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| Portfolio: | Operations | Ref. No. | REL-PCS-008 |
| Department: | President & Council Support | | |
| Title: | Gordon Trinca Medal | | |

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Gordon Trinca Medal. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Gordon Trinca Medal, Annual Scientific Congress, Trauma Keynote Lecture, Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST) program

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

3.1.1. The Gordon Trinca Medal commemorates the work of Mr Gordon Trinca FRACS. It recognises and promotes contributions to trauma care through education and teaching, with particular emphasis on contributions to the Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST) program.

3.1.2. As a trauma surgeon, Mr Trinca's distinguished career involved not only the management of trauma, but also the prevention of road trauma and trauma education. He was instrumental in the introduction of the Early Management of Severe Trauma Program, the promotion of seat belt wearing and the development and implementation of drink driving countermeasures.

EMST is recognised as a pre-eminent trauma educational program and has trained thousands of doctors in trauma care and developed a widely recognised educational program for prospective instructors. In an era where medical education has become more structured and formalized, it is appropriate to recognise those who contribute as instructors and teachers. It was envisaged that this award would be an opportunity for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) to recognise the significant contribution made by Fellows to the educational programs run by RACS.

3.1.3. The award will normally be made to a RACS Fellow but in recognition of the multidisciplinary nature of trauma education and care, under exceptional circumstances it may be made to a non-Fellow.

3.2. Presentation and Frequency

3.2.1. The Award normally will be presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) by the President (or his/her nominee) at the end of the Trauma Keynote Lecture on day one of the Trauma program or at another location in consultation between the Awards Committee and the recipient of the Award.

3.2.2. Annually the EMST Faculty and Trauma Committee will call for nominations.

3.3. Criteria for Award

3.3.1. The Gordon Trinca Medal is awarded to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to Trauma education and care. This contribution is judged by one or more of the following criteria:

- Ongoing commitment as faculty member in the EMST/ATLS Program and significant contribution to that Program (essential criteria);
- A major contribution to trauma research or education;
- Demonstrated leadership in the management of injured patients.

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- 3.3.2. The award of the medal may not be made posthumously, but in the event of the nominated person's death subsequent to the decision to award the medal, the award process may continue.

3.4. Nominations

- 3.4.1. Nominations for a Gordon Trinca Medal (*Distinguished Award*) are considered by a subcommittee consisting of the Chair of the EMST Committee (who will Chair the meeting of the subcommittee), the Deputy Chair and another member of the EMST Committee (who is a surgeon), the Chair of the Trauma Committee (or his/her nominee), and the Censor-in-Chief (or his/her nominee). This subcommittee recommends to the Awards Committee to whom the medal should be awarded or that there should be no award in that year.
- 3.4.2. A nominee for the award and supporting information are then submitted by the EMST Committee to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least six (6) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting for recommendation to Council for consideration and approval by February of each year. Nominations shall contain biographical details, information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications or a CV. Each nomination requires the nominee to address the criteria and substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the award. Nominations without this additional background information will be returned to the EMST Committee for further documentation.
- 3.4.3. After approval by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. Approval by three quarters of Councillors present and voting at the Council Meeting must be received.

3.5. The Award

The award is in the form of a bronze medal.

3.6. Financial implications for recipient of a RACS Award

As this award is normally presented at the ASC it is important to note that:

- 3.6.1. Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by RACS.
- 3.6.2. If being presented at the ASC registration and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

No associated documents

Approver: Awards Committee
Authoriser: Council

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