1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy governs the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons’ (the College) lecture at the Biennial Asian Surgical Association Conference. It covers the selection, frequency and conditions of the Fellowship as well as the obligations of the Travelling Fellow.

2. KEYWORDS
Travelling Fellowship, Asian Surgical Association (ASA) Conference, Lecture

3. BODY OF POLICY
3.1. Background
The RACS Lecture at the Biennial Asian Surgical Association Conference was set up in 1983 by Professor Richard Bennett as part of the RACS Foundation’s list of supported educational activities, with the RACS Foundation funding the airfare of a RACS Fellow selected by the Asian Surgical Association (ASA) Executive Committee. The first RACS Foundation Lecture was given in Singapore in 1985.

3.2. Administering Committee
The RACS Global Health Committee administers the Fellowship program. The Global Health Committee reports its recommendations to the Professional Development and Standards Board (PDSB).

3.3. Selection Process
The RACS Fellow is nominated by the ASA Executive Committee based on specific areas of surgical practice which they wish to highlight at their conference. The nomination is considered by the Global Health Committee which makes a recommendation to the PDSB for approval.

3.4. Value of the Travel Fellowship
The Fellowship provides up to AU $5,000 for the cost of one return airfare on the most direct route to the conference location. The ASA meets the cost of registration, accommodation and travel within the country.

The RACS’ contribution for the cost of the airfare is funded from the College operational budget through the Global Health Committee.

3.5. Duration of the Travelling Fellowship
The Travelling Fellow is in the country for approximately two weeks.

3.6. Frequency of the Travelling Fellowship
The Travelling Fellowship is awarded biennially (every 2 years), providing that there is a request from the Asian Surgical Association.

3.7. Obligations of the Travelling Fellow
Fellowship recipients are expected to provide a report on their visit to both the College (through the Global Health Committee) and the Asian Surgical Association within two weeks of their return to their country.

Recipients may be required (in addition to making scientific presentations) to speak briefly at formal or social functions. It is appropriate for the recipient to convey greetings
to the Asian Surgical Association from the College and to act in an ambassadorial fashion as befits the occasion.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Global Health Committee Terms of Reference

RACS Lecture at the Biennial Asian Surgical Association Conference Fellowship Procedure

Approver  CEO
Authoriser  PDSB