

<b>Division:</b>	<b>External Affairs</b>	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>EXA-RGH-003</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>RACS Global Health</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Gordon Clunie Pacific Medal Policy</b>		

## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons' (RACS) Gordon Clunie Pacific Medal for the top surgical graduate of the Fiji National University College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (FNU CMNHS, formerly known as Fiji School of Medicine).

## 2. KEYWORDS

Pacific Islands, Award, Medal, Prize, Fiji National University College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Professor Emeritus Gordon James Aitken Clunie, Global Health Committee

## 3. BODY OF POLICY

### 3.1. Background

The Gordon Clunie Pacific Medal commemorates the contribution of Professor Emeritus Gordon James Aitken Clunie FRACS. It recognises his contributions to surgical education and teaching, particularly his contributions to the development of postgraduate training programs in the Pacific islands.

Gordon Clunie was a pre-eminent figure in surgical life of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. Born in Fiji, he received his primary school education in Suva and secondary schooling at first in Hamilton New Zealand and later in Edinburgh. He studied medicine and surgery in Edinburgh and Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

In 1995, Gordon, along with Dick Bennett and David Theile visited the Pacific to scope and design the RACS Pacific Islands Project (PIP) which began its support in 1996 with Australian Aid funding. A subsequent project to support the development of the Fiji School of Medicine (1998 – 2003) was set up with Gordon as the Project Director. This was a major undertaking to develop medical specialist training in Fiji for doctors from all the Pacific Island nations. It was an important development since most medical graduates previously sought specialist training in Australia or New Zealand where many chose to remain for the rest of their career. Providing high quality specialist training treating patients with the disease mix common in the Pacific ensured most doctors were now comfortable to remain in the Pacific Islands. This project has been one of the lasting legacies of Gordon's commitment to international development.

### 3.2. Terms

A medal and a book prize are awarded to the best performing graduate in the Masters of Medicine (MMed) (Surgery) program at the Fiji National University (FNU) College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS) to recognise outstanding academic achievement.

The Award is made on the recommendation of the FNU Surgical Examination Committee to the RACS Global Health Committee and with the endorsement of the FNU Examination Board.

### 3.3. Presentation and Frequency

The award is made by RACS on an annual basis at the Fiji National University graduation ceremony, provided there is a candidate who fulfils the criteria. If there is no suitable candidate in a particular year, the medal and prize are not awarded.

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**3.4. Funding of the Award**

Funding for the production and inscription of the medal and purchase of the book prize is covered by the RACS Global Health Committee budget. There is no funding available for travel by award recipients.

**4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

RACS Global Health Committee Terms of Reference

**Approver** Professional Development and Standards Board  
**Authoriser** Council