Developing a Career and Skills in Academic Surgery Course

with Keynote presenter

Derek Alderson MD, FRCS

Monday 2 May, 2016
7:00am - 4:00pm

BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

Presented by:
Association for Academic Surgery in partnership with the
RACS Section of Academic Surgery

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Table of Contents

Final Program ..................................................3
Invited Speakers and Contributors ......................5
Abstracts .........................................................14

Organising Committee

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RACS Section of Academic Surgery
Professor Julie Ann Sosa
Association for Academic Surgery

Committee Members
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DCAS Course Convener
Professor Guy Maddern
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Manager, Section of Academic Surgery

Continuing Professional Development Program

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 2016 CPD totals.

Intention to Photograph

During the course, organisers will take photographs of the proceedings and attendees. These photographs may be used for the following purposes:

• Projection onsite
• Reporting on the workshop in online and hard copy publications
• Promoting a future workshop, including online and hard copy publications

If you do not wish to be included in a photograph please advise the photographer.
Final Program
Correct at time of printing

6:45am  Registration desk opens and light breakfast served
         Plaza Level Foyer

7:15am  Welcome
         Plaza Level Meeting Room P1
         David Watters (President, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons)

7:20am  Introduction
         Julie Ann Sosa (North Carolina, USA) and Marc Gladman (Sydney)

Session 1: A Career In Academic Surgery
         Plaza Level Meeting Room P1
         Chairs: Henry Pleass (Sydney) and Caprice Greenberg (Wisconsin, USA)

7:30am  Why every surgeon can and should be an academic surgeon
         Thomas Hugh (Sydney)

7:50am  Training to become an academic surgeon: pathways and goals
         Julian Smith (Melbourne)

8:10am  Securing an appointment as an academic surgeon: options, contracts and responsibilities
         John Windsor (Auckland, NZ)

8:30am  Getting started: research - ideas, process and outcomes
         Christobel Saunders (Perth)

8:50am  Getting started: teaching, leadership and administration
         Adil Haider (Massachusetts, USA)

9:10am  Discussion

9:30am  Morning Tea
         Plaza Level Foyer

Hot Topic in Academic Surgery
         Plaza Level Meeting Room P1

10:00am Introduction
         Michael Grigg (Melbourne)

         Professionalism in academic surgery
         Catherine Ferguson (Wellington, NZ)

Session 2: Ensuring Academic Output
         Plaza Level Meeting Room P1
         Chairs: Rachel Kelz (Pennsylvania, USA) and James Lee (Melbourne)

10:20am Writing an abstract
         Julie Ann Sosa (North Carolina, USA)

10:40am Writing and submitting a manuscript
         Rebekah White (North Carolina, USA)

11:00am Presenting at a scientific meeting
         Jacob Greenberg (Wisconsin, USA)

11:20am Discussion

Keynote Presentation
         Plaza Level Meeting Room P1

11:30am Introduction
         Mark Smithers (Brisbane)

11:35am Keynote: The UK clinical trials network
         Derek Alderson (Birmingham, UK)

12noon Discussion

12:05pm Lunch with the faculty
         Plaza Gallery
Developing a Career and Skills in Academic Surgery Course

Monday 2 May, 2016, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia

Session 3: Concurrent Academic Workshops

**Workshop 1:**
**Career Development**
Plaza Level Meeting Room P1
Chairs: Adil Haider (Massachusetts, USA) and Kelvin Kong (Newcastle)

What can I do as a:

1:05pm  Medical Student
Jonathan Karpelowsky (Sydney)

1:20pm  Junior Doctor
Gregory O’Grady (Auckland, NZ)

1:35pm  SET Trainee
Sarah Aitken (Sydney)

1:50pm  Fellow
Michelle Locke (Auckland, NZ)

2:05pm  Consultant
Jonathan Golledge (Townsville)

2:20pm  Panel discussion

Workshop 2:
**Research Opportunities**
Plaza Level Meeting Room P2
Chairs: Alan Guo (New York, USA) and Arthur Richardson (Sydney)

1:05pm  Clinical research
Fiona Wood (Perth)

1:25pm  Lab-based / animal model research
Alexander Heriot (Melbourne)

1:45pm  Education / simulation research
Rachel Kelz (Pennsylvania, USA)

