

Division:	Research Audit and Academic Surgery	Ref. No.	REA-RES-036
Department:	Research and Scholarships		
Title:	John Buckingham Travelling Scholarship		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the John Buckingham Travelling Scholarship of the ANZ Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the duration, value, frequency and conditions of the scholarship.

2. KEYWORDS

Trainee Surgeons, Travelling, travel, Scholarship, Australia, New Zealand, American College of Surgeons, ACS, ANZ Chapter, American College of Surgeons, ANZ Chapter of the ACS

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

The late John Buckingham was a well-loved specialist breast cancer surgeon who pioneered the sentinel node mapping technique. He contributed significantly to BreastScreen Australia and was also highly regarded in the international arena.

In recognition of his great love of teaching the John Buckingham Travelling Scholarship has been established to encourage international exchange of information concerning surgical science, practice, and education. It also aims to establish professional and academic collaborations and friendships amongst trainees.

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has agreed to sponsor one SET Trainee from RACS to attend the ACS Annual Clinical Congress each year. In exchange, ANZ Chapter of the ACS will sponsor one ACS resident to attend the RACS Annual Scientific Congress.

3.2. Eligibility Criteria

Applications for the scholarship are open to current Australian and New Zealand SET Trainees. Applicants are encouraged to be a member of or to have applied for membership in the Resident and Associate Society of the ACS (RAS_ACS) with the intention of gaining Fellowship of the ACS in the future.

Applicants are expected to be a member or to apply for membership of the ANZ Chapter of the ACS.

The applicant must be a permanent resident or citizen of Australia or New Zealand.

3.3. Selection Criteria

Selection will be made based upon the abilities and experience of the candidate and the potential benefits from the travel to the individual, to the ANZ Chapter of the ACS and to the RACS. This will be based upon the candidate's application which will include their CV, supporting references from two referees and a 1,000 word dissertation outlining the proposed benefits of the scholarship.

The Selection Committee will be a panel of five, and is to be made up as follows: Chair ANZ Scholarship and Grant Committee (ANZSGC), one other member of the ANZSGC, ANZ Chapter President, another ANZ Chapter Council Member and one representative of the RACS Trainees' Association (RACSTA) Executive as nominated by the ANZ Chapter Council and RACSTA Executive respectively.

3.4. Travelling Scholarship Requirements

The Recipient will attend the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Annual Clinical

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Congress held in October in the year following the receipt of this scholarship.

3.5. Value of the Scholarship

The value of the award is in Australian dollars. Prospective applicants should refer to the RACS website www.surgeons.org/scholarships for information on the current value of the award.

3.6. Funding Source

This award is funded from the ANZ Chapter of ACS

3.7. Duration of Travel Scholarship

The scholarship is offered for short term travel to attend the ACS Clinical Congress.

3.8. Frequency of Travel Scholarship

The scholarship is to be awarded annually, subject to income being sufficient and providing there is a worthy applicant.

3.9. Conditions of Travel 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 their prior consent. To obtain this consent, scholars are required to complete a scholarship amendment form available from RACS.

3.9.1. Travel Program

- a) Scholars must undertake travel as approved by the RACS for the award
- b) Travel must not have commenced before the closing date for applications.

3.9.2. Financial Arrangements

- a) It is recommended that the recipient refers to a financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the award. General information about whether scholarships 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) Payment of the award will be made prior to 1 March in the given year.
- c) Award funds will only be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice.

3.9.3. Additional Scholarships/Fellowships/Awards

Recipients may not hold two RACS awards simultaneously.

3.9.4. Reporting

- a) The recipient must provide RACS with a report in the requested format on the meeting attended and any institutions visited. This report will be requested during December in the given year for submission by a specified date in January the following year.
- b) If the report is not received, the recipient will be ineligible for any further financial assistance from RACS and may be required at

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the discretion of RACS to refund the value of the award.

- c) A copy of the report will be forwarded to the ANZ Chapter of ACS and to the RACSTA Committee.
- d) The ANZ Scholarship and Grant Committee reports recommendations, findings and outcomes to the Scholarships Monitoring and Evaluation Committee which oversees the evaluation of the RACS Scholarship and Grant Program.
- e) The scholarship recipient must also attend and present a brief verbal report at the next Annual General Meeting of the ANZ Chapter of the ACS which occurs at the RACS Annual Scientific Congress.
- f) Recipients are encouraged to present their findings at the annual meeting of the Surgical Research Society of Australasia.
- g) Upon request, recipients must make themselves available to prepare an article for publishing in Surgical News on the completion of their award.

3.9.5. Timing of Award

The travel would occur during the month of October in the year after the scholarship is awarded as the Annual Clinical Congress of the ACS occurs during that month.

3.9.6. Reapplication for the Award

Scholars can only receive the John Buckingham Travelling Scholarship once. Unsuccessful applicants can reapply in subsequent years while eligible, until they are successful.

3.9.7. Acknowledgements

RACS must be acknowledged in any relevant correspondence, public announcement, advertising, publication, presentation or other material relating to the award.

3.9.8. 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.

3.9.9. Acceptance of Offer

The scholar must complete and sign the Acceptance Form as acknowledgement of the above conditions, and return it to RACS prior to commencement of the award.

3.10. Privacy

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

3.11. Termination of the Award

RACS may, at its discretion for what is considered grave cause, suspend the tenure of an

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award for such time as is thought fit, or deprive a recipient of his/her 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 shall be refunded to RACS.

3.12. Administering Committee

ANZSGC in association with the ANZ Chapter of the ACS administers the award.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

PRC: Travel Scholarships – General

FRM: Scholarship Program Amendment Form

DOC: Important General Conditions

Approver Australia and New Zealand Scholarship & Grant Committee

Authoriser Council