty-five local clerks and ten visiting clerks slated for electives in all nooks and crannies of the Department - from Inpatients and Consultation-Liaison on all three sites to the Short Stay Unit at PLC and the Family Therapy Program. The current number of mandatory clerks for this year - and therefore each requiring six weeks of teaching - in Psychiatry is 116; add 34 two-week electives and it is no

wonder that we need to continue to open new opportunities for undergraduate students.

Dr. Philip Stokes has assumed the mantle of Clerkship Director and has met with teaching staff on all four sites to get a sense of the particular characteristics of each site, their issues and their strengths. The frank discussions and the willingness of the teachers to look at new avenues were much appreciated.

In response to the last undergraduate retreat, the Rockyview General Hospital has taken on a role in the academic half day teaching roster. Our thanks to Drs. Roy Turner and John Tuttle for teaching the Psychotherapy and Medico-Legal seminars. Drs. Phil Stokes, Lori Hogg and Lloyd Maybaum have also joined in providing lectures in Mood Disorders, Boundary Issues and Sexuality respectively. Welcome to the team, all of you!

A special note of welcome to Dr. Carl Adrian who joined the Psychiatric Assessment Services at Foothills Hospital this fall. Dr. Adrian's main educational focus is the clerks, with future plans to increase the quality of the experience for all students in PAS.

Lastly, I would like to review the timetable for CaRMS interviews. Clerks will be advised of interview dates by January 10, with the expectation that their forms outlining their dates away will not exceed eight days, including weekends. Clerks that will require additional time off for interviews will need to discuss the matter with Dr. Stokes. The formal interview period is January 15 to February 4, 2006.

*Nancy Brager*



## Primary & Community Care - The Current Picture

Primary Care Psychiatry is our way of describing the part of our work closest to the community. We are particularly focused on the general outpatient clinics of PAS, POS, Psychiatric Assessment/ Urgent Therapy, Shared Mental Health Care, Rural Mental Health Clinics, and a number of other programs (apologies to those not mentioned!). We are well suited for discussions with Family Physicians and other primary care providers in the Region. As with the other areas in Mental Health, we are always looking for new ways of doing things, new ways to help the many people who need our help in the community. In the last while we have some good news of new people and a couple of new programs.

New people on the medical side include Dr. Carl Adrian joining PAS at FMC after completing his residency here, Dr. Heather Scott moving to spend most of her time in POS at PLC, and Dr. Suzanne Perkins moving to Canmore to help in the Mental Health Clinic there. In addition, Dr. Paul Cameron, who has been active in the southern Rural Clinics for many years, is now the Clinical Medical Director for the Rural South Clinics, giving more time and medical attention there.

The Regional Competency Clinic is a new program which is starting to make itself known. The goal of this clinic is not to take over competency assessment for the whole Region (truly an impossible task?), but to help set guidelines for the Region, so one could expect to have a similar assessment for any given patient, wherever they presented in the Region. They will

be important in helping us all keep on top of things, as the Province is considering new laws governing dependant adults and competency (considering defining fields of competence and incompetence, rather than just a global statement of "yes" or "no"). They will deal with a limited number of assessments as well. So far, they have been greeted with enthusiasm.

Another new service is the Community Rehabilitation Team, based out of the northeast, providing mental health rehabilitation for our patients outside of hospital. This has been particularly helpful for those whose ability to return to an active life has been affected by their illness. This new project will be followed carefully, with the possibility of extending it to other areas of the Region in the future.

As we are all aware, the Region just received the news that a number of projects will be funded through the Innovation Fund over the next three years. These initiatives include increased services for the rural areas as well as aboriginal health, important areas in primary care psychiatry. In addition, an application for extending the current ARP (Alternative Relationship Plan... kind of sounds like a novel type of common law marriage...), which pays for physicians in the Shared Mental Health Care, is being finalized. The plan is to double the current number of Family Physicians who are supported by this program over the next three years.