2:05pm  Health services research
Caprice Greenberg (Wisconsin, USA)

2:25pm  Panel discussion

Workshop 3:
**Practicalities of Research**
Plaza Level Meeting Room P3
Chairs: Christine Lai (Adelaide) and Jacob Greenberg (Wisconsin, USA)

1:05pm  Critical ethical issues in medical and surgical research
Amir Ghaferi (Michigan, USA)

1:25pm  Assembling the team and establishing collaborations
Ian Bissett (Auckland, NZ)

1:45pm  Funding opportunities
Paul Bannon (Sydney)

2:05pm  Grant writing
David Watson (Adelaide)

2:25pm  Panel discussion

2:40pm  Afternoon Tea
Plaza Level Foyer

Session 4: Sustainability in Academic Surgery

Plaza Level Meeting Room P1
Chairs: Julie Hawle (Sydney) and Julie Ann Sosa (North Carolina, USA)

3:00pm  Finding and being a mentor
Mark Smithers (Brisbane)

3:15pm  Work-life balance
Andrew Hill (Auckland, NZ)

3:30pm  The future of academic surgery
Guy Maddern (Adelaide)

3:45pm  Discussion and close
Julie Ann Sosa (North Carolina, USA) and Marc Gladman (Sydney)

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

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for his work from the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH
Wisconsin, USA

Caprice C. Greenberg MD MPH is Professor of Surgery and the Morgridge Distinguished Chair in Health Services Research at the University of Wisconsin. She is a surgical oncologist specializing in breast cancer and a health services researcher focused on improving patient safety and quality of care. She completed a general surgery residency at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Masters of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, as well as a surgical oncology fellowship at the Partners-Dana Farber Cancer Center.

Following her clinical and research fellowship training, she joined the faculty at Harvard Medical. She was recruited to the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2011 to serve as Director for the Wisconsin Surgical Outcomes Research Program, where she also holds affiliate appointments in the Departments of Systems and Industrial Engineering and Population Health Sciences.

Her multi-disciplinary research program in comparative effectiveness and patient centered outcomes research in cancer care, as well performance and quality measurement and improvement in surgery, has been funded by a variety of agencies, including NIH, AHRQ, and PCORI. Dr. Greenberg is past President of the Surgical Outcomes Club, past Recorder and current President-Elect of the Association for Academic Surgery.

Jacob Greenberg, MD, EdM
Wisconsin, USA

Jake Greenberg is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He completed his general surgical training at Brigham and Women’s Hospital followed by a fellowship in Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Wisconsin where he specializes in Hernia, Foregut, and Bariatric Surgery. He currently serves as the Fellowship Director for the Advanced GI/MIS Fellowship, Associate Program Director for the University of Wisconsin General Surgery Residency as well as the Medical Director of the UW Health Comprehensive Hernia Center.

Adil Haider, MD, MPH, FACS
Massachusetts, USA

Adil Haider, MD, MPH, FACS is the Kessler Director of the Center for Surgery and Public Health, a joint initiative of Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School and Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health and a trauma / acute care surgeon at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

As an internationally acclaimed trauma outcomes scientist, Haider is credited with establishing the field of trauma disparities research and his professional goal is to eradicate health care disparities in surgery and beyond.

He and his group have also pioneered several innovative methods for data analytics that have enhanced our understanding of patient outcomes after severe injury. Dr. Haider is the Principal Investigator (PI) of the EQUALITY trial, aimed at developing a patient-centered method of inquiring about an individual patient’s sexual orientation or gender identity in the emergency department setting, and also the EPIC project, which uses military healthcare data to investigate the comparative effectiveness of various treatments for surgical and trauma conditions among military service members and their families. He has received numerous international and national research awards and has authored or co-authored more than 170 peer-reviewed publications.

Amir Ghaferi, MD, MS
Ann Arbor, USA

Dr. Ghaferi graduated from UCLA in 2001, received his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2005, and completed his general surgery residency at the University of Michigan in 2012. Dr. Ghaferi also completed a health services research fellowship with the Michigan Surgical Collaborative for Outcomes Research and Evaluation group and obtained a Masters degree in Health and Healthcare Research during this time. He joined the University of Michigan faculty in 2012 as an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the School of Medicine and an Assistant Professor of Management and Organizations in the Stephen M. Ross School of Business. At the Ann Arbor Veterans Administration Healthcare System, he is the Chief of General Surgery and Founder/Director of the Bariatric Surgery Program which serves Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana.

