Developing a Career in Academic Surgery Course

Monday 5 May 2014
SANDS EXPO AND CONVENTION CENTER
MARINA BAY SANDS, SINGAPORE
DCAS Course Organising Committee

Co-chairs:
Professor Andrew Hill
RACS Section of Academic Surgery

Professor Julie Ann Sosa
Association for Academic Surgery

Committee Members:
Mr Richard Hanney . . . . . . . . . . . . Chair, RACS Section of Academic Surgery
Professor Marc Gladman . . . . . . . . . . Professor of Colorectal Surgery, Sydney
Mr Jason Chuen . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . RACS Younger Fellows Committee Representative
Dr Deborah Wright . . . . . . . . . . . . . . RACS Trainees Association Representative
Mr Elliot Dolan Evans . . . . . . . . . . . . . . SurgiN Representative
Associate Professor Wendy Babidge . . Director, RACS Research Audit and Academic Surgery
Ms Louise Pittman . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Secretariat, RACS Section of Academic Surgery

Course Organiser:
Ms Caroline Handley . . . . . . . . . . . . . . RACS Conferences & Events Management

This educational activity has been approved in the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons’ CPD Program. Fellows who participate can claim one point per hour (maximum 7 points) in Category 4: Maintenance of Knowledge and Skills towards 2014 CPD totals.

Intention to Photograph
Please be advised that photographs may be taken at the Course and reproduced.

Final Program

7:00am   Registration and Breakfast
         Level 4, Roselle 4604 – 4606

7:15am   Welcome
         Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706
         Michael Hollands (President, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons)

7:20am   Introduction
         Andrew Hill (Auckland) and Julie Ann Sosa (Durham, USA)

SESSION 1: A CAREER IN ACADEMIC SURGERY
         Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706
         Chairs: Sandra Wong (Ann Arbor, USA) and Christobel Saunders (Perth)

7:30am   What is a career in academic surgery?
         Philip Crowe (Sydney)
         Academic Surgery – the essentials

7:55am   1. Research – How to get research started – ideas, grants, ethics and collaboration
         Timothy Pawlik (Baltimore, USA)

8:20am   2. Teaching, leadership, administration
         Julie Ann Sosa (Durham; USA)

9:00am   MORNING TEA
         Level 4, Roselle 4604 – 4606

9:15am   Introduction - Hot Topic in Academic Surgery
         John Windsor (Auckland)
         Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706

9:20am   HOT TOPIC IN ACADEMIC SURGERY - Comparative effectiveness research
         Caprice Greenberg (Madison, USA)

9:40am   Discussion
### SESSION 2: CAREER DEVELOPMENT

**Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706**  
**Chairs: Julie Ann Sosa (Durham, USA) and Philip Crowe (Sydney)**

I want to be an academic surgeon. What can I do as a:

- **9:50am** Medical Student  
  **Arthur Richardson (Sydney)**

- **10:10am** Trainee – The pros and cons of fulltime surgical research during training  
  **Tarik Sammour (Auckland)**

- **10:30am** Fellow  
  **Vincent Lam (Sydney)**

- **10:50am** Consultant  
  **Mark Smithers (Brisbane)**

- **11:10am** Discussion

- **12:20pm** LUNCH with the faculty and small discussion groups  
  **Level 4, Roselle 4604 – 4606**

**12:25pm** **KEYNOTE PRESENTATION - Developing leadership traits among surgeons**  
**Carlos Pelegirini (President, American College of Surgeons)**

### SESSION 3: CONCURRENT ACADEMIC WORKSHOPS:

**Workshop 1: Tools of the Trade**  
**Level 4, Roselle 4703**  
**Chairs: Julie Ann Sosa (Durham, USA) and Wendy Brown (Melbourne)**

- **1:00pm** Bedside to bench to bedside  
  **John Windsor (Auckland)**

- **1:15pm** Basic science  
  **Michelle Locke (Auckland)**

- **1:30pm** Randomised clinical trials  
  **David Watson (Adelaide)**

- **1:45pm** Outcomes research  
  **Niraj Gusani (Hershey, USA)**

- **2:00pm** Surgical education and research  
  **Stephen Tobin (Dean of Education, RACS)**

**Workshop 2: Career Development Q & A**  
**Level 4, Roselle 4702**  
**Chairs: Caprice Greenberg (Madison, USA) and Russell Gruen (Melbourne)**

- **1:00pm** Multiple faculty  
  - Frank Frizelle (Christchurch)
  - Timothy Pawlik (Baltimore, USA)
  - Henry Pleass (Sydney)
  - Andre van Rij (Dunedin)
  - Wei Zhou (California, USA)

  Attendees to bring along their own current or past research challenges for a masterclass with the faculty

- **Workshop 3: Presenting Your Work**  
  **Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706**  
  **Chairs: Guy Maddern (Adelaide) and Ian Bennett (Brisbane)**

- **1:00pm** Writing an abstract  
  **Julie Margenthaler (St Louis, USA)**

- **1:25pm** Writing a paper  
  **Timothy Pritts (Cincinatti, USA)**

- **1:50pm** Presenting a paper  
  **Sandra Wong (Ann Arbor, USA)**

- **2:10pm** The ANZ Journal of Surgery – What the Editor wants and where the Journal is going  
  **John Harris (Sydney)**

- **2:40pm** **AFTERNOON TEA**  
  **Level 4, Roselle 4604 – 4606**

### SESSION 4: A CAREER IN ACADEMIC SURGERY

**Level 4, Roselle 4704 – 4706**  
**Chairs: Timothy Pawlik (Baltimore, USA) and Frank Frizelle (Christchurch)**

- **3:00pm** Choosing and being a mentor  
  **Andrew Hill (Auckland)**

- **3:20pm** Work-life balance  
  **Julie Howle (Sydney)**

- **3:40pm** On the shoulders of giants – in pursuit of surgical wisdom  
  **Russell Gruen (Melbourne)**
Invited Speakers and Program Contributors

The Association for Academic Surgery together with the RACS Section of Academic Surgery sincerely thanks the generous support of

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MEDICAL COMPANIES
Association for Academic Surgery Speakers

Caprice C. Greenberg, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Surgery
WARF Professor of Surgical Research
Director, Wisconsin Surgical Outcomes Research (WiSOR)
University of Wisconsin

Dr. Greenberg is a tenured Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Wisconsin, where she is the Director of the Wisconsin Surgical Outcomes Research Program and the inaugural endowed WARF Professor of Surgical Research. Dr. Greenberg’s research focuses on both patient safety and comparative effectiveness research. At UW, she collaborates closely with the systems and industrial engineering department to study the role of system, team and individual performance in surgery, as well as devising novel approaches to improving performance in the operating room. She also studies practice patterns, quality of care and comparative effectiveness in surgical oncology, particularly related to breast cancer. Her research has been funded by PCORI, NCI, AHRQ, and several foundations. Dr. Greenberg co-chairs the Cancer Care Delivery Research Committee of the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology. She is a founding member and past President of Surgical Outcomes Club and the Recorder of the Association for Academic Surgery.

Niraj J. Gusani MD, MS, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery, Medicine, and Public Health Sciences
Penn State College of Medicine
Director, Program for Liver, Pancreas, & Foregut Tumors
Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute
Hershey, Pennsylvania, USA

Niraj J. Gusani, MD, MS, FACS is Associate Professor with Tenure in the Departments of Surgery, Medicine, and Public Health Sciences at the Penn State College of Medicine. He serves as Director of the multidisciplinary Program for Liver, Pancreas and Foregut Tumors within the Penn State Cancer Institute and the Section of Surgical Oncology. His clinical practice involves oncologic surgery for gastrointestinal tract, hepatopancreato-biliary, adrenal, skin, and soft tissue malignancies, with a primary focus on diseases of the liver, pancreas and bile ducts.

