

dear residents

Goodbyes are Complicated

June 18, 2023

Dear Residents,

As you prepare to transition, there will be a flood of emotions – nostalgia, excitement, relief, sadness, anxiety, trepidation, joy, and many others. In the life of a physician, there is nothing quite as defining and grounding as the time spent in residency training. Internship was that first cleavage from years spent preparing to be a doctor and then actually becoming one. And, in many ways, graduating from residency is the start of an education. Many of you moved from somewhere else, made new friends, embraced the city and the university. As you leave, the finality of the moment will remain a distinct memory. For others, it may be a process rather than a moment in time.

When I left Karachi in 1988 to embark on residency training in the US, I never imagined that I would be leaving for good. The subsequent transitions seemed relatively benign – I stayed in the same place for the chief year and for fellowship training. The transition that really felt like a big moment was the move from Houston to Dallas. I remember every bit of that day – a farewell to an apartment full of memories, to a city that had welcomed me, to a medical center resplendent in its grandeur, to cherished friends and colleagues. I had an emotion filled drive to Dallas, constantly looking in the rear-view mirror as the familiar receded and then disappeared altogether.



A memorable moment from the movie CODA

You may be headed to another special place, but it is always our hope that many of you will return to UT Southwestern or will stay in touch so we may follow your progress with pride.

My favorite farewell songs are not all about farewell per se, but capture the mood:

[Spotify Playlist](#)

Don't Think Twice, It's All Right – **Bob Dylan**

Don't You (Forget About Me) – **Simple Minds**

Goodbye Girl – **David Gates**

Closing Time – **Semisonic**

I Will Remember You – **Sarah McLachlan**

Landslide – **Fleetwood Mac**

Somewhere Only We Know – **Keane**

Here's Where the Story Ends – **The Sundays**

Across The Universe – **The Beatles**

Don't Dream It's Over – **Crowded House**

“What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls a butterfly.”

— **Richard Bach, Illusions: The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah**

As you leave, know that you have become the best doctor possible (for now!) and that here will always be your home.

Godspeed. Fly high. Fly far...

Dino Kazi