Dr. Ghaferi’s clinical practice is devoted to advanced laparoscopy, including gastroesophageal reflux surgery, bariatric surgery, and abdominal wall and groin hernias. Dr. Ghaferi’s research focuses on understanding the relationship of organizational culture to quality and efficiency, with the ultimate goal of designing interventions to improve care locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. He has received several million dollars in federal funding for his work from the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Keynote Speaker
Derek Alderson, MD, FRCS
Birmingham, UK

Derek Alderson is the Barling Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Birmingham. He took up this post in 2005, having previously been Professor of gastrointestinal surgery at Bristol. His main area of clinical interest is oesophagogastric surgery. He is currently editor-in-chief of the British Journal of Surgery. Professor Alderson is committed to improving surgical standards at all levels through education, research and performance. He currently chairs the RCS Academic and Research Board.

Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH
Wisconsin, USA

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Developing a Career and Skills in Academic Surgery Course

Association for Academic Surgery Speakers and International Faculty

Dr. Haider is currently PI on extramural grants worth more than seven million dollars, and he has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) / National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, and the Department of Defense, among others. Along with serving as the recorder of the AAS, he is also the Chair of the SUS education committee; a director of the Surgical Outcomes Club; Chair of the Goals, Target and Indicators committee of the G4 Alliance for Surgery, Trauma, Obstetric and Anesthesia care; and the Vice Chair of the ACS Committee on Health Care Disparities. Dr. Haider has chaired or been a member of several national-level health care policy or review committees, including those constituted by the NIH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Institute of Medicine. He is also the Deputy Editor of JAMA Surgery.

Dr. Kelz leads the Quality In-Training Initiative (QITI) of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program. The QITI is a national collaborative of teaching hospitals designed to integrate outcomes and quality improvement into surgical education. Dr. Kelz has focused her research interests on the improvement of surgical outcomes and eradication of health disparities through the use of innovative investigation and the development of novel education techniques. She has received private and public grant support including a current R01 from the National Institute on Aging and has authored numerous chapters and more than 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Kelz received a BS in Mathematics from Union College in Schenectady, NY, her MD from Yale University in New Haven, CT and an MS in Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Sosa was vice president of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Thyroid Association and the International Thyroid Oncology Group, as well as on practice guidelines committees for the ATA and the NCCN. She is deputy editor of JAMA-Surgery, and serves as associate editor for World Journal of Surgery, Journal of Surgical Research, and Current Opinion in Oncology; she is on the editorial boards of the Annals of Surgical Oncology, Annals of Surgery, Hormones and Cancer, Endocrine, and Surgery. She has mentored more than 50 students, residents, and fellows. Dr. Sosa was born in Montreal and raised in upstate New York. She received her AB at Princeton, her MA at Oxford, and her MD at Johns Hopkins, where she also completed the Halsted residency and a fellowship.

Rachel R. Kelz, MD
MSCE FACS
Pennsylvania, USA

Julie Ann Sosa, MD
MA FACS
North Carolina, USA

Rebekah White, MD
North Carolina, USA

Dr. Kelz is an Associate Professor of Surgery at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a board certified general surgeon (2005, 2015) with an active endocrine surgery practice and formal training in health services research. She serves as an Associate Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program and the Director of the Center for Surgery and Health Economics in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Kelz works as the surgeon champion for the ACS NSQIP at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Kelz is the recipient of the Gordon P. Buzby Award for leadership and the Mentorship Award from the Department of Surgery. She was awarded the Christian R. and the Mary F. Lindback Award for distinguished teaching from the Provost’s office at the University of Pennsylvania. The Lindback is the most prominent educational award given by the University.

Julie Ann Sosa is an NIH-funded investigator and author of more than 220 peer-reviewed publications and 50 book chapters, largely focused on outcomes research, health care delivery, hyperparathyroidism, and thyroid cancer, with a focus on clinical trials.