Dr. Gusani received his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He subsequently completed his surgical residency at the University of Chicago and fellowships in surgical research at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and surgical oncology at the University of Pittsburgh. He joined the faculty of the Penn State College of Medicine in 2007.

Dr. Gusani is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association and the Society of Surgical Oncology. He serves as Chair of the Membership Committee of the Association for Academic Surgery, for which he also serves on the Executive Council. At Penn State College of Medicine he serves as Councilor for the Faculty Organization.

Dr. Gusani completed the Clinical Research Training Program at the Penn State College of Medicine, where he received a Master’s degree in Public Health Sciences through the NIH’s K-30 grants program in 2009. His research interests include epidemiology and patterns of care in gastrointestinal malignancies and the measurement of quality and costs of care in oncologic surgery. An active current focus of research involves the role of physical activity and prehabilitation in the outcomes of patients undergoing gastrointestinal cancer surgery.

Dr. Gusani has authored or co-authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications and numerous book chapters and invited manuscripts. He serves as Associate Editor for the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery and a reviewer for multiple other surgical and oncology journals.

Dr. Gusani has an active presence on Twitter (@NirajGusani) and is very involved in helping other surgeons learn to harness new media and social media for professional use and patient/professional education.

Julie Margenthaler MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Dr. Margenthaler’s surgical practice is devoted to the care of patients with breast diseases and breast cancer. She completed a general surgery residency in 2005 and a one year fellowship in breast surgery in 2006. During her general surgical training, three years were devoted to protected research time where she studied the immune responses to transplantation. The foundation she gained during her research years has provided a basis for her
Developing a Career in Academic Surgery

Professor Timothy Pawlik MD, MPH, PhD, FACS

Dr. Pawlik received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Pawlik completed surgical training at the University of Michigan Hospital and spent two years at the Massachusetts General Hospital as a surgical oncology research fellow. He then went on for advanced training in surgical oncology at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Dr. Pawlik’s main clinical interests include alimentary tract surgery, with a special interest in hepatic, pancreatic and biliary diseases. Dr. Pawlik also has an interest in medical ethics and completed a fellowship in medical ethics at the Harvard School of Public Health as well as a Masters in Theology from Harvard Divinity School in Boston. In addition, Dr. Pawlik has received a PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Clinical Investigations.

Dr. Pawlik took his first faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins in 2005, where he is currently Professor of Surgery and Oncology, as well as the Director of the Johns Hopkins Liver Tumor Clinic. Dr. Pawlik holds the John L. Cameron Chair of Alimentary Tract Diseases and is Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology. Dr. Pawlik has given over 250 invited talks both nationally and internationally in 20 different countries. Dr. Pawlik has published over 325 articles and 40 book chapters, in addition to editing two surgical textbooks. Dr. Pawlik serves on multiple editorial boards and is an Associate Editor for Annals of Surgical Oncology and the Journal of Surgical Research, as well as being the editor-in-chief of the World Journal of Gastroenterology. Dr. Pawlik has served on the executive council of several of the premier surgical associations in the United States. Dr. Pawlik is a member of a number of professional societies including the Society of Surgical Oncology, the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association, American Surgical Association, Society of Clinical Surgery, as well as being the current President-elect of the Association for Academic Surgery.

Professor Carlos A. Pellegrini MD, FACS, FRCSI (Hon.)

The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
Chair of the Board
Institute for Simulation and Interprofessional Studies,
University of Washington

Carlos A. Pellegrini received his M.D. in 1971 from the University of Rosario Medical School in Argentina. After training in general surgery in Argentina, he completed a second surgical residency at the University of Chicago. In 1979, he was appointed to the faculty of the University of California San Francisco where he developed and directed a Center for GI motility. An active gastrointestinal surgeon at UCSF, he was recognized on several occasions by residents and students for his teaching.

In 1993 he became Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Washington in Seattle. In 1996, in recognition for his role in the strengthening of all clinical, teaching, and research programs of the Department he became the first holder of the Henry N. Harkins Endowed Chair, honoring the first Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Washington.

Dr. Pellegrini is a world leader in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery and a pioneer in the development of videodendoscopy for the surgical treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease and esophageal motility disorders, particularly achalasia. At the University of Washington he developed the Center for Videodendoscopic Surgery, the Swallowing Center, now known as the Center for Esophageal and Gastric Surgery, and the Institute for Simulation and Interprofessional Studies (ISIS). Dr. Pellegrini serves in many of the top leadership positions at the University of Washington. In addition to his role as Chairman of the Board of ISIS, he is a long-time member of the highest decision making bodies at UW Medicine, and Chairs many committees which oversee an array of work including: Continuous Professionalism, Diversity, Executive Search Committees and Oversight of Multidisciplinary Practices.
Dr. Pellegrini serves in the highest leadership positions in many regional, national and international surgical associations. He is the current President of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), a past Chair of the Board of Regents of the ACS and a past Chair of the American Surgical Association Foundation. He is a member of the National Advisory Committee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In 2005-06 he was President of the American Surgical Association, the oldest and most prestigious organization of surgeons in America. He has been Director of the American Board of Surgery, Chair of the Digestive Disease Week Council and President of OESO. In the area of medical education he has been a major contributor to the fundamental reform of residency work hours, having been a member and chair of the RRC for Surgery. Dr. Pellegrini serves on several editorial boards and publishes regularly in the field of minimally invasive surgery for upper gastrointestinal diseases, esophageal cancer, and related areas, as well as the field of training and new technologies to educate the next generation of surgeons. His bibliography lists more than 400 articles, chapters, editorials, and books, as well as 11 surgical videos and movies.

**Associate Professor Timothy A. Pritts MD, PhD**

Timothy A. Pritts serves as associate professor of surgery at the University of Cincinnati. A native of Decatur, Illinois, he received his BA in Biology from Illinois Wesleyan University, his MD from Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, and his PhD in molecular and cellular physiology from the University of Cincinnati. After completing general surgery residency and a fellowship in surgical critical care at the University of Cincinnati, he joined the faculty where he has served as program director of the surgery residency, director of the division of education, and vice-chair of education. He is currently associate professor of surgery in the division of trauma, critical care, and acute care surgery as well as vice chair for professional development for the department of surgery. His clinical practice includes general and acute care surgery, trauma surgery, and surgical critical care.

Dr. Pritts’ research is focused on improving care for injured and critically ill patients. These efforts are currently funded by the National Institutes of Health and the United States Air Force. He and his research group have presented more than 150 academic presentations and invited talks. Dr. Pritts is the recipient of the Max Zinninger Award for scholarship and the outstanding surgical educator award from the department of surgery. A member of multiple surgical professional societies, Dr. Pritts has served committee appointments with the Association for Academic Surgery, the Association for Surgical Education, the Society of University Surgeons, the Central Surgical Association, and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma. He currently serves as an associate editor of the Journal of Surgical Research. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery with a certificate of added qualifications in surgical critical care.

