

RACS Appoints New CEO

Thursday 10 August 2017

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) - the leading advocate for surgical standards, education and professionalism in Australia and New Zealand - has appointed Ms Mary Harney as the College's new Chief Executive Officer.

Ms Harney will join RACS late October 2017 from her role as Chief Executive of the Gardiner Dairy Foundation. She brings to the College more than 30 years experience in senior leadership roles inside and outside the health sector, including as Chief Operating Officer of Research, and Director of the Office for Cancer Research, at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

In the last 15 years, Ms Harney has held executive positions in the public health, commercial, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and agricultural sectors.

RACS President, Mr John Batten, welcomed Ms Harney to the College on behalf of the Council and RACS' 7,000 Fellows, Trainees and International Medical Graduates.

"We look forward to working with Ms Harney to realise our vision of leading surgical performance, professionalism and improving patient care," Mr Batten said.

"With Ms Harney's support and the Council's commitment, we will continue our extensive program of work and maintain our focus on building respect and improving patient safety in our profession," Mr Batten said.

Ms Harney succeeds former RACS CEO, Assoc. Professor David Hillis, who left the College in April 2017 after a 13 year term.

The President thanked RACS' Deputy CEO Mr John Biviano for his support and leadership of the College through the transition process. Mr Biviano will continue as Acting CEO until 23 October 2017 when Ms Harney takes up her appointment.

About the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

RACS is the leading advocate for surgical standards, professionalism and surgical education in Australia and New Zealand. The College is a not-for-profit organisation that represents more than 7000 surgeons and 1300 surgical trainees and International Medical Graduates. RACS also supports healthcare and surgical education in the Asia-Pacific region and is a substantial funder of surgical research. There are nine surgical specialties in Australasia being: Cardiothoracic surgery, General surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic surgery, Otolaryngology Head-and-Neck surgery, Paediatric surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive surgery, Urology and Vascular surgery.

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