Dr. Sosa specializes in the surgical management of patients with endocrine tumors of the neuromuscular, pituitary, thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal glands. She has a strong interest in advances in diagnostic, surgical, and endocrine management techniques in both the operating room and office. Dr. Sosa is a member of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, the Society of University Surgeons, and the American Thyroid Association and the International Thyroid Oncology Group, as well as on practice guidelines committees for the ATA and the NCCN. She is deputy editor of JAMA-Surgery, and serves as associate editor for World Journal of Surgery, Journal of Surgical Research, and Current Opinion in Oncology; she is on the editorial boards of the Annals of Surgical Oncology, Annals of Surgery, and World Journal of Surgery.

Rebekah White received her undergraduate degree from Stanford University, then a medical degree from Duke University. She stayed at Duke for residency in general surgery, during which she also completed a three-year research fellowship in nucleic acid therapeutics. Following residency, she completed a clinical surgical oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She then returned to Duke to join the faculty in 2007. She is currently an Associate Professor of Surgery. Her primary clinical interests are pancreatic and hepatobiliary tumors, particularly pancreatic cancer. She runs a laboratory that is funded by the National Institutes of Health and focused on novel agents for the diagnosis, imaging, and treatment of pancreatic cancer. She has been involved in the leadership of several American surgical societies, including the Association for Academic Surgery, the Society of University Surgeons, and the Society of Surgical Oncology.
RACS Section of Academic Surgery Invited Speakers and Australasian Faculty

Sarah Aitken FRACS
Sydney
Sarah Aitken is a vascular surgeon and clinical academic from the University of Sydney. She has completed her surgical training in various centres across Australia and New Zealand and is a consultant vascular surgeon at Concord Repatriation General Hospital. Sarah has a research interest in the outcomes of vascular surgical patients, prognostic factor research and surgical education. She has developed a number of educational programs aimed at furthering junior doctor surgical skills including teaching virtual anatomy, clinical leadership and technical skills. Sarah became involved in surgical research and education from the beginning of her SET training. Her doctoral research project is utilising large linked-datasets to establish prognostic factors for adverse outcomes in older vascular surgical patients. Sarah is the inaugural recipient of the College of Surgeons Senior Lecturer Scholarship and the Sydney Medical Foundation Chapman Bequest.

Paul Bannon FRACS
Sydney
Professor Paul Bannon is the Chairman of the Baird Institute for Lung Surgical Research, a not-for-profit medical research institute established in 2001, to improve the outcomes and better the lives of those undergoing heart and lung surgery. He is Head of Department, Cardiothoracic Surgery at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney and holds the Chair of Cardiothoracic Surgery and the Bosch Chair of Surgery, University of Sydney. He has performed over 2500 adult cardiac surgical procedures ranging from coronary artery bypass to complex aortic root and arch reconstructions. He is President of the Australia and New Zealand Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons. He is the Co-Chair of the Institute of Academic Surgery at RPAH and Committee Member of the National MBS Taskforce Review and has held various positions in the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Professor Bannon’s teaching responsibilities are currently to all years of the Graduate Medical Program at Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. He supervises local and international Doctorate, Masters and Honours students as well as international elective students. He is the Co-Editor-in-Chief of The Annals of Cardiothoracic Surgery and a Director of the CORE Group for International Collaborative Research. Professor Bannon has published widely in books, journals and conference proceedings on cardiothoracic surgery, basic science and evidence based medicine. He has a particular passion for translational research in the areas of congenital aortic and mitral valve disease, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, biomaterials and biocompatibility, limitation of blood product usage in cardiac surgery, the inflammatory response to bypass and the development of academic surgical careers. He is a current Chief Investigator on NHMRC and NIH project grants and consultant in congenital heart disease research as well as a current NHMRC CRE grant on mechanical circulatory support. His role in the CRE is to produce NHMRC Clinical Practice Guidelines and measure their dissemination, adoption and outcomes. He personally oversees more than $500,000 worth of research funding annually. His Department currently runs 16 clinical trials amongst many other laboratory and clinically based projects.

Ian Bissett FRACS
Auckland, NZ
Ian Bissett is Professor and Head of Surgery at the University of Auckland and Consultant Colorectal Surgeon at Auckland City Hospital. He graduated in 1979 from the University of Auckland and completed his FRACS in 1987 and then worked as a general surgeon in Pokhara, Nepal until 1997. He then undertook his MD research in the anatomy and radiology of rectal cancer. In 2001 he spent a year in the Colorectal Unit in Concord Hospital in Sydney then returned to his present position.