**Professor Julie Ann Sosa MD, MA, FACS**

Julie Ann Sosa, MD MA FACS served as the Recorder of the Association for Academic Surgery and is Co-Chair of the Developing a Career in Academic Surgery course. She serves as the Chief of Endocrine Surgery and Director of Health Services Research in the Department of Surgery at Duke University, where she is a Professor of Surgery and Medicine. She is also the Leader of the Endocrine Neoplasia Diseases Group at the Duke Cancer Institute and the Duke Clinical Research Institute. Her clinical interest is in endocrine surgery, with a focus in thyroid cancer. Her research interests are in health services and clinical trials, as well as stem cell therapies. She is widely published in outcomes analysis, as well as cost-effectiveness analysis, meta-analysis, and survey-based research. She is an Associate Editor at the *World Journal of Surgery* and the *Journal of Surgical Research*, and is the Editor of the Endocrine Tumors Section of *Current Opinion in Oncology*. Dr Sosa is the recipient of grants from the Paget Foundation, the Association for Academic Surgery, the Donaghue Foundation, the American Geriatrics Association/Hartford Foundation, and the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Fund. Dr Sosa received her AB at Princeton, her MA at Oxford, and her MD at Johns Hopkins, where she also completed the Halsted residency program and served as Assistant Chief of Service.

**Associate Professor Sandra Wong MD, MS, FACS**

Sandra L. Wong, MD MS FACS is an Associate Professor and the Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs for the Department of Surgery. Dr. Wong graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with an undergraduate degree in Molecular and Cell Biology and a minor in Business Administration. She received her medical degree from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Wong completed her General Surgery residency at the University of Louisville and a clinical fellowship in Surgical Oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where she served as the Chief Administrative Fellow.
Dr. Wong has clinical expertise in surgical oncology, particularly in soft tissue sarcomas, melanoma, Merkel Cell carcinoma, and gastrointestinal cancers. She is recognized in “America’s Top Surgeons,” “Best Doctors in America,” and “America’s Top Oncologists.” She is also very active in surgical education and has received medical student teaching awards (2009, 2011) and the resident teaching award (2011).

She has an active research program at the University of Michigan Center for Healthcare Outcomes & Policy (CHOP). She had research funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the American Cancer Society. Her work examines variation in treatment intensity for poor prognosis cancers. She also studies prognostic modeling for melanoma, socioeconomic disparities, and factors related to the quality of cancer care. Dr. Wong also has expertise in the development of clinical practice guidelines and advises on health policy and technology evaluation nationally.

She is on the Editorial Board of Journal of Surgical Oncology, an Associate Editor for the Journal of Oncology Practice, and a Section Editor (Healthcare Policy and Outcomes) for Annals of Surgical Oncology. Dr. Wong is an active member of several national professional societies and has leadership positions with the American Society of Clinical Oncology (Chair of the Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee 2009-10 and Chair of the Health Disparities Committee 2013-14), the Association for Academic Surgery (Executive Council 2012-15; Chair of the Outcomes Research Committee 2012-13; Representative to the Surgical Outcomes Club 2013-15), and the Society of Surgical Oncology (Executive Council 2012-2015).

Professor Wei Zhou, MD

Dr. Zhou is a Professor of Surgery at Stanford University and Chief of Vascular Surgery at VA Palo Alto Health Care. She finished her general surgery residency in UCSD before moving to Houston for vascular fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine. She was invited to stay on faculty at Baylor. In 2007, she moved to Stanford.

Dr. Zhou is well known for her work on carotid and aortic diseases with nearly 100 peer-reviewed publications and over 100 invited presentations at national and international meetings. She is a PI for over 30 clinical trials and her research has been funded by NIH, AHA, ACS, and VA Merit. She is currently funded by 2 NIH grants and 1 VA Merit grant, and both NIH grants support her carotid research program.
Associate Professor Ian Bennett FRACS
Speciality areas: Breast and Endocrine Surgery
Special Interests: Surgeon performed ultrasound and management of familial breast cancer.

Education and Training:
Surgical Fellowships – Royal Australian College of Surgeons 1987 FRACS
Fellow American College of Surgeons 1999 FACS
Current Hospital/Clinic appointments:
Visiting Consultant Surgeon, Senior Specialist Status, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Breast and Endocrine Unit
Visiting Consultant to BreastScreen Queensland, Brisbane North and Brisbane South Breast Screening & Assessment Services
Surgical Supervisor, Familial Breast Cancer Clinic, BreastScreen Queensland, North Brisbane Service, Chermside
Visiting Surgeon, St. Andrew’s Hospital, Wickham Tce
Visiting Surgeon, Wesley Hospital, Auchenflower
Current Committee/Chairmanship Appointments:
Elected Councillor, RACS College Council, 2010 and 2013
Current Chairman Research Audit & Academic Surgery Committee 2012 -
Chairman, Breast and Endocrine Surgical Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Surgical Director, Breast Cancer Family Clinic, BreastScreen Queensland, North Brisbane Service, Chermside
Committee Member, State Accreditation Committee, BreastScreen Qld
Chairman, BreastScreen Queensland Monitoring, Evaluation & Research Sub Committee, Responsible for Annual Statistical Report

Associate Professor Wendy Brown MBBS (Hons), PhD, FRACS, FACS
Associate Professor Wendy Brown, MBBS (Hons), PhD, FRACS, FACS, is currently Director of the Monash University Centre for Obesity Research and Education, an Associate Professor within the Monash University Department of Surgery and a Visiting Medical Officer at the Alfred Hospital within the Upper Gastrointestinal and General Surgical Unit. She works privately at the Avenue and Cabrini hospitals.

Wendy is a General Surgeon with sub-specialist and research interests in oesophago-gastric cancer, gastrooesophageal reflux disease and bariatric surgery. Her research interests include health outcomes from bariatric surgery, animal models of bariatric surgery and basic mechanisms underlying safety.

Wendy has been involved in the creation of cancer and bariatric surgical pathways for Victoria and Tasmania and is a member of the Victorian Surgical Consultative Council. She is the deputy chair of the general surgery court of examiners for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, is chair of the AMC surgical panels for the clinical examinations, and she has acted on AMC medical school accreditation panels. She is a member of the Avenue Hospital Medical Advisory Committee and chairs the Ethics Committee. She is on the board of the Australia and New Zealand Gastrooesophageal Surgical Association (ANZGOSA) and is the President Obesity Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (OSSANZ).

Professor Philip Crowe FRACS
Phil Crowe obtained his Medical Degree from the University of Sydney before obtaining a PhD (D. Phil) at the University of Oxford in 1986, whilst on a Rhodes Scholarship. He then completed surgical training in the Galilee

Course of the University of Toronto before fellowship positions at University of Capetown and Prince of Wales Hospital (POWH), Sydney in 1992. He has been a clinical academic and consultant surgeon at University of New South Wales since then, practising as a surgical oncologist at POWH. He has been Professor of Surgery at UNSW since 2004, Head of Department of General Surgery, POWH, and Director of the Sydney Sarcoma Unit and Surgical Oncology Research Group, at University of New South Wales.
As a Surgical Oncologist, his main areas of clinical and research interest are soft tissue tumours, breast and endocrine tumours and has published widely in all these areas.

Phil also has a long standing interest in medical education obtaining a Diploma in Higher Education in 2000. His publications in this area are focused on surgical education, particularly informal and operating room teaching.

Professor Frank Frizelle FRACS
Christchurch, New Zealand

Frank graduated MBChB, from Otago University in 1985, and subsequently undertook general surgical training in New Zealand obtaining FRACS in 1992. Following a period of further overseas training at the Mayo Clinic Mn, USA (colorectal surgery) and Ninewells, Dundee Scotland (laparoscopic fellowship) he took up a position on joint clinical staff with the University of Otago Christchurch in 1996. Frank was awarded a personal Chair in Colorectal Surgery in 2000, and subsequently took over as head of the University Department of Surgery in 2006.

