



RACS Annual Research Conference 2026

**Your scalpel shapes lives.
Your research shapes surgery.**

**12-13 November 2026
Australian Hearing Hub
Macquarie University, Sydney**

**Provisional
Program**

RACS Annual Research Conference 2026

Your scalpel shapes lives.
Your research shapes surgery.



Day 1 · Thursday 12 November

Time	Session/Content
9:00	Welcome Acknowledgement of Country
	Introduction to ARC / DCAS — Co-Chairs
Session 1 — DCAS: What it Means to be an Academic Surgeon ("The Multi-Threat Surgeon")	
9:05	The Academic Surgeon Researcher Prof Craig McBride
	The Academic Surgeon Innovator Prof Jonty Karpelowsky
	The Academic Surgeon Translator A/Prof Oliver Fisher
	Creating a culture of surgical innovation and research Prof John De Var
10:10	Tea & coffee break
Session 2 — Hot Topic & SRS Oral Presentations	
10:40	Hot Topic: Becoming an Academic Surgeon & Avoiding Burnout Prof Zsolt Balogh
	Concurrent SRS Oral Presentations
12:08	Lunch break

RACS Annual Research Conference 2026

Your scalpel shapes lives.
Your research shapes surgery.



Day 1 · Thursday 12 November (cont.)

Time	Session/Content
Session 3 — DCAS: Manuscripts & Journals: Success & Rejection	
13:08	How to get your work published in 2026 Prof Gifty Kwakye
	Pearls for a great PowerPoint presentation (and how to keep to time) Dr Kerry Hitos
	De-mystifying stats Dr Nazim Bhimani
	I was just rejected... what now? Dr Joseph Phillips
	Panel discussion & Q & A
Session 4 — SRS Presentations & Quick Fires	
15:13	Afternoon tea & coffee break
15:48	Room 1 Maximising Impact in Surgical Education Prof Brenessa Lindeman
	Room 2 Quick Fire Presentations
	Concurrent SRS Orals & Quick Fires (continued)
	End of Day 1
End of Day 1 & Faculty Dinner	
16:45	Cochlear site visit/presentation
17:45	Academic Surgery Committee Meeting (by invitation)

RACS Annual Research Conference 2026

Your scalpel shapes lives.
Your research shapes surgery.



Day 2 · Friday 13 November

Time	Session/Content
8:30	Acknowledgement of Country & Welcome Chair of Academic Surgery Committee
	Hot Topic: How to Combine Research & Innovation with Private Practice A/Prof Michael Talbot
	AAS Top Abstract Presentation - Dr Jashodeep Datta
	The Modern Academic Surgeon: Building an Academic Career with Purpose Prof Gifty Kwakye
	Concurrent SRS Orals & Quick Fires (continued)
10:25	Morning tea break
10:50	Jepson Lecture Prof Ian Bissett
ARC Presentations — Invited Speakers	
11:33	Innovation in education & introduction of the Sydney part-time MD program A/Prof Sarah Aitken
	Innovation in surgical startups and how to succeed Prof Matt Read
	From Idea to Impact: How Surgeons and Industry Advance Research Together Dr Quin Buchlak
12:33	Lunch break

RACS Annual Research Conference 2026

Your scalpel shapes lives.
Your research shapes surgery.



Day 2 · Friday 13 November (cont.)

Time

Session/Content

Afternoon — SUS Exchange & SRS Oral Presentations

13:33

Trileaflet Aortic Valve Reconstruction (Ozaki Procedure) for Treatment of Aortic Valve Diseases Prof Danny Chu

Concurrent SRS Orals & Quick Fires

14:56

Afternoon tea break

15:26

Room 1

T cell Clonality in Tumor-Draining Lymph Nodes in NSCLC
Dr Joseph Phillips

Room 2

Quick Fire Presentations

Concurrent SRS Orals & Quick Fires (continued)

Closing — Speakers, Awards & Remarks

Building & growing international partnerships — academic surgery and the AAS and RACS Prof Brenessa Lindeman

Surgical research & international partnerships – Surgical Research Society of Southern Africa and RACS Prof Thifhelimbilu Luvhengo

★ **Awards — Prize & Award Presentations:**

Young Investigator Award | Travel Grants | ANZ Chapter ACS Award

Closing remarks Conference Chairs

17:25

End of Program