Catherine Ferguson FRACS
Wellington, NZ
Cathy Ferguson is an Otolaryngologist, Head and Neck Surgeon from Wellington New Zealand. She has been a generally elected Councillor for RACS for the past 6 years, and is currently the Chair of the Professional Standards Committee.

It was in this role that she was invited to become a member the RACS Expert Advisory Group (EAG) appointed by the College in 2015 to investigate and advise the College on the issues of discrimination, bullying and sexual harassment. This resulted in a report, which was provided to the College in October 2015, and accepted in full.

From there an Action Plan has been developed to address the issues over the next few years. As part of this, Dr Ferguson has been involved in a revision of the College’s Code of Conduct and a review of the College CPD program, as well as advising on the activities of the Board of Surgical Education and Training.

Marc Gladman PhD, MRCOG, FRCS (Eng), FRACS
Sydney
Marc A Gladman is Professor of Colorectal Surgery at the University of Sydney, Head of the Academic Colorectal Unit at Concord Hospital, Sydney and Director of the Enteric Neuroscience & Gastrointestinal Research Group, Anzac Research Institute, University of Sydney. His abiding research interest is the understanding of bowel function in health and disease and the application of such knowledge to improve patient care.

His particular interests include rectal cancer, the assessment and management of defaecatory disorders, gut motility and International Surgery. He has over 80 publications in peer reviewed journals and 4 book chapters published. He continues to visit Nepal on a yearly basis to perform outreach surgical clinics and teach. He is married to Johanna and has 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Ian is a keen cyclist and kayaker, plays touch rugby and is an active member of his local church.
RACS Section of Academic Surgery Invited Speakers and Australasian Faculty

His research program is also focused at measuring and improving surgical quality in New South Wales. He has authored 10 textbooks, including the highly acclaimed “Examination Surgery: A Guide to Passing the FRACS in General Surgery” and “Clinical Cases and OSCEs in Surgery”, which has won recognition at international book awards.

Professor Gladman currently holds leadership positions in several organisations, including the Committee of the Section of Academic Surgery of the RACS, the Surgical Services Taskforce and Unwarranted Clinical Variation Taskforces of the Agency for Clinical Innovation, NSW Health. He sits on the NSQIP Implementation Steering Committee and has served in advisory roles for the National Health Performance Agency, the Cancer Institute of NSW, Cancer Australia and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.

Jonathan Golledge FRACS Townsville
Professor Jonathan Golledge is an academic vascular surgeon in Townsville, North Queensland. He is Director of Vascular Surgery at The Townsville Hospital and holds a personal professorial chair at James Cook University. He has honorary / adjunct professorial positions at University of Queensland, The Baker Heart and Diabetes IDI and University of Technology, Sydney. He directs a research centre, named the Queensland Research Centre for Peripheral Vascular Disease focused on work within pre-clinical models and human trials aimed at improving management of peripheral vascular diseases. He has experience in pre-clinical research, clinical studies and trials, obtaining and managing research grants, managing a research team, managing a clinical department and clinical management of vascular diseases and will be happy to answer questions about these and related areas.

Michael Grigg FRACS Melbourne
Professor Michael Grigg is a Vascular Surgeon and past President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He is the Executive Director of Surgical Services at Eastern Health Melbourne.

Richard Hanney FRACS Sydney
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 7 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 is currently Immediate Past Chair of the Academic Section of the RACS.

Alexander Heriot FRACS Melbourne
Professor Heriot is a Consultant Colorectal Surgeon and is the director of Cancer Surgery at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. He qualified from Cambridge University and completed general surgery training in the UK. He has undertaken colorectal fellowships at St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne, St Mark’s Hospital, London, and the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio. He completed a doctorate at the University of London on rectal cancer and an MBA at Melbourne Business School.

Dr Heriot is a Clinical Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne and was awarded the John Mitchell Crouch fellowship by RACS for 2016. He was previously Chairman of the Research Support Committee for the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ) and is a member of the Australasian Training Board in Colorectal Surgery (TBCRS). He is the Chairman of the Binational Colorectal Cancer Audit.