Frank has a MMedSc from Otago University and has fellowships from the American College of Surgeons (FACS), The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (FASCRS), the New Zealand Medical Association (FNZMA), and is an honorary member of the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland (ACGBI).

Frank is the past Chairman of Section on Colon and Rectal Surgery RACS and a current Part two examiner in General Surgery for the RACS. He is Member Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ) since 2000, and been a member of the CSSANZ-RACS post fellowship training board in colorectal surgery since 2000 and is immediate past chairman of that board. He was also Chair of the National Bowel Tumour Standards working group and Chair of the (NZGG) Guidelines Development Team writing the Colorectal Cancer Management Guidelines for New Zealand, and has until recently been a Member of NZ Cancer Control Council Committee. He is Editor in Chief of the New Zealand Medical Journal (NZMJ) since 2002, and on the editorial boards of 5 other journals.

He has published over 450 peer reviewed publications and 250 presentations at national and international meetings. His major interests is colorectal surgical outcome based research.

Russell L. Gruen MBBS, PhD, FRACS
Professor of Surgery & Public Health, The Alfred & Monash University; Director, The National Trauma Research Institute, Melbourne, Australia

Russell Gruen is a general and trauma surgeon at The Alfred, Professor of Surgery and Public Health at Monash University, and Director of the National Trauma Research Institute (NTRI). He currently holds an NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship, and was the 2013 RACS John Mitchell Crouch Fellow.

His career has been shaped by many different types of mentors, and was substantially influenced by student elective placements in surgery and community outreach for leprosy treatment in Nepal and Vietnam in 1991, interesting him in the intersection between surgery and public health, a very narrow field in the early 1990s, but one which blossomed a decade later around issues of access to services, quality, safety and medical errors, health service costs and resource distribution. During training he was a RACS Surgeon Scientist and completed a PhD on delivery of surgical services to remote Aboriginal communities, and immediately afterwards was a Harkness Fellow in Health Policy and a Fellow in Medical Ethics at Harvard University, during which he focused on medical professionalism. He completed his FRACS in General Surgery in 2004, and was a Fellow in Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care at Harborview Medical Centre in Seattle. He returned to Australia in 2006 to be Associate Professor of Surgery at Royal Melbourne Hospital, and then assumed a new chair in surgery and public health at Monash and The Alfred in 2009.

Professor Gruen has over 120 peer-reviewed publications, many in leading journals such as The Lancet, JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine, BMJ, BJSM, and Annals of Surgery, with over 1000 citations. He was Series Editor for a Clinical Series on Trauma Surgery published in the Lancet in September 2012. He has been lead investigator on competitive research funding totalling more than $16 million, including a Centre of Excellence in Traumatic Brain Injury Research, a program grant on knowledge translation in traumatic brain injury, an NHMRC-funded multicentre randomised trial of prehospital tranexamic acid in severely injured patients, and a four year Australia-india Grand Challenge Grant to develop and pilot improved trauma systems in India. He is a Lancet Commissioner in Global Surgery, a member of the WHO Global Alliance for Care of the Injured working group, is a member of the RACS Trauma Committee and chairs the Australian Trauma Quality Improvement Program/National Trauma Registry, and he is the Australian Delegate to the International Society of Surgery.

As a Surgical Oncologist, his main areas of clinical and research interest are soft tissue tumours, breast and endocrine tumours and has published widely in all these areas.

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Richard Hanney FRACS

Richard Hanney is a General Surgeon and a Clinical Senior Lecturer in the University of Sydney and Westmead Hospital. Within the RACS, he has previously chaired the Younger Fellows Committee helping form the Trainees Association and establish the Younger Fellows and Trainees’ dinner at the ASC. For the last 6 years he has worked with the Academic Section convening the DCAS course and partnering with the Association for Academic Surgery. He considers himself very fortunate to have worked closely with many remarkable individuals over that time. Most recently he has been exploring ways the College can partner successfully with medical students aspiring to surgical careers. He was recently elected to Chair the Academic Section of the RACS.

John Preston Harris AM MS, FRACS, FACS, FRCS, DDU(Vasc)

Professor John Harris is a graduate of the University of Sydney and was appointed foundation Professor of Vascular Surgery, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, University of Sydney in 1998. He has been Chairman, Division of Surgery at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital since 1995. He has served as Head of the Discipline of Surgery and Associate Dean Surgical Science at the University of Sydney.

In 1981 he was the Jobst Fellow in Vascular Surgery at Northwestern University, Chicago, USA and is a past President of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Surgery. He was Councillor representing Vascular Surgery and Senior Examiner in Vascular Surgery at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He helped achieve divisional status for that specialty. He contributed to the role the Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional Procedures - Surgical (ASERNIP-S), a national audit for endoluminal repair of abdominal aortic aneurysms and chaired the committee which established a Joint Training Programme in Endovascular Therapy with the College of Radiologists and Cardiac Society.

He is the Editor-in-Chief of the ANZ Journal of Surgery. He received the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons ESR Hughes medal for distinguished contributions to surgery in 2012 and the Outstanding Service Award, NSW Regional Committee, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons 2013.

He is a Distinguished Fellow of the Society for Vascular Surgery in North America and was elected to Honorary Fellowship of that society in 2013. He is also an Honorary Member, Society for Vascular Surgery for Great Britain and Ireland. He was made a member of the Order of Australia in 2007 for advances in vascular surgery, vascular ultrasound, medical education and public health administration.

Professor Andrew Hill FRACS

Professor Andrew Hill completed a Doctorate in Surgery from the University of Auckland in 1996 and a Doctorate in Education in 2011. Following a research fellowship at Harvard University in 1993 and 1994, Andrew completed surgical training in 1997 and worked in Kenya as a medical missionary. Andrew returned to the South Auckland Clinical School at Middlemore Hospital in 2002 where he now practices as a Colorectal Surgeon and is the Head of the South Auckland Clinical School. He has received extensive research funding from the University and from External Sources and has used this to develop a significant research portfolio.

His research interests are improving outcomes from major abdominal surgery and medical education and he has published over 160 peer-reviewed papers in these areas. Andrew leads the Auckland Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (AERAS), an interdisciplinary research group aiming to improve patient outcomes after major surgery. This group runs a once yearly international symposium on enhancing recovery.

Julie Howle FRACS

Dr Julie Howle is a surgical oncologist based at Westmead Hospital in Sydney and is a clinical lecturer at Sydney University. Since graduating with a MBBS (Hons I) from the University of Sydney in 1998, she has worked in many hospitals in the Sydney metropolitan area and rural NSW. In 2006 she obtained her FRACS in General Surgery and spent the subsequent 2 years in Sydney as the Fellow in the Head and Neck/Surgical Oncology Unit at Westmead hospital and Senior Registrar/Fellow in Breast and Surgical Oncology at Prince of Wales Hospital. She has worked as a consultant surgeon at Westmead Hospital since 2008 and completed a Master of Surgery degree during her first 2 years as a consultant. She is affiliated with the Melanoma Institute of Australia and her research interests include Merkel cell carcinoma, advanced non-melanoma skin cancer, melanoma and soft tissue tumours. In 2014 she was made Chair of the NSW Regional Board of General Surgery.

