

made that department into the centre of excellence for empirical psychiatry in the United States. The other two were Eli Robins, an Honorary Fellow of this College since 1988, and Sam Guze. Not only did an enormous pile of publications come from the department, but it supplied chairmen and professors to many universities eager to adopt a scientific approach to psychiatry. One of the major contributions was the Feighner criteria, known by the name of the first in alphabetical order but undoubtedly a team effort. It was that tradition of working together that made so many psychiatrists look back on the '60s and early '70s in St Louis as such an exciting and influential time in their lives.

In the early 1970s, George moved northwards to Iowa, famous for many years for being the first state to indicate which way America would vote in the presidential elections. The University of Iowa itself was renowned for its Writers School and the department at what was then called the Psychopathic Hospital had an enviable collection of medical records. George and the team who came with him from Washington "U", as it was affectionately called, were quick to see the value of such a collection of data and to appreciate that the population of this charming state were reluctant to leave it and so developed the fruitful work studying the relatives as well as the probands in that collection of charts. The schizophrenia research on the Iowa 500 was developed by Ming Tsuang but the family studies on affective disorder were George's special interest.

Family values are more than topical in this presidential election year, but no one should take more credit than George Winokur for development of family research in psychiatry. The scope and relevance of such research has gathered pace over the years towards the genetic studies and the molecular biology of today. It is typical that all the departments of psychiatry with those interests in the United Kingdom and Ireland count George among their most valued friends.

What is it that has made him so influential as a teacher and as an inspirer of research? What all who have been under his influence say is that it was his constant interest, particularly in the most junior researcher, and his ready availability. His door seemed always to be open and he was there ready to catch an idea and to toss it back in an amazingly short time, with encouragement, challenges and a wide range of information. What impressed this particular refugee from Oxford who arrived in the department in 1976 was the extraordinary effectiveness of his technique of teaching by jokes and leg-pulls. Somehow that produced more enthusiasm for wide reading than solemn exhortations. Most of all, he laughs at himself as when he describes himself as having decided to be a doctor because, as a small boy, he had admired Errol Flynn in such a role.

President, it is with great pride that I present to you someone who has had such an impact on psychiatry in his own country, here in ours and world wide, Professor George Winokur to be an Honorary Fellow of our Royal College.

Election to the Fellowship

Candidates for election to the Fellowship are considered annually by the Court of Electors.

Candidates may not make a personal approach to the College for election, *but must be nominated by two sponsors, who must be Fellows of the College.*

Sponsors should *apply in writing* to the Registrar for the relevant forms. Completed nominations should be submitted to the Registrar by 30 September in any year, for considerations by the Court at its meeting the following February.

Eligibility of nominees

- a. Candidates must either be Members of the College by Examination or more than five years standing, or Members who have been granted exemption from Examination.

- b. The Fellowship is ordinarily awarded to a Member for unusual distinction in teaching, research, and/or administrative ability, or for exceptional service to patients, especially where the supporting services have been inadequate. Sponsors are therefore asked to indicate any factors which go beyond the carrying out of consultant or academic duties by the candidates of their choice.

All sponsors and all successful candidates will be notified by letter of the decision of the Court of Electors.

Individuals elected to the Fellowship become entitled to use the designation FRCPsych after they have paid the prescribed registration fee.