He has published over 133 peer reviewed papers, multiple book chapters and 1 book. He is on the editorial advisory board for Disease of the Colon and Rectum, Colorectal Disease, and Colorectal Cancer.

Andrew Hill FRACS Auckland, NZ
Andrew Hill is a Professor of Surgery at the University of Auckland. He has established an internationally recognised research group in perioperative care at Middlemore Hospital in South Auckland.

He runs a busy surgical research group and has made seminal contributions to understanding of the metabolic response to surgery. Through multiple clinical trials he has explored different ways of improving postoperative recovery.

He has over 200 peer-reviewed papers, with a focus on Medical Education and Perioperative Care. He is the supervisor of 19 current or past MD/PhD’s. He was awarded the University of Auckland Teaching Excellence Award for Research Supervision in 2014.

Andrew is the Head of the South Auckland Clinical Campus of the University of Auckland. During his five-year tenure he has significantly increased the size and influence of this Campus. He has transformed its role from a teaching site to a significant research site for the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.
He is a councillor on the RACS Council and is the Chair of the RACS Board of Surgical Research, responsible for dispersing nearly two million dollars worth of research funding across Australasia. He is the Head of the Surgical Research Society of ANZ.

**Julie Howle FRACS**
Sydney
Dr Julie Howle is a surgical oncologist based at Westmead Hospital, Sydney. She studied medicine at the University of Sydney, graduating with First Class Honours and completed her training in General Surgery in NSW. Her two years of post-Fellowship training was in surgical oncology at Westmead and Prince of Wales Hospitals, and in 2010, she graduated with a Masters in Surgery (University of Sydney). Her clinical interests include the management of melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, soft tissue sarcoma, thyroid and parathyroid disease. Dr Howle is affiliated with Melanoma Institute Australia and is involved in clinical trials in melanoma and Merkel cell carcinoma and translational research. She is the Chair of the NSW Training Committee for General Surgeons Australia, and is a member of the Board in General Surgery, which oversees training in General Surgery in Australasia.

**Thomas Hugh FRACS**
Sydney
Dr Tom Hugh is an Upper GI surgeon at Royal North Shore Hospital and North Shore Private Hospital, Sydney Australia. He has been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Sydney since 1998. In 2015 he was offered the Chair in Surgery at the Northern Clinical School, University of Sydney.

From 2006 to 2014 he was the Head of the Department of Gastrointestinal Surgery at Royal North Shore Hospital. He has been the Head of the Upper GI Surgery Unit since 2014. His clinical interests include the management of benign and malignant liver tumours, gallstone disease and inguinal and complex abdominal wall hernias.

Dr Hugh was the Coordinator of Post-Graduate Training at the Sydney Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre at Royal North Shore Hospital from 1999-2010. He is on the Board of CanSur, a not-for-profit cancer surgery research foundation based in the Kolling Institute. His laboratory research interests relate to colorectal liver metastases and at present he is supervising one PhD student and one Masters student. Dr Hugh’s main areas of clinical research include outcomes after major hepato-biliary surgery, and surgery for inguinal and ventral hernias.

He has extensive administrative experience as Head of Department as well as multiple committee roles over the past 18 years. He has been a past executive member of several professional associations including the SUGSS and the AHPBA (1999-2005). He is currently on the Executive Board of the ANZHPBA.

**Kelvin Kong FRACS**
Newcastle
Kelvin graduated from the University of NSW in 1999. He embarked on his internship at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Darlinghurst and pursued a surgical career, completing resident medical officer and registrar positions at various attachments.

Along the way, he has been privileged in serving the urban, rural and remote communities.

He was awarded his fellowship with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 2007. Once completed he pursued further training in Paediatric ENT surgery, being grateful and honored by his fellowship at The Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne in 2007-2008.

He is now practising in Newcastle (Awabakal Country) as a board certified Surgeon specializing in Paediatric & Adult Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Ear, Nose & Throat Surgery). He has joined an outstanding group of surgeons at Hunter ENT and together they provide a varied comprehensive practice. He has a very broad adult and paediatric Otology, Rhinology and Laryngology practice, whilst having special interests in Paediatric Airway, Adult and Paediatric Cochlear Implantation, Voice and Swallow disorders and Head & Neck Cancer management.