Andrew completed surgical training at the University of Sydney. He received the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons ESR Hughes medal for distinguished contributions to surgery in 2012 and the Outstanding Service Award, NSW Regional Committee, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons 2013.

He is a Distinguished Fellow of the Society for Vascular Surgery in North America and was elected to Honorary Fellowship of that society in 2013. He is also an Honorary Member, Society for Vascular Surgery for Great Britain and Ireland. He was made a member of the Order of Australia in 2007 for advances in vascular surgery, vascular ultrasound, medical education and public health administration.

Julie Howle FRACS

Dr Julie Howle is a surgical oncologist based at Westmead Hospital in Sydney and is a clinical lecturer at Sydney University. Since graduating with a MBBS (Hons I) from the University of Sydney in 1998, she has worked in many hospitals in the Sydney metropolitan area and rural NSW. In 2006 she obtained her FRACS in General Surgery and spent the subsequent 2 years in Sydney as the Fellow in the Head and Neck/Surgical Oncology Unit at Westmead hospital and Senior Registrar/Fellow in Breast and Surgical Oncology at Prince of Wales Hospital. She has worked as a consultant surgeon at Westmead Hospital since 2008 and completed a Master of Surgery degree during her first 2 years as a consultant. She is affiliated with the Melanoma Institute of Australia and her research interests include Merkel cell carcinoma, advanced non-melanoma skin cancer, melanoma and soft tissue tumours. In 2014 she was made Chair of the NSW Regional Board of General Surgery.

Dr Vincent Lam MBBS (Syd), MS (Syd), DClinSurg (Syd), FRACS

Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic and Transplant Surgeon

Dr Vincent Lam received his medical degree from the University of Sydney. He completed his surgical training in Sydney and spent one year at the University of Sydney to complete his Master of Surgery degree with the thesis titled “Induction of long-term cardiac allograft survival using anti-lymphocytes.
antibodies in a rat model”. Dr Lam went on for two years of post-fellowship training in hepatobiliary, pancreatic and transplant surgery at Westmead Hospital, Sydney and Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong. In 2013, Dr Lam was the first graduate of the Doctorate of Clinical Surgery at the University of Sydney with the thesis titled “Extending the frontiers of surgical resection of colorectal liver metastases”.

Dr Lam’s main clinical interests include minimally invasive surgery of liver, gallbladder, pancreas and spleen as well as the surgical management of liver, pancreas and bile duct cancer. Dr Lam is currently an Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Sydney and a consultant Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic and Transplant surgeon at Westmead Hospital, Sydney.

He also holds the position of Deputy Chair of Medical Staff Council and site-director of Surgical Skills Network at Westmead Hospital. He is also the current Younger Fellows representative of NSW Regional Committee as well as a member of NSW Board in General Surgery, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

**Professor Guy Maddern FRACS**

Professor Guy Maddern is the RP Jeppson Professor of Surgery at the University of Adelaide and Director of Surgery at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Currently he is Head of the Discipline of Surgery and Head of the School of Medicine of the University of Adelaide. He is Surgical Director of the Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventionsal Procedures – Surgical (ASERNIP-S). His clinical interests include the physiological impact of laparoscopic surgery, and more recently the development of techniques to manage metastatic hepatic disease. He has over 400 publications in scientific journals and has contributed to over a dozen surgical publications.

Professor Maddern is also Director of the Basil Hetzel Institute at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital charged with the responsibility of defining the future direction and development of research within The Queen Elizabeth Hospital campus. He has received in excess of $54,000,000 in research funding and his current research focus brings together the development, assessment and introduction of surgical techniques, processes and technologies into clinical practice.

**Dr Michelle Locke, MBChB, MD, FRACS (Plastics)**

Ms Locke is a Senior Lecturer in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery with the University of Auckland. She trained at the University of Auckland School of Medicine and completed her Plastics training at various Plastics Units in New Zealand. During the course of her registrar training, she took 2 years out to complete an MD at the School of Biological Sciences. Her thesis topic was “Mesenchymal stem cells and their use in Plastic Surgery”.

After completing her training and gaining her FRACS, she completed two years of sub-speciality Fellowship training in North America, including six months at Paces Plastic Surgery in Atlanta, USA as well as 18 months at The Aesthetic Institute, Toronto General Hospital and Women’s College Hospital, all in Toronto, Canada. She returned to New Zealand in December 2011 and works clinically at Middlemore Hospital in Auckland with a sub-speciality interest in breast reconstruction and oculoplastic surgery. She gained an academic appointment in 2013. Her research interests include adipose and dermal stem cell research as well as full thickness skin engineering. She is married with two small children.

**Professor Henry Pleass FRACS**

Westmead Hospital

Professor Henry Pleass studied medicine as an undergraduate at the University of Newcastle Upon-Tyne, England and trained in general and transplantation surgery in the North East of England, Edinburgh Scotland and Sydney Australia.

He has published and presented widely on transplantation and has an MD investigating Xenotransplantation. He is Professor of Surgery at Westmead Clinical School, University of Sydney. His specialty interests are liver and pancreatic surgery, in addition to laparoscopic surgery. He is the surgical head of The Australian National Pancreas Transplant Programme based at Westmead. In addition he is a VMO surgeon at Westmead Private Hospital and a VMO liver transplant surgeon at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

He is the co-chair of the NSW Transplant working group (ACI), Chair of the NSW Deceased Donor Organ Procurement Service, Member of the NSW Transplant Clinical Advisory Committee, Deputy Chair of the Transplant Section of the RACS, Surgical Advisor to the National Paired Kidney Exchange Programme, Chair of the National Pancreas Transplant Standing Committee and recently elected council member of the TSANZ.

**Associate Professor Arthur Richardson FRACS**

Associate Professor Richardson graduated from Sydney Medical School at the University of Sydney and undertook surgical training at Westmead Hospital. He was awarded Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS) in 1986 and was the second general surgeon to be trained entirely at Westmead. Associate Professor Richardson then spent an additional year as a surgical fellow at Lille University in France and the following year as a surgical fellow at Hospital Cochin in Paris. Subsequently, he spent two years as the...
transplant fellow/clinical lecturer in the Nuffield Department of Surgery at Oxford University with Sir Peter Morris. Associate Professor Richardson returned to Westmead in 1990 and has been a VMO surgeon since 1994. He was an examiner for the part 2 FRACS in general surgery from 1998-2005 and was NSW State Committee Chairman for the RACS from 2004-6. Associate Professor Richardson has been a member of the Surgical Services Taskforce for the NSW government since its inception in 2006. He is Head of Upper Gastrointestinal/Hepato-Biliary surgery at Westmead hospital and the Academic Head of Surgery at the Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School. He was appointed as an Associate Professor of Surgery at The Sydney Medical School in 2010. He completed the higher degree of Doctor of Clinical Surgery in 2012.

His clinical research interests relate to the management of complex gastro-oesophageal and hepatobiliary cancer and optimization of their multidisciplinary management and outcomes. Associate Professor Richardson has a long standing interest in acute surgery and the management of complex abdominal wall reconstruction.

Mr Tarik Sammour FRACS
Tarik is currently the colorectal fellow at Royal Melbourne Hospital. While undertaking general surgical training in New Zealand, he completed a PhD thesis on the peritoneal response to surgical injury through the University of Auckland, and has published extensively on this topic.

