1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy governs the awarding of the Tour de Cure Cancer Research Scholarship. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the duration, value, frequency and conditions of the award.

2. KEYWORDS
Foundation, Surgery, Research, Scholarship, Tour de Cure.

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background
Tour de Cure is a pre-eminent health promotion charity that raises funds for cancer research through cycling and other events. Together with the Foundation for Surgery, Tour de Cure has generously offered to fund the prestigious Foundation for Surgery Tour de Cure Cancer Research Scholarship. This award is intended to support Fellows, Trainees and International Medical Graduates to undertake a cancer research project.

3.2. Eligibility Criteria
Applications for this award are open to RACS Fellows, SET Trainees and International Medical Graduates (IMGs).

Applicants to surgical training are also eligible to apply for a scholarship in anticipation of their acceptance into the SET Program. They must be accepted into the SET Program prior to the commencement of the scholarship/fellowship/grant in order to take it up.

3.3. Selection Criteria
The successful recipient will be chosen on the basis of his/her written application, Curriculum Vitae (CV), supporting references and subsequent interview. Applicants will be short-listed for interview based upon their academic record, postgraduate training, research experience, publication history, the experience of the supervisor and reputation of the institution where the research is to be undertaken. These criteria will be assessed from information provided in the application, supporting references and accompanying CV.

Short-listed applicants will be interviewed by a panel comprised of the Chair of the Australia and New Zealand Scholarship and Grant Committee (ANZSGC) and two other Committee members. Assessment will be based upon the applicant’s understanding of the research project as evidenced by their explanation of the project and ability to address questions from the panel. The applicant will also be assessed on their initiative in attempting to source other funding.

Based on the above criteria, ANZSGC will provide a short-list of two applicants to the Board of the Tour de Cure Foundation for it to select the successful applicant.

3.4. Value of the Scholarship
The value of the award is in Australian dollars, consisting of a stipend plus departmental maintenance. Prospective applicants should refer to the RACS website www.surgeons.org/scholarships for information on the current value.
### 3.5. Funding Source

The award is funded from the income revenue derived from the Tour de Cure Cancer Research Scholarship corpus under the Foundation for Surgery.

### 3.6. Duration of the Scholarship

The award has a tenure of 12 months.

### 3.7. Frequency of the Scholarship

The award is to be offered annually subject to availability of funding and providing there is a worthy applicant.

### 3.8. Conditions of the Scholarship

The following conditions are based on the assessed and approved information supplied at the point of application. Any changes from those originally approved by RACS will require prior consent. To apply for this consent, scholars are required to complete an Amendment form available from RACS. Payment of this award will only be upheld if all requirements outlined in the conditions of this policy are satisfied.

#### 3.8.1. Research Program

a) Recipients must undertake the research study as approved by RACS for the duration of their award.

b) The completion of the reference by the proposed supervisor is considered certification that he/she is willing to accept the role of supervisor of the named research study, if applicable.

c) SET Trainees must confirm the support of their Training Board in writing.

d) If applicable, preference will be given to scholars who undertake the research study at an approved institute in Australia or New Zealand. However, consideration will be given to scholars who wish to undertake all or a proportion of their research in an overseas institution. In these cases scholars must submit a strong justification of their application and supply the names of two supervisors. One intended supervisor of their research must be situated in an approved institute in Australia or New Zealand. Written approval from the intended Head of Department where the research is planned to be conducted overseas is also required.

#### 3.8.2. Employment Provisions

In Australia and New Zealand scholars may engage in professional work for additional remuneration for up to an average of 20% of each working week provided that:

a) The work carried out under this entitlement is related to the broad area of his/her research activities;

b) The additional work is undertaken with the permission of the scholar’s supervisor and employing institution. Clinical sessional work, teaching and consulting are all categories of work for which permission could be sought.

#### 3.8.3. Financial Arrangements
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a) It is recommended that the scholar refers to a financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the award. General information about whether awards are exempt from income tax is available on the RACS website. Please go to www.surgeons.org/scholarships/ and proceed to the FAQ section.

b) The award will be paid to an administering institution on behalf of the scholar.

c) The award will be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice provided by the administering institution.

d) Payment of the annual value of the award will be made in one instalment prior to the 1 March in the given year.

e) The control of the expenditure will be governed by the normal policies and procedures of the administering institution.

f) The award is valued at $125,000. A maximum of $100,000 will be funded from RACS and the recipient is required to procure $25,000 from their Research Department (of both stipend and departmental maintenance).

g) This condition will be waived if the recipient receives additional external research funding to the value of or greater than $25,000. This funding would have to include a salary component (stipend) to offset the recipient's research department's responsibility for paying the $25,000.