He is an active member of RACS and ASOHNS, serving on the Indigenous Health and Fellowship Services Committee’s. He is a board member of the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE). He has published articles and presented on a variety of ear, nose and throat conditions as well as Indigenous health issues both nationally and internationally.

He is active in reviewing articles for publication, lecturing and teaching allied health professional, medical students at several universities and both unaccredited and advanced medical and surgical trainees.
Kelvin hails from the Worimi people of Port Stephens, north of Newcastle, NSW, Australia. Being surrounded by health, he has always championed for the improvement of health and education. Complementing his practice as a surgeon, he is kept grounded by his family, who are the strength and inspiration to him, remaining involved in numerous projects and committees to help give back to the community.

Christine Lai FRACS
Adelaide

Christine is a Senior Staff Specialist on the Breast and Endocrine Unit at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and a Senior Lecturer at The University of Adelaide. She is on the DCAS Organising Committee and is the Chair of the RACS Younger Fellows Committee.

James Lee MBBS FRACS PhD
Melbourne

James is an Academic Surgeon from the Monash University Endocrine Surgery Unit at The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. After completing surgical training, James undertook further subspecialty training in Endocrine Surgery both at Austin Health in Melbourne, and as the T.S. Reeve Fellow at Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney. Following the clinical fellowships, James undertook full time research work at the Kolling Institute of Medical Research in Sydney, culminating in the award his PhD by the University of Sydney. His PhD thesis made significant contributions to the current understanding of the role of tumour and circulating miRNA biomarkers, specifically, in the recurrence of papillary thyroid cancer.

At present, through his appointments as Senior Lecturer at Monash University, and as the Younger Fellows Representative on the RACS Section of Academic Surgery Committee, James continues to pursue his academic interests alongside clinical practice. Having attended the DCAS course several times during his training, James is honoured to be part of the DCAS faculty.

Michelle Locke FRACS
Auckland, NZ

Ms Locke is a Senior Lecturer in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery with the University of Auckland. Her medical degree is from the University of Auckland School of Medicine and her Plastic Surgery training occurred at tertiary hospitals around New Zealand. During her advanced surgical training, she spent two years undertaking a Doctorate of Medicine (MD) degree at the School of Biological Sciences. Her thesis topic was “Mesenchymal stem cells and their use in Plastic Surgery”.

After 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-specialty interest in breast reconstruction and oculoplastic surgery. She gained an academic appointment in 2013. Her research interests include adult stem cell research and full thickness skin engineering as well as clinical research in breast reconstruction outcomes and translational research. She is married with two children.

Gregory O’Grady FRACS
Auckland, NZ

Dr. Gregory O’Grady is a colorectal fellow at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital and was recently appointed Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Auckland. He completed a PhD in Bioengineering during his training in general surgery, and recently established the Auckland Surgical Engineering Laboratory, where he spends 50% time in research focused on medical and surgical device development. He also has major research interests in GI physiology, ‘in-silico’ modeling, and surgical education. He has over 90 peer-reviewed publications, as well as a portfolio of patents, and is founding CEO of the Auckland University medical device spin-out company FlexiMap. His research is funded by the NZ Health Research Council, the NZ Medical Technologies Centres of Research Excellence, and US National Institutes of Health, and he has received several international awards including the American Gastroenterology Association’s “Masters of Gastroenterology Award” for outstanding achievement in digestive sciences.

Professor Guy Maddern FRACS
Adelaide

Professor Guy 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.

University of Adelaide and Director of Surgery at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Royal Adelaide Hospital and Surgical Director of the Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional 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.
Henry Pleass FRACS  
Sydney  
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.

Arthur Richardson FRACS  
Sydney  
I graduated from Sydney Medical School at the University of Sydney and undertook surgical training at Westmead Hospital. I was awarded Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS) in 1986. I 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, I spent two years as the transplant fellow/clinical lecturer in the Nuffield Department of Surgery at Oxford University with Sir Peter Morris. I returned to Westmead in 1990 and have been a VMO surgeon since 1994. I 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. I have been a member of the Surgical Services Taskforce for the NSW government since its inception in 2006 and have been chairman since 2015. I am Head of Upper Gastrointestinal / Hepato-Biliary surgery at Westmead Hospital and the past Academic Head of Surgery at the Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School. I am the current chairman of the Australian and New Zealand Hepato-Pancreatico Biliary Association. I was appointed as an Associate Professor of Surgery at The Sydney Medical School in 2010. I completed the higher degree of Doctor of Clinical Surgery in 2012.