Winthrop Professor Christobel Saunders MB BS Lond., FRCS England, FRACS

Christobel Saunders is a Consultant Surgeon at Royal Perth Hospital and St John of God Hospital in Perth, WA. She is Professor of Surgical Oncology at The University of Western Australia and holds both clinical and research roles in the breast and melanoma cancer field. She is closely involved in strategic planning and management of cancer services nationally as member of the National Lead Clinicians Group and Cancer Australia Advisory Council, Board Member of Cancer Council Australia and Breast Cancer Network Australia, and President of Cancer Council Western Australia. Christobel has been involved in the development of numerous best practice guidelines for both patients and clinicians and her work is embedded in a firm evidence base implementing the latest research.

Christobel has worked in the breast cancer field for over 13 years and in 2010 received the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCEF) Patron’s Award for achievement in breast cancer research. Christobel’s research covers a wide diversity of areas including clinical trials of new treatments, psychosocial research and translational and health services research. She has an exceptional funding track record, having attracted a career total of nearly $23 million in over 55 grants awarded in Australia since 2001. Christobel has published over 90 scientific papers in refereed journals, 2 books and 18 book chapters. She is a co-author of the book Breast Cancer - a guide for every woman and Breast Cancer: The Facts, which was shortlisted for the BMA Book of the Year in 2010.

Christobel has a passion for health and medical research, patient advocacy and an exceptional clinical track record in the management and treatment of breast cancer.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers MBBS(Qld), FRACS, FRCSEng, FRCSEd

Professor, Deputy Head, Discipline of Surgery, University of Queensland
Director, Upper Gastro-intestinal and Soft Tissue Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane

Chairman, Queensland Melanoma Project
Executive, Section of Academic Surgery, RACS
Member, Scientific Advisory Committee, Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group
Past President, Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgeons Association
Senior Member, Association of Academic Surgeons

Clinical interests: malignant and benign conditions of the oesophago-gastric region; management of patients with malignant melanoma and sarcoma

Research interests: Assessment of outcomes from treatment of oesophageal cancer, gastric cancer, GIST and melanoma. Investigator on grants assessing the epidemiology of Barrett’s oesophagus, the management of oesophageal cancer (NIH, USA and NH&MRC) and aspects of the management of melanoma (NH&MRC, UQ Cancer Research fund, Cancer Council of Queensland). Institutional principle investigator on industry lead phase I, II and III trials of patients with advanced stages of melanoma.

Associate Professor Stephen Tobin FRACS
Stephen trained at the University of Melbourne and St.Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne, graduating MBBS in 1981 and achieving FRACS in General Surgery in 1989. He then worked for two years in UK specialising in Colorectal Surgery. He now holds Fellowships from RCS England, RCS Ireland and CSSANZ.

In 1992, he commenced practice in General & Colorectal Surgery in Ballarat, founding Central
Highlands Surgeons. He was RACS Surgical Supervisor for nine years. Postgraduate Clinical Education studies were done at UNSW 2000-3, before a sabbatical period in Portsmouth. He has been Faculty for the Surgical Teachers’ Course and chaired its revision in 2011-12.

Stephen has Associate Professor appointments at Deakin University and the University of Notre Dame, where he has developed online curriculum and continues to teach medical students, within the practice. He also holds an honorary Clinical Associate Professor appointment at the University of Melbourne. Stephen commenced as Dean of Education at RACS in August 2012. He continues in clinical practice with the assistance of his surgical colleagues in Ballarat.

Professor Andre van Rij MB ChB, BMedSc, MD, FRACS
Professor Andre van Rij MB ChB, BMedSc, MD, FRACS, is the Ralph Barnett Professor of Surgery at the University of Otago and Head of Vascular Surgery at the Southern District Health Board in Dunedin. He is Director of the Vascular Research unit and the Vascular Diagnostics facility in the Department of Surgical Sciences as well as the Associate Dean of Research in the Dunedin School of Medicine.

He has published in a wide range of surgical areas including the genetics of vascular disease, bariatric surgery, clinical priority scoring, nutrition, surgical decision making, clinical audit as well as in venous disease.

In the past he has been President of the NZ Association of General Surgeons and the NZ Society of Vascular Surgery, the NZ Censor for the RACS and had other educational roles in the College. He is a past chairman of the Academic Section of RACS and has been a longtime enthusiast for the Surgical Research Society of Australia and New Zealand. He is Chancellor of the Australia and New Zealand College of Phlebology.

Professor David Watson FRACS
Professor David Watson is Head of the Flinders University Department of Surgery, and the Oesophago-Gastric Surgery Unit at Flinders Medical Centre in Adelaide, South Australia. He has clinical and research interests in the area of benign and malignant esophageal and gastric disease, including gastro-esophageal reflux and esophagogastric cancer. He has been active in the development of laparoscopic and endoscopic surgery, and has conducted 14 randomised controlled trials pertinent to this area. He also leads a molecular biology research group which is investigating the development of esophageal adenocarcinoma. Professor Watson has published more than 300 refereed research papers and book chapters. He is a Senior Editor of the ANZ Journal of Surgery, Section Editor - Gastro-esophageal Disorders for BMC Gastroenterology, and a member of the Editorial Boards of several Journals, including the Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, British Journal of Surgery, World Journal of Surgery & World Journal of Gastroenterology. He is currently a member of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) International Committee, and he chairs the RACS China-ANZ committee. He is the immediate past President of the Australian and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association (ANZGOSA).

Professor John A. Windsor FRACS
Professor John Windsor is a surgeon who holds a personal chair in Surgery at the University of Auckland and is Director of Surgical Research. He founded the Pancreas Research Group (1992), Surgical Skills Centre (1993), HPB/UGI Unit (1994), and the Surgical Research Network (2007) which now encompasses ASML (Applied Surgery and Metabolism Laboratory) and SCORE (Surgical Centre for Outcomes Research and Evaluation). Surgical interests include the management of acute and chronic pancreatitis, pancreatic cancer, and gastro-oesophageal reflux and malignancy. His current research includes the role of toxic mesenteric lymph in the promotion of multiple organ failure, the investigation of specific mitochondrial therapies to restore cellular bioenergetics, the mapping and modulation of gastric electrical activity and the development of medical devices. He has published over 250 peer-reviewed manuscripts, raised $7m in grants and given over 100 invited talks, including Visiting Professorships to Harvard, Oxford, Karolinska, Singapore, Capetown, Johannesburg and Delhi. He is co-founder and a director of the start-up SIMTICS Ltd that has developed the ‘Integrated Cognitive Simulator’ for procedural and surgical skills training. In the RACS he was involved in the development of the CLEAR, Surgeons as Teachers, OCAS courses and the Academy of Surgical Educators. Recently completed 5 year term as chairperson of the Section of Academic Surgery in the RACS (2013) and 4 year term as Secretary General of International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (2012). Recent appointments include Chairperson of the national HPB/Upper GI Tumour Stream and Patron TEDx Auckland. Awarded the Butland Distinguished Medical Science Award (1997), Butland Award for Excellence in Research Supervision (2009), Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award (2009), Gluckman Medal (2012) for distinguished contribution to research in the University of Auckland, elected as an Honorary Fellow of the American Surgical Association (2012) and the James IV Association of Surgeons (2013).
Abstracts

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MEDICAL COMPANIES
Developing a Career in Academic Surgery | Monday 5 May 2014

ACADEMIC SURGERY – THE ESSENTIALS, RESEARCH – HOW TO GET RESEARCH STARTED – IDEAS, GRANTS, ETHICS AND COLLABORATION
Professor Timothy Pawlik MD, MPH, PhD, FACS

Good ideas are critical in generating a research plan and hypothesis. While some research ideas can be unplanned and come unexpectedly, trainees should find an academic environment that cultivates and fosters ongoing generation of new and exciting ideas for research. This may involve working with mentors, colleagues, as well as other individuals outside your discipline. Once a research idea has been identified, the goal should be to turn such ideas into successful research projects. To do this requires discipline, precision and attention to detail in clarifying the topic, identifying resources and support, and navigating barriers and obstacles. Surgeons will often depend on others to move aspects of their projects forward. This presentation will highlight the challenges in getting a good project going, and will present helpful tips and lessons learned, including how to take advantage of collaboration and “team-research.”

