1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy details the awarding of the Victorian Regional Committee RC Bennett Prize. The RC Bennett Prize commemorates Professor Richard Clayton Bennett, prominent in affairs of our College from 1972 and awarded the Sir Hugh Devine Medal of the College for “meritorious service to surgery and the College” in 1986 and admitted to the Court of Honour in 1988.

2. KEYWORDS

Award, Richard Clayton Bennett, Laboratory based research paper, Victorian Annual Surgical Meeting (Vic ASM)

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

Professor Richard (Dick) Clayton Bennett was appointed to the Foundation Sir Hugh Devine Chair of Surgery at St Vincent’s Hospital in the University of Melbourne in 1966. He was prominent in College affairs from his appointment to the Court of Examiners in 1972. He was elected to Council in 1975, serving as the College Honorary Treasurer in 1979 and became Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery.

Professor Bennett served three times as the Convener of the Scientific Program and General Scientific Meetings of the College and in 1981 conceived the Younger Fellows Forum.

As a Councillor, Professor Bennett promoted research in surgery and persuaded Council to set up the Foundation for Surgery in 1979.

The R C Bennett Award is in the form of a Medal.

3.2. Criteria

The award is presented for the best laboratory based research paper presented at the Victorian Annual Surgical Meeting (Vic ASM) and is only available to Victorian presenters/or presenters of Victorian based research.

The Convener and the Coordinator of the scientific meeting appoint two judges to the panel.

The Judges score the participants under a 9 point set of criteria score sheet:

- Abstract
- Idea, novelty, importance of study
- Is study based within Victoria?
• Personal effort
• Background, Introduction and Literature Review
• Study Design and Protocol
• Results and Statistical Analysis
• Discussion, Conclusions, Question Handling
• Presentation, Timing, Audio visuals

The panel may choose not to award the Prize, if, in their opinion, no presentation is of sufficient standard.

Medal

The winner of the Award is announced at the Vic ASM. The Medal is engraved with the name of the award, recipients name and the date.

3.3. Budget

The Regional Office budgets for the medal.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents form part of this policy:

• Judges Score Sheet
• Victorian ASM Prizes and Awards Procedure

Approver: CEO
Authoriser: Council