1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy relates to the leadership exchange program between the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (the College) and the Association for Academic Surgery (AAS).

2. KEYWORDS
Younger Fellows, AAS, Leadership

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Aims
3.1.1. Provide professional development opportunities for Younger Fellows, particularly in relationship to leadership.
3.1.2. Promote an exchange of ideas and possible solutions in relation to common issues affecting Younger Fellows in both organisations.
3.1.3. Identify opportunities for RACS Younger Fellows to access International Clinical Fellow positions in the US through the AAS.

3.2. Leadership Exchange Entitlements
As part of the exchange, through a competitive selection process, a College Younger Fellow is nominated by the Younger Fellows Committee to attend the annual AAS Congress and AAS Executive Committee meeting in America. The AAS covers airfares, accommodation, transfers and conference expenses for the College’s representative to attend the AAS Congress.

An AAS member is nominated by the AAS to participate in the Younger Fellows Forum (YFF), attend and participate in the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) and participate in the Faculty of the Developing a Career in Academic Surgery (DCAS) course. The College will cover airfares, transfers, attendance and accommodation of the AAS representative at the Younger Fellows Forum, the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) and the Younger Fellows and Trainees Dinner, in accordance with the College’s Travel and Accommodation Policy.

3.3. Funding
The nominated Australasian Fellow travelling to the AAS Congress is fully funded by the AAS. Funding for the American Fellow travelling to the YFF, ASC and DCAS Course is to be found from industry. Should funding not be forthcoming, other sources of funding may be investigated to cover the costs.

3.4. Eligibility Criteria
3.4.1. An applicant must be a Younger Fellow of the College (within ten years of gaining Fellowship) at the time of submitting their application
3.4.2. All applicants are required to submit an application letter and CV demonstrating how they meet the selection criteria:
   a. An understanding and involvement in College governance functions
   b. An understanding of and advocacy for Younger Fellows issues
   c. Leadership skills and experience.
3.4.3. How their attendance will be of benefit to one or more of the following:
   a. RACS
   b. Younger Fellows
   c. Specialty Society
   d. Hospital
   e. Academic institution

Application Timeline

The application process opens between 1 and 31 May in the year prior to the AAS Congress.

3.5. Successful Applicant Requirements

The successful applicant is required to:

3.5.1. Present a paper at the AAS Congress
3.5.2. Prepare a brief report on their experience to the Younger Fellows Committee, suitable for publication in Surgical News.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Younger Fellows Leadership Exchange Procedure
- Younger Fellows Leadership Exchange Application Form
- Younger Fellows Leadership Exchange Acceptance Form
- Younger Fellows Forum Procedure
- Travel and Accommodation Policy
- Professional Development Activities Management Leadership Policy
- Surgeons and Trainees Interaction with the Medical Industry Guidelines
- Surgical News Policy

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