ACADEMIC SURGERY – THE ESSENTIALS, TEACHING, LEADERSHIP, AND ADMINISTRATION
Julie Ann Sosa MD, MA, FACS

The academic surgeon traditionally has been defined as a surgeon scientist. While achievement in research is often a defining characteristic, many successful academic surgeons today define themselves by excelling in the areas of teaching and administration. In this session, we will provide advice for trainees and junior faculty interested in a surgeon-educator track, including how to measure educational productivity, combine teaching with educational research, and create and maintain an educator’s portfolio, which is essential for promotion. We will also discuss administrative responsibilities, and how to know when to say ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to invitations for departmental, institutional, or society committee service. We will finish with a review of the skills necessary to become a leader in academic surgery, including the need to be focused and dovetail whenever possible activities in the clinical, research, educational, and administrative facets of professional life.

COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH
Caprice C. Greenberg MD, MPH

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Comparative effectiveness research (CER) is designed to inform healthcare decisions by providing evidence on the effectiveness, benefits and harms of different treatment decisions in real-world settings. The discipline of surgery is particularly well-suited for comparative effectiveness given our well-defined interventions and meaningful short-term outcomes. This lecture will provide an introduction to the key concepts of CER and an overview of the context which has led to a focus on this type of research. We will discuss design considerations for CER. A comparison of comparative effectiveness to traditional efficacy trials will be provided, along with the unique aspects of stakeholder engagement and implementation and dissemination that must be considered in designing a CER study.

I WANT TO BE AN ACADEMIC SURGEON. WHAT CAN I DO AS A TRAINEE – THE PROS AND CONS OF FULLTIME SURGICAL RESEARCH DURING TRAINING
Mr Tarik Sammour FRACS

What is the role of full-time research during surgical training? Should all trainees undertake an extended period of research, or should this be limited to those who are ‘academically inclined’? The answers to these questions are unclear, and opinions are often sharply divided depending on personal perspectives. Nevertheless, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons has recognised the importance of research in the training of a surgeon by defining a minimum research requirement as part of the Surgical Education and Training (SET) programme. Beyond meeting the minimum SET requirement, some trainees choose to undertake a period of more intensive full-time research towards a higher degree. While there is no doubt that this can be a rewarding experience, the decision to stop clinical work can be a difficult one for the trainee. The aim of this presentation is to outline the benefits and drawbacks of undertaking such a period of fulltime research during surgical training.

I WANT TO BE AN ACADEMIC SURGEON. WHAT CAN I DO AS A FELLOW
Vincent Lam MBBS (Syd), MS (Syd), DClinSurg (Syd), FRACS

The three pillars of academic surgery are (1) Surgical Research; (2) Surgical Education and (3) Clinical Surgery. In my opinion, the optimal time to “kick-start” the life-long journey as an academic surgeon is after passing the Part 2 FRACS exams. At that stage, you are advanced enough in your career path to know your areas of academic interest and there is no more burden from the exams. But where do you begin? It depends on your academic interest and the type of academic surgical practice that you would like to have (Clinical surgery, Research or Education focused or a combination). This talk will draw on examples from personal experience and provide specific advice to the early post-FRACS Fellows with an interest in academic surgery.
DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP TRAITS AMONG SURGEONS
Carlos A. Pellegrini
Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

Leadership is a combination of a meaningful vision anchored in deep moral values with the ability to influence others by non-coercive means, in a certain environment, at a given time and set of circumstances.

Leadership is important in all aspects of an academic surgeon’s professional life.

As “individualism” morphed into “systems and teams” the successful academic surgeon of the future will be the one that can lead high performance teams.

How does one become a leader? There are at least three theories:
1. Great Man Theory – Leaders are Born, not made (T. Carlyle, 1841).
2. Times (circumstances) make the leader—“Situational Leadership” (Herbert Spencer 1884)
3. Leaders look into their own “soul” and lead “from within” “Look and Listen” theory (Deepak Chopra)

Elements of Leadership
There are 4 important elements in leadership:
• Create the Vision: To do well leaders must “see beyond the horizon”, to “aim high” and yet to be realistic or it will undermine the credibility of the leader. In creating a vision the leader must check his/her moral compass to give meaning and purpose to the followers.
• Articulate Purpose: A leader must be able to communicate his/her vision to the followers in a way that is enthusiastic, engaging and at the same time conveys realism. Risks be discussed, particularly the risks to the followers themselves.
• Generate and Sustain Trust: The most difficult task of the leader is to establish a strong bond with the followers. The bond is trust. One of the most important considerations is that the establishment of trust takes a fair amount of time and interaction with followers. On the other hand it is important to remember that violation of that trust (by not doing what was promised, by lies, etc.,) leads to the destruction of trust in a very rapid fashion. Trust takes years to build and seconds to destroy.
• Bias Toward Action: A leader must have a bias towards action. A leader that cannot perform the duties assigned to followers will lose his/her credibility rapidly.

Leadership is doing what is right – not what you have the right to do.

BEDSIDE TO BENCH TO BEDSIDE
Professor John A. Windsor FRACS
University of Auckland

Translational research, often referred to as ‘bench to bedside’ research, has had wide and deserved attention. The importance of translating experimental findings and scientific discoveries into demonstrable clinical benefit is self-evident. Politicians and patients want to see the gains from research investment. But the squeeze on research budgets mean that funding is less available for ‘blue skies’ research and more often available for ‘applied research’ where immediate gains can be demonstrated. We can be confident that the translational train will continue to move forward.

Not necessarily so for the ‘bedside to bench’ phase. This phase requires greater emphasis. Here the driver must be the scientifically literate clinician with a healthy skepticism to challenge orthodoxy. Problems are revealed, ideas spawned, and hypotheses framed in the real ‘bedside’ world. Basic scientific research needs this clinical rudder especially as it becomes more complex, investigative technologies more sophisticated and the language of science more foreign.

If we are to accelerate the discovery of new treatments that will make a serious impact on the global burden of surgical disease and health care expenditure it is vital that scientifically literate clinicians make a vital contribution to both phases. In the ‘bedside to bench’ phase they ask questions, define problems, ensure relevance and provide direction. In the ‘bench to bedside’ phase they provide validation, interpretation and evidence of efficacy. Examples of both phases will be used to illustrate this process.

BASIC SCIENCE
Michelle Locke, MBChB, MD, FRACS (Plastics)

Developing an academic surgery career with a focus on Basic Science can seem far removed from the operating theatre. But in fact most undergraduate degrees in medicine facilitate the transition into undertaking basic science research such as a PhD. Despite the fact that surgeons have chosen a slightly different course, incorporating basic science into your practice is rewarding and worthwhile.