3.8.4. Additional Fellowships/Scholarships/Awards

a) The recipient may hold external awards simultaneously with the RACS award being adjusted to cover the shortfall between the RACS Award and the external award.

b) In the event that an external award is received for the same activity, any overpayment of the eligible RACS award, given the adjustment, will be reimbursed by the recipient.

c) The recipient must notify RACS immediately on receipt of an award other than the RACS award.

d) Recipients may not hold two RACS awards simultaneously.

3.8.5. Reporting

a) The recipient must provide RACS with two reports per year in the requested format on research/activities undertaken. The first report will be requested in June for the submission by a specified date in July, and the second report will be requested during December for submission by a specified date in January.

b) If these reports are not received the recipient will be ineligible for any further financial assistance from RACS and may be required at the discretion of RACS to refund the award.

c) Where applicable, the supervisor of the recipient will also be requested to report on the progress of the recipient at these times.

d) Copies of the reports will be forwarded to ANZSGC for assessment and the Tour de Cure Foundation Board.
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e) ANZSGC reports recommendations, findings and outcomes to the Scholarship Monitoring and Evaluation Committee which oversees the evaluation of the ANZ Scholarship and Grant Program. Recipients may be required to complete two Scholarship Evaluation Surveys upon request of the Scholarship Monitoring and Evaluation Committee. The first will be requested upon completion of the award. The second will be requested about five years after completion of the award.

f) Recipients should submit the results of their research wherever possible to a peer reviewed journal such as the ANZ Journal of Surgery.

g) Recipients are required to present their research at the annual meeting of the Surgical Research Society of Australasia (SRS) at least once during the award period or within 12 months after the end of the award period.

h) Upon request, scholars must make themselves available to prepare an article for publishing in Surgical News on the completion of their award.

3.8.6. Other obligations of the award recipient
Recipient will be advised of any other obligations.

3.8.7. Ethics Approval
RACS must receive documentary evidence where applicable of ethical approval from the Ethics Committee of the Institution concerned to approve that the project conforms to the general principles set out in the NH&MRC ‘Statement on Human Experimentation’ and/or the ‘Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes’

3.8.8. Timing of the Award
The commencement date for the award is 1 January each year unless otherwise specified.

3.8.9. Part Time Research
This award is available on a part-time basis. Part-time is defined as half the usual research hours worked by a research scholar. Part-time awards are restricted to recipients wishing to undertake research only. Awards will not be offered on this basis for recipients to concurrently undertake research and clinical loads. Refer to the Part-time Research Scholarships policy for further details.

3.8.10. Reapplication for the Award
Previous recipients are eligible to re-apply in subsequent years through the normal application channels and observing the advertised application deadlines and formats in competition with all applications.

Recipients who seek support beyond one year are encouraged to apply for similar scholarships awarded by external bodies.

Unsuccessful applicants can reapply in subsequent years while eligible.

3.8.11. Acknowledgements
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3.8.12. Publications and Patents
RACS must be notified of any publications as soon as practicable after acceptance by the journal, or patents arising from the Award together with the results of any research that is to be commercially developed.

3.8.13. Acceptance of Offer
The successful recipient must sign the Acceptance Form as acknowledgement of the above conditions as well as, where applicable, their Head of Department and a representative of their administering institution, and return it to RACS by the specified date.

3.9. Privacy
Recipients should refer to the RACS Privacy Policy for information on how RACS may collect, store and disclose personal information.

3.10. Termination of the Scholarship
RACS may, at its discretion for which is considered grave cause, suspend the tenure of an award for such time as it is thought fit, or deprive the recipient of their award. From the date of either of these decisions, the entitlement to stipend and other allowances shall cease.

Upon termination monies already paid and not duly expended must be refunded to RACS.

3.11. Administering Committee
ANZSGC administers the award.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS
PRC: Research Scholarships – General
PRC: Part Time Research Scholarships
PRC: Scholarship Program Leave
FRM: Scholarship Program Amendment form

Approver: ANZSGC
Authoriser: PDSB