

Division:	Office of the President and the CEO	Ref. No.	POL-1054
Department:	President Council Support		
Title:	RACS International Medal		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the RACS International Medal. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Medal.

2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, International Awards, RACS International Medal, Annual Scientific Congress

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

- 3.1.1. The RACS International Medal was inaugurated in 1998 by the International Committee, which was later renamed the RACS Global Health Committee. This committee was disbanded in 2020 and replaced by the International Engagement Committee (IEC)
- 3.1.2. The Medal is awarded in recognition of international service to surgery and/or surgical education that has resulted in a significant and lasting benefit of an exceptional nature over a long period of time.
- 3.1.3. The RACS International Medal is awarded to an Australian or Aotearoa New Zealand Fellow.

3.2. Presentation and Frequency

- 3.2.1. The presentation is normally made at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).
- 3.2.2. Nominations are to be called for on an annual basis. It is not necessarily awarded annually, but rather when an appropriate candidate is recommended to the International Engagement Committee and approved by the Awards Committee.

3.3. Criteria for Award

The award is made to a Fellow who has provided a significant and lasting contribution of an exceptional nature over a long period of time in the delivery or development of surgery for underprivileged communities overseas.

3.4. Nominations

- 3.4.1. The Awards Committee calls for nominations for the RACS International Medal (Distinguished Award).
- 3.4.2. Nominations are directed to the International Engagement Committee for consideration in the first instance. If endorsed, the nomination is then forwarded in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least six (6) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting. The nomination shall contain biographical details of the nominator such as a CV and information on how they meet the criteria for the award. Each nomination requires the nominator to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the award addressing the criteria. Nominations without this additional background information will be returned to the nominator for further documentation.
- 3.4.3. If approved by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. Approval by three

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quarters of Councillors present and voting at the Council Meeting must be received.

3.5. The Award

The award is in the form of a bronze medal.

3.6. Financial implications for recipient of the 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. If being presented at the ASC registration 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

No associated documents

Approver: Awards Committee
Authoriser: Council