

<b>Portfolio:</b>	<b>Governance</b>	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>REG-1019</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>President &amp; Council Support</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Honorary Fellowship</b>		

## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of an Honorary Fellowship. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Fellowship.

## 2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Honorary Fellow, Honorary Fellowship, Annual Scientific Congress, Constitution

## 3. BODY OF POLICY

### 3.1. Background

- 3.1.1. Council was first given the power to elect Honorary Fellows under the By-Laws adopted at the first meeting of the Founders of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) at Dunedin on 5 February 1927.

Under RACS's Constitution, which was adopted in 2010, clause 2.4.1 states that:

"The Council may elect as Honorary Fellows distinguished members of the medical profession and other eminent persons, whether or not those eminent persons are members of the medical profession."

- 3.1.2. The purpose of the Honorary Fellowship award is to recognise significant work of eminent individuals in any surgical field, but particularly to acknowledge substantial contributions to surgery in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.1.3. Honorary Fellowship cannot be awarded to a RACS Fellow.

### 3.2. Presentation

The award is normally presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).

### 3.3. Criteria for Award

The sole criterion for the award is significant work in any surgical field but particularly substantial contributions to surgery in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

### 3.4. Nominations

- 3.4.1. The Honorary Fellowship Award can be accepted for discussion at any Awards Committee meeting. Once approved by the Awards Committee, the nomination will be presented to Council for final approval.
- 3.4.2. A nomination for an Honorary Fellowship award shall be made in confidence in writing by at least two Fellows of RACS to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least six (6) weeks prior to any Awards Committee meeting. The nomination shall be supported by the nominee's CV which should contain biographical details, information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications. Each nomination requires the nominator to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the award.
- 3.4.3. Where relevant, the support of the relevant RACS specialty elected Councillor should be sought to assist with the progression of the nomination to Awards Committee and Council.
- 3.4.4. If approved by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. Approval by three quarters of Councillors present and voting at the Council meeting must be received

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### 3.5. The Award

The award is in the form of a certificate.

### 3.6. Financial implications for recipient of a College Award

As this award is normally presented at the ASC it is important to note that:

3.6.1. Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by RACS.

3.6.2. Registration at the ASC and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

## 4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Constitution of Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Honorary Fellowship Award procedure: REL-PCS-026

**Approver:** Awards Committee

**Authoriser:** Council

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