My clinical research interests relate to the management of complex gastro-oesophageal and hepatobiliary cancer and optimization of their multidisciplinary management and outcomes. I have a long standing interest in acute surgery and the management of complex abdominal wall reconstruction.

Christobel Saunders MB BS Lond., FRCS  
Perth  
Christobel Saunders is a Consultant Surgeon at Royal Perth, St John of God Subiaco and Fiona Stanley Hospitals in Perth, Western Australia. She is Professor of Surgical Oncology and Head of Unit, General Surgery at The University of Western Australia; and Consultant Surgeon for the Western Australian Melanoma Advisory Service. She is closely involved in strategic planning and management of cancer services nationally as Chair of the WA Cancer Care Taskforce, member of various collaboratives for the WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network, past founding Advisory Council member for Cancer Australia, and Board member of Breast Cancer Network Australia and 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 25 years and in 2010 received the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) Patrons Award for achievement in breast cancer research as well as the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Certificate of Outstanding Service. She was recognised by UWA’s Vice-Chancellor for her contribution to the microscope-in-a-needle invention with the Inaugural Research Award in Impact and Innovation in 2014; and again in 2015 with the Vice-Chancellor’s Senior Research Award.

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 outstanding funding track record, having attracted $30 million in over 80 grants awarded in Australia since 2002. Christobel has published over 140 scientific papers in refereed journals, three books and 18 book chapters. She is co-author of the book Breast Cancer - a guide for every woman and Breast Cancer: The Facts, which was shortlisted for the British Medical Association 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.
RACS Section of Academic Surgery Invited Speakers and Australasian Faculty

Julian A. Smith MBBS, MS, MSurg Ed, FRACS, FACS, FCSANZ, FAICD
Melbourne

Professor Julian Smith, a Cardiothoracic Surgeon, has been Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery (School of Clinical Sciences at Monash Health) at Monash University and Head of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Monash Health (Monash Medical Centre) since 2001. His training in general and cardiothoracic surgery occurred in Melbourne, Stanford and Cambridge and during that time developed a particular clinical and research interest in cardiopulmonary transplantation and mechanical support of the circulation. He is currently a Councillor of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Chairman of the Professional Development and Standards Board. His previous College Council roles were as Chairman of Professional Development and the Academy of Surgical Educator and as Chairman of the Division of Research, Audit and Academic Surgery. He is a past-President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons and currently the Senior Examiner in Cardiothoracic Surgery. His main clinical and research interests are in less invasive cardiac surgery, robotically assisted surgery, mechanical support of the circulation, cardiothoracic surgery audit/databases, the use of evidence based medicine by surgeons and surgical education from which over 250 publications have arisen. He was recently amongst the first cohort of graduates to receive the Master of Surgical Education degree from the University of Melbourne.

Mark Smithers MBBS (Qld), FRACS, FRCS(Eng), FRCSEd
Brisbane

- Graduated University of Queensland, 1977
- Mayne Professor, Head, Discipline of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Queensland.
- Director, Upper Gastro-intestinal and Soft Tissue Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital.
- Chairman, Queensland Melanoma Project.
- Executive, Section of Academic Surgery of the RACS
- Immediate Past President, Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgeons Association (ANZGOSA)
- Queensland Cancer Control Safety and Quality Partnership, Committee member
- Medical Director, Melanoma Patients Australia
- Involved in research into malignant and benign conditions of the oesophago-gastric region; management of patients with malignant melanoma and sarcoma.

Principle and Chief Investigator on single centre and multi-centred, phase I, II and III trials and prospective studies assessing the epidemiology and management of oesophago-gastric cancer (NIH, USA, NH&MRC, Cancer Australia) and aspects of the management of melanoma from Stage I - IV (NH&MRC, Cancer Council of Queensland and Pharma studies). Author on more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and six book chapters as well as having been on the editorial board of the ANZ Journal of Surgery, World J of Surgery and the British J of Surgery.

In the last 10 years, has been invited to give more than 90