Surgeons have many qualities which make them excellent basic scientists. These include intelligence, commitment and persistence, as well as being skilled problem solvers. We also have significant clinical experience which our scientist colleagues lack. Don’t underestimate the value that your clinical knowledge will bring to the laboratory you work in. Our experience gives us a unique insight into the problems which exist in the treatment of many diseases, and the lack of good basic science research underpinning much of what we do clinically. If we don’t put our knowledge and experience towards solving our challenging clinical problems, we can’t expect non-clinical scientists to solve them for us!
As with any research, there are key requirements which will allow you to be successful. These include dedicated research time, good ideas, appropriate facilities and faculty support. To get these things you need commitment, publications and funding. This presentation will discuss ways to achieve each of these aspects to ensure you have the best chance of success in your basic science research, as well as reviewing how I have made the incorporation of basic science work with my career.

RANDOMISED CLINICAL TRIALS
Professor David Watson FRACS
Flinders University Department of Surgery

The gold standard for clinical research is the randomised controlled clinical trial (RCT). Randomisation of treatment allocations minimizes bias and provides more robust evidence from which to determine the most effective treatment option. When constructing a RCT, writing up the results or interpreting data from RCTs, the CONSORT statement (http://www.consort-statement.org/consort-statement/overview/) provides an invaluable check list to guide trial design, reporting of outcomes, and determination of the reliability of published RCTs.

Critical areas to consider for surgical RCTs include: method of allocation, eligibility criteria, setting/location where the trial was conducted, interventions, definition of outcomes (primary vs secondary), sample size determination, blinding (participants, data collection etc), statistical methods, allocated treatment received, completeness of follow-up, limitations, generalizability, and source of funding.

Important issues to consider when designing a RCT include: importance of the question, feasibility of recruitment, pilot data to confirm feasibility, generalisability of outcomes, likely funding and resources available to run the trial.

When establishing a RCT, all surgeons are optimists! Practical issues to consider include:

- Recruitment is always more difficult than you anticipate.
- When proposing a multicenter RCT your colleagues will always recruit less patients than you expect.
- The trial will always take twice as long as you think it will.
- Participants are people, not lab rats! So follow-up data in some patients will be difficult to obtain.

OUTCOMES RESEARCH
Niraj J. Gusani, MD, MS, FACS

A research focus in surgical outcomes can mean different things to different surgeons. At the most basic level, outcomes research (and the related areas of comparative effectiveness and health services research) seeks to examine how patients get care and how to optimize their results. How best to measure the effects of surgical care and the quality and cost of this care are important questions for any health care system. The methods utilized in this branch of research can vary from historical studies of actual patient outcomes and use of large administrative or clinical databases, to survey & implementation research which focus on understanding systems and effecting change within those systems. This lecture will examine the scope and breadth of the field, examine different types of research designs and study types, and highlight important opportunities and challenges for surgeons interested in this area of research.

WRITING AN ABSTRACT
Julie Margenthaler MD

Writing an abstract can be a challenging task. The goal is to convey your work in a way that is concise, clear, and compelling so that the reader is quickly drawn into the study design and outcomes. The first step is to familiarize yourself with the specific guidelines of the society and/or journal to which you are submitting your abstract. Don’t be a victim of rejection simply because you did not follow the rules of submission! You must then be able to streamline your thoughts so that only the most pertinent is included. Ultimately, your conclusions need to support the results presented and the results must be based upon sound scientific methodology. If tables and figures are allowed as part of the submission, they can provide an excellent vehicle for summarizing data and conserving the text of the abstract. However, tables and figures should only be included if they supplement the results. Some additional tricks that can draw readers to your abstract include compelling titles, brief background statements that introduce dilemmas or controversies to be addressed, and a definitive conclusion that provides the reader with your recommendations based on your research. This session will discuss the general concepts of abstract design, but we will also further delineate some “tricks of the trade” so that abstract writing becomes an art form for disseminating your research findings!
**PRESENTING A PAPER**

**Sandra L Wong MD, MS, FACS**

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI, USA

The opportunity to present your research to your peers in the scientific community is an honor. The presentation can be in poster form or as a podium presentation. Either way, always consider who your audience is and focus on clear dissemination of information. Selection for presentation is often competitive, and the audience is there to learn from you. Even in a room full of experts, remember that you know more about your work than anyone else.

Nearly every presentation will follow the same format as the paper: Introduction/Background, Methods, Results, Discussion/Conclusion. Describing the background literature on your subject highlights why the research was conducted. Stating your research question or scientific hypothesis is a good way to “set the stage.” The description of the research methods should be relatively brief, but sufficiently detailed to allow the audience to understand how you approached the work. The results are the main part of the presentation and it is appropriate to spend the bulk of the presentation time on data. The biggest key to data presentation is striking a balance between clarity and highly detailed tables and figures. Importantly, presentation of results is far less effective if the audience is unable to easily see and interpret the data. Allow a bit of time toward the end to discuss limitations of the study and the implications of the results. Ultimately, your results should lead to the study’s key conclusions.

Attention to detail will make your presentations easier, and as with everything else, practice makes perfect.

**WHAT THE EDITOR WANTS AND WHERE THE JOURNAL IS GOING**

**John Harris**

The ANZ Journal of Surgery is primarily addressed to meeting the needs of the fellows who represent diverse specialties and interests. It is a journal for surgeons in general. Its success depends on authors seeing it as the appropriate vehicle to publish their work. A highly regarded journal will attract quality submissions. Timely publication relates to an effective peer review process, a committed editorial board, willing reviewers and on the publisher printing and distributing an attractive product that surgeons will want to read. Intending authors, particularly those completing their first project, will profit from reading the very practical advice given by Melina Kibbe on How to write a paper. She provides a template to guide the preparation of a manuscript that will help overcome the perceived road-blocks to effective writing, notably the common problems authors face with the introduction and discussion. Compliance with the Instructions to Authors is essential if the paper is to have smooth passage through the editorial process.

The journal is travelling well and attracting international interest. From the 2013 Publisher’s report by Wiley-Blackwell, 33% of institutional subscribers were from the Europe, with 13% from the USA and 12% from Australia and New Zealand. There were 12 issues (including two combined) published in 2013 and a supplement with the abstracts of RACS Annual Scientific Congress. The Journal is now ranked 91 out of 198 globally in ISI’s Journal Citation Ranking Index, with an impact factor for 2012 of 1.500, an increase from 1.248 in 2011. Online readership is strong globally with the USA having the highest downloads at 29% with Australia at 16% and China at 10%. The websites affiliated with the journal, ANZJ Surg.com and SurgWiki.com, attract a huge international audience. SurgWiki is immensely popular with 32% of visits coming from the US, 16% from the UK and 9% from Australia. These sites help to highlight and increase the global influence of Australian surgeons.

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**ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS - IN PURSUIT OF SURGICAL WISDOM**

**Russell L. Gruen MBBS PhD FRACS**

Professor of Surgery & Public Health, The Alfred & Monash University; Director, The National Trauma Research Institute, Melbourne, Australia

We can all think of surgeons and others who have seemed particularly wise and who have had particular influence on our own lives and careers. Yet what is surgical wisdom, how can we try to become wise ourselves, and how should we promote it among others? Three of us tackled this question by examining the characteristics of wise surgeons, adopting Aristotle’s concept of ‘practical wisdom’ to inform our framework. More than knowledge, technical skill, age and experience, we make a case that surgical wisdom depends on having rich understanding, superior judgement, few unjustified beliefs and a strong moral compass. There is no formula for actually achieving this, and it is a long journey. However wisdom is something that can be developed through practise and, as Aristotle told us, if “grows with experience and time, is determined by choice, and acquired by habit.”