Upcoming landmarks include the commissioning of the Sunridge Gallery in March/April 2006, which will include space for - among oth-

ers - the Northeast Community Mental Health Centre and the Psychiatric Outpatient Service (POS). There is ongoing planning for construction for Health on 12<sup>th</sup> (a.k.a. Sheldon Chumir Centre, a.k.a. the old Belcher), and moving the Consultation-Liaison Service at PLC into the addition there, once it is built.

Primary Care Networks (formerly known as Local Primary Care Initiatives) are talking with us about possible ways to incorporate more systematic basic mental health care at the level of the Family Physician, and build this into their base funding. In order to make this work effectively, we would want to work with the initiatives in Access Mental Health to facilitate movement of people who were not responding to this first level of care into our Mental Health system for more complex care. This is exciting and shows some real promise of helping many people closer to "home".

Finally, I will mention that there is room for psychiatric input in a number of places in Primary Care Psychiatry, including Shared Mental Health Care, Nursing Home Consultation to persons under 65, support to 8<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Clinic, support to the South Calgary Health Centre, and support to the Regional Competency Clinic, to name a few. If anyone is interested in any of these (or other) opportunities in Primary Care Psychiatry, please give me a call at 943-3805, or [Michael.Trew@CalgaryHealthRegion.ca](mailto:Michael.Trew@CalgaryHealthRegion.ca).

*Michael Trew*





# Child & Adolescent Mental Health

The Department of Psychiatry and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program have been very fortunate in the area of recruitment this year. Starting this summer we have had five additional Psychiatrists working in the CHR. Three are new Psychiatrists graduating from the University of Calgary, Department of Psychiatry Residency Training Program and two are Child Psychiatrists well known in the Calgary community returning to the CHR.

First let me introduce to you the three new Psychiatrists: Drs. Jordan Cohen, Cherelyn Lakusta and Tyler Pirlot. Dr. Cohen has joined the Adolescent Services working both with inpatients on Unit 26 and as the Clinical Medical Director of the outpatients at the NW FACS clinic. Dr. Cohen also provides urgent consultation to the new Adolescent Urgent Consultation Service, which the Access Mental Health Service greatly appreciates. Dr. Lakusta is now the Clinical Medical Director of the Adolescent Day Treatment Program and is working on increasing the linkages with the Alberta Children's Hospital and Young Adult Program at the Foothills Medical Centre, as well as the Family Therapy Pro-

gram to promote access and decrease lengths of stay as well as ensuring continuity of service delivery. Dr. Lakusta has also been regularly attending the Triage Meetings at Access Mental Health. Last, but not least, we have Dr. Pirlot working at ACH in the area of Pediatric Liaison and also providing a new and very valuable Consultation Service to the Complex Kids Project. He also provides additional consultation to Calgary Child and Family Services. Both of these activities help the CHR to work more collaboratively with our partners creating a good example of the "third solution" we hear so much about from our new Health Minister. Welcome all three of you to the Department and the Region and hopefully all of you will find this to be a long and mutually satisfying relationship.

Secondly let me welcome back Drs. Jennifer Fisher and Susan Carpenter to the CHR. For those of you who do not know them, let me remind you that both of these individuals have provided leadership and expertise to the area of dual diagnosis. No, not Substance Abuse and Psychiatric Disorders, but Children and Adolescents with co-morbid Psychiatric Disorders and Developmental Disabilities!

For years this has been a significant gap in the CHR service delivery system and with their unique skills and professional connections, Drs. Fisher and Carpenter will make a tremendous contribution in the resolution of this challenge.

In the area of teaching and education we have to give a big thank you to all staff in

the Child and Adolescent Networks for their support with the resident and medical student rotations. This is also an area of future recruitment, as well as opportunities for professional development. The monthly Child Psychiatry CPD rounds at the ACH solarium continue to be well supported. Again many thanks to all of you who have given so generously of your time to make this such a successful activity.

Research has also been a productive activity for the Department of Psychiatry and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program, as evidenced by the recent participation in the Alberta Mental Health Board Research Showcase in Banff, November 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>. We had many poster presentations and in the break-out session Dr. David Cawthorpe presented the data on our system performance and client outcomes, clearly demonstrating the improvement in access, service utilization as well as the reduced lengths of stay. Thanks Dr. Cawthorpe for all your support and for illustrating a very positive can-do attitude, and again many thanks to all the staff who participated and for all your hard work without which this would not have been possible.

In the area of service delivery and administration there was a period of frantic activity over the summer where we have rewritten the Child Psychiatry Mental Health Plan and the Innovative Funding Proposals, taking into account the service gaps and the need to work closer with our partners and contracted agencies. This endeavor required a great deal of team work as well as good will, so again



Child & Adolescent Mental Health



I must emphasize my admiration and gratitude to all those involved.

During this last year many Psychiatrists and staff have been participating in several working groups looking at such things as the "Treatment Alliance Philosophy", in order to increase our access and collaboration with other agencies. This involved review of existing services such as FACS and suggesting that it should be renamed to GAT, General Assessment and Treatment Service, and working closer with inpatient services to facilitate shorter lengths of stay and increased access from Access Mental Health. In the context of this service redesign, the new ACH is opening around August/September 2006, so working groups have been held looking at the role of a Multidiscipline Consultation Service and the role and functional integration of "In", "Day" and "Urgent Services" in order to increase access to effective treatments with an optimal length of stay. These are all very important, but time consuming activities, which have been squeezed into your busy schedules, sometimes demanding some personal sacrifices, which people have done very generously. In closing let me thank all of you for your contributions and efforts, regardless of whether it has been in the area of Clinical Service, Teaching, Research, Education or Administration. I will remind you to relax and enjoy yourself in the coming festive season as you all deserve it and the facts clearly endorse it.

*Chris Wilkes*

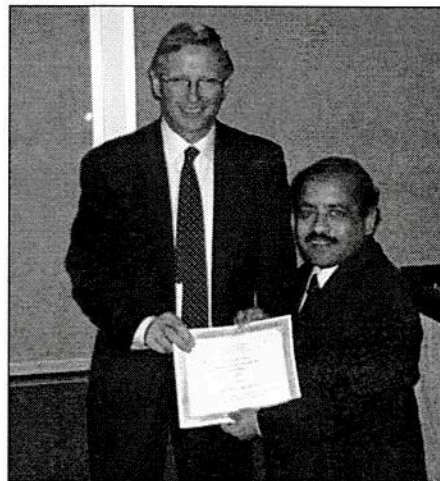
## Fall Social 2005

The annual Fall Social Meet & Greet Dinner was held on September 30 for all Department of Psychiatry medical staff, faculty and residents. Dr. Janet Wright provided a presentation on "*Psychiatry at the Board Room Table*", and the annual departmental awards were presented to Dr. Hussam Bawa (Continuing Medical Education), Dr. Joann McIlwrick (Undergraduate Education) and Dr. Roy Turner, who was unable to attend (Postgraduate Education).



*Dr. Janet Wright, keynote speaker, with Dr. Don Addington*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
The Fall Social Meet & Greet 2006  
will be held on Thursday,  
September 28, 2006.



*Dr. Don Addington presenting the CME Award to Dr. Hussam Bawa*



*Dr. Joann McIlwrick is presented with the Undergraduate Education Award by last year's winner Dr. Lauren Zanussi*



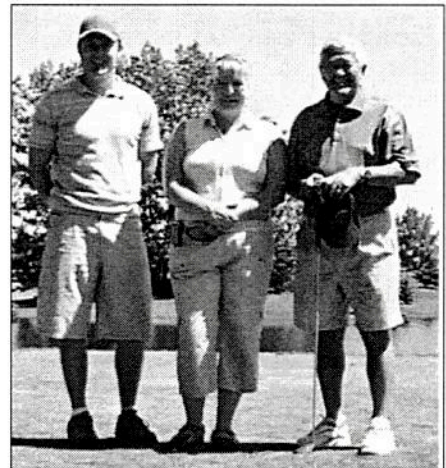
# 5th Invitational Golf Tournament



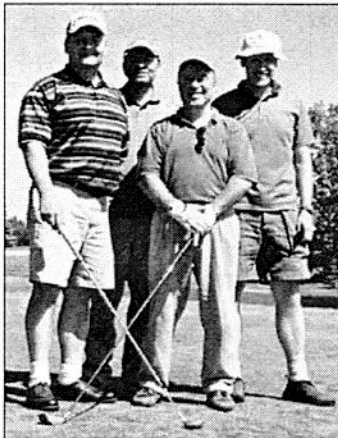
Dr. Kazi Islam, Gord Lee,  
Dr. Sara Binder & Len Zafra



June 20,  
2005



Dr. Rory Sellmer, Cathy Grant &  
Dr. David Miyauchi

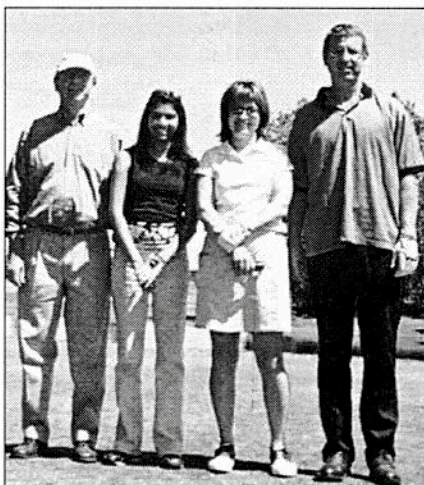


John Bradbury, Dr. Kent  
Sargeant, Dr. Tim Yates &  
Dr. Jeremy Quickfall

## The Teams



Dr. Salim Hamid, Dean Halcro,  
Dr. Paul Reinhardt & Dr. David Crockford



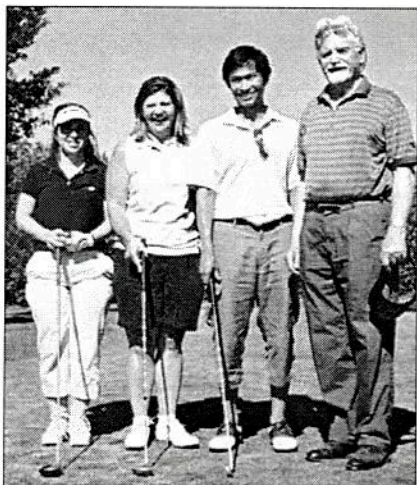
Dr. Don Addington, Dr. Bina Nair,  
Karen Guyn & Dr. David Gibbs



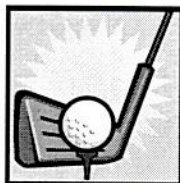
Dr. Jordan Cohen, Dr. Tim Culver,  
Dr. Chris Mason & Milt Nickel



# for the Residents Scholar Development Fund



Mandy Solomon-Ashkin, Aileen Shewchuk, Dr. Tony Lo & Dr. John deVries



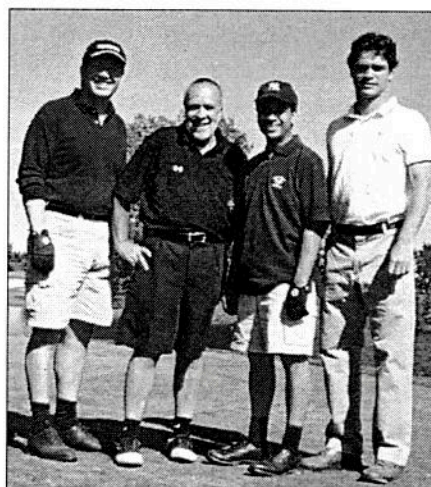
## Elbow Springs Golf Club



Dr. John Toews, Dr. Roy Turner, Dr. Josh Benjamin & Dr. Ian Forbes



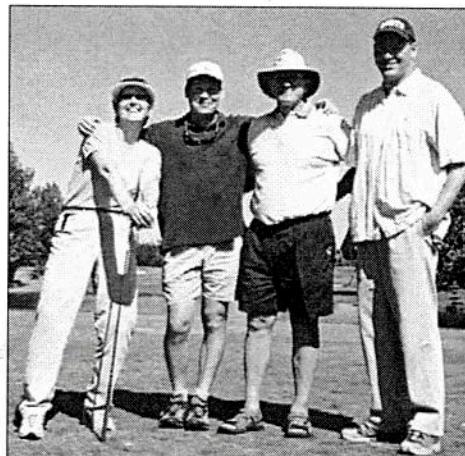
Dr. John Tuttle, Dr. Sam Oluwadairo, Paul Zemlak & Dr. Mike Trew



Joe Petrillo, Gordon Shields, Dr. Rup Pandya & Dr. Tyler Pirlot



Twyla Orto, Dr. Darcy Muir, Dr. Bev Adams & Dr. Pat Coll



Dr. Joan Besant, Dave Eaton, Patrick Nyberg & Dr. Carl Adrian



# Welcome, Congratulations and Thanks



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Hugh Colohan to the role of Program Medical Director, Mental Health and Psychiatric Services, Specialized Services Program. Dr. Colohan assumed his new role effective December 1, 2005. Dr. Colohan has enjoyed a long clinical and academic career in Ireland, England and Canada, and is currently the Clinical Medical Director for the Claresholm Care Centre. Through his strong clinical skills and leadership abilities Dr. Colohan is well positioned to coordinate Specialized Services across the Region. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Colohan to his new role.

We are equally pleased to an-



*The Alberta Centennial Award*

nounce not only a new Program Medical Director, but also the addition of a new Program to Mental Health and Psychiatric Services. As part of the new strategic direction for addictions services, these have been given region-wide status as the Addictions Program, with Dr. Nady el-Guebaly in a new role as Program Medical Director, effective October 1, 2005. Dr. el-Guebaly has had a long and distinguished clinical and academic career in the area of addiction psychiatry and has served as a president, chair, director, consultant or board member for numerous national and international health care related organizations and associations. In addition, Dr. el-Guebaly has spoken on psychiatric topics at conferences and symposia around the globe and has published extensively in national and international journals and text books. Dr. el-Guebaly's brings his strong clinical skills and leadership abilities to his new position to facilitate the expansion and coordination of addiction services across the Region. Please join us in welcoming Dr. el-Guebaly to his new role.

Although her appointment was effective August 30<sup>th</sup>, we have not yet had the opportunity to welcome Cathy Pryce as the new Executive Director for Mental Health in this newsletter. Cathy came from the position of Director, Healthy Living with the SE Community Portfolio. This position and previous ones have involved leading large health promotion and disease prevention

initiatives focusing on areas of early childhood development, suicide prevention, chronic disease and substance abuse, falls prevention, aboriginal health and tobacco reduction. Cathy has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Nursing Degree. She is a surveyor with the Canadian Council of Health Services Accreditation and an Adjunct Professor with the University of Calgary, Faculty of Nursing. Cathy has con-



Cathy Pryce (c), Executive Director, Mental Health, meets with Administrative Assistant Anita Lal (l) and Social Worker Janet Arsenault at the Forensic Adolescent Program offices in the Sunridge Professional Building.

sistently demonstrated strong leadership skills and the ability to collaborate with all disciplines toward positive outcomes, and she is well positioned to make significant contributions to Mental Health. Please join us in welcoming Cathy to her new role.

Dr. John Toews took over from Dr. Nady el-Guebaly as Chair of the Promotions Committee for the Department of Psychiatry. We would like to thank Dr. el-Guebaly for his work on the committee and welcome Dr. Toews.

The new Hotchkiss Brain Insti-




tute Population Mental Health Research Program is pleased to announce the appointment of Katie Chaput, MA as Research Associate in charge of grant development and strategic planning. Katie is a graduate of the University of Calgary Anthropology Program and has worked both in Canada and abroad on a number of health research initiatives, including a national scale epidemiology project in Central America and several projects on adults with developmental disabilities. Katie will be housed at the South Tower until she can join Drs. Carol Adair and JianLi Wang who already moved to the Health Sciences Centre.

### Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to Dr. Denis Morrison, who spent a number of years as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Sherbrooke, and is rejoining the Department in Calgary at the Forensic Assessment and Outpatient Services.

## *Congratulations!*



Congratulations are in order for Dr. el-Guebaly for having been awarded the prestigious Alberta Centennial Award. In honour of celebrating Alberta's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Government of Alberta is acknowledging Albertans whose achievements, volunteer work and leadership have benefited their fellow citizens, their community and their province.

Congratulations to Dr. Cindy Beck for winning the first Alberta Mental Health Board Research Showcase prize at the Research Showcase held in Banff

November 28-30.

Dr. John deVries was nominated for the Award for Outstanding Contributions in Geriatric Psychiatry by the Canadian Academic of Geriatric Psychiatry. The Selection Committee was impressed by his credentials and leadership over the years in Geriatric Psychiatry and called Dr. deVries an ongoing inspiration to the Committee and to others in the field. As a result of his impact on the Committee it will recommend the creation of an Award for Lifetime Achievement in Geriatric Psychiatry beginning in 2006, for which Dr. deVries will be nominated.

Val Villeneuve, Program Director for Southern Alberta Forensic Psychiatry Services, was recognized by the Registered Psychiatric Nursing Association of Alberta with an award for Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing. Of particular note is that this is the third time in her career that Val has been honoured by the Association.

This year has been an "award winning year" for Dr. Joann McIlwrick. After having received the Silver Couch Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Education in the Department of Psychiatry from the residents and the University of Calgary, Department of Psychiatry Undergraduate Education Award, she was recognized with the Professional Association of Residents of Alberta (PARA) 2005 Calgary Clinical Teaching Award.

The UofC Medical Students annually recognize excellence in teaching and mentorship. This year's recipients for the Class of 2006 MIND Course are: Drs. Philip Stokes and Lauren Zanussi, Gold Star Award Lecturer, Drs. Monique Jericho and Bina Nair, Gold Star Award Preceptor, Drs. Joann McIlwrick and Margaret

Oakander, Calgary Medical Students Association (CMSA) Letter of Excellence Lecturer and Drs. Tim Yates and Lloyd Maybaum, CMSA Letter of Excellence Preceptor. Congratulations!

Last, but not least, congratulations to Dr. Don Addington for receiving the Foundation of the Canadian Psychiatric Association Leadership Award.



Thank you to Dr. John Ryan, who is stepping down after almost seven years as Clinical Medical, Director, Nursing Unit 48 at the Rockyview General Hospital. His passion and dedication to improving the lot of seniors with mental health problems have been significant, and Dr. Ryan will continue to devote that passion to his clinical work.

Dr. Harvey Smith left his position as Manager of the Information & Evaluation Unit to pursue a new opportunity as Leader of the Carewest Operational Stress Injury Clinic. Under the leadership of Dr. Smith the I & E Unit became a highly productive, cohesive team and he made major contributions to the Mental Health & Psychiatric Services. We wish him every success in his new position. The position he is leaving will undergo some changes and become a Director's position.

Just before press time Dr. Shawn Currie was appointed as Director, Information & Evaluation Unit.



**HELP WANTED**

## **PHYSICIANS NEEDED ADDICTIONS PROGRAM**

An expanding Addictions Program within the Regional Department of Psychiatry, Calgary Health Region is inviting Family Physicians and Psychiatrists interested to practice in the fields of Addiction Medicine/Psychiatry to apply for one of the newly created positions within the Calgary Health Region encompassing Calgary and surrounding communities.

The Program is actively involved in patient care, teaching and research. Academic positions with the University of Calgary are available depending on qualification. It is anticipated that the Program will provide services in Addiction and Comorbidities to four teaching hospitals and several urban and rural clinics. Specialized services to the chronic pain program and primary care initiatives are also developing. Opportunities for part-time shared office practice are also available in conjunction with our existing medical staff.

Calgary and the province of Alberta are bursting with new opportunities, experience the Alberta Advantage!

Qualifications include:

An MD or equivalent

Certification in Family Medicine or Psychiatry

Membership with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons OR College of Family Medicine or equivalent.

Certification in Addiction Medicine is optional but preferred

Eligibility for licensure in Alberta is required

Please submit curriculum vitae and the names of three professional references to:

Dr. Nady el-Guebaly  
Medical Director, Addictions Program  
Addiction Centre, Foothills Hospital  
1403 - 29 Street NW  
Calgary Alberta T2N 2T9

## **CLINICAL MEDICAL DIRECTOR NURSING UNIT 48, RGH**

The Regional Clinical Department of Psychiatry, Calgary Health Region (CHR) is inviting applications for the position of Clinical Medical Director, Nursing Unit 48, Rockyview General Hospital. This position is responsible for the patient care, teaching, research, staff development and administrative duties undertaken by all physicians on this Geriatric Psychiatry unit.

Qualifications for this position include an MD or equivalent, certification in Psychiatry from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or equivalent and eligibility for licensure in the Province of Alberta.

Please submit curriculum vitae and the names of three referees to:

Dr. Stuart Sanders, Medical Director  
Geriatric Mental Health & Psychiatry Program  
Colonel Belcher Hospital  
G114, 1213 - 4 Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2R 0X7



*From the Department Head*

the age restrictions may be made more flexible in order to include the non-frail over sixty-five population in need of the above services.

The Provincial Mental Health Research Program has received two major boosts over the fall. The Health Minister came to the University of Calgary to announce the Mental Health Research Chairs Program. This program should begin next year

with the announcement of four research chairs in mental health. The early emphasis will be on chairs in population mental health and health services research. The longer term plan is to include chairs for both clinical and basic science. The second boost came with the Research Showcase held in Banff in November. This conference combined both research and service innovations.

There has been a great deal of discussion about the potential benefit in an Alternative Funding Plan for the Department of Psychiatry. A large group attended an early evening presentation and a number of working groups have been established to refine the proposal. Those who contribute to the working groups will have their time fully funded. The goal of the program is to support psychiatrists involved in educa-

*Continued from front page*

tion, research and innovative service delivery. The existing sessional program is essentially a limited alternative funding program. Like the existing sessional program, the new AFP will be a voluntary program. If you think that it might be advantageous to you and you would like to learn more about the program, please contact me at

[don.addington@calgaryhealthregion.ca](mailto:don.addington@calgaryhealthregion.ca)

*Don Addington*

## First Annual Curling Bonspiel

I am very excited by the amount of enthusiasm being expressed by the staff and residents about the First Annual Curling Bonspiel to be held at the Winter Club on January 16, 2006 in support of the Residents Scholar Development Fund. Ms. Pauline Burgess, Educational Program Coordinator, has challenged everyone to match her \$300 donation to the Fund.

For those who are novices to curling and for those who need to brush up on their skills, there will be a one-hour lesson from the staff at the Winter Club prior to the start

of the bonspiel.

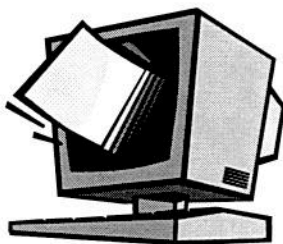
We have deliberately shortened the game since you may have become deconditioned by the Holiday festivities. Nevertheless, it will be a great opportunity to have fun, as well as a great way to start the New Year. The event will be followed by a delicious dinner at the Winter Club.

If you haven't signed up yet, please contact Sheryl Trowsse at 944-1297.

*David Miyauchi*

## MIND MATTERS ONLINE

Mind Matters is also available online. Check it out at:  
[www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/clin/psych](http://www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/clin/psych)



## Mind Matters

The Newsletter for the Regional Clinical Department of Psychiatry

is distributed quarterly to  
all psychiatry medical staff and faculty,  
psychiatry residents,  
Program Directors and Program Medical Directors,  
CHR Executive Medical Directors and VP's,  
CHR CEO, CMO and CCO, Chair MAB,  
and psychiatry support staff.

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Mind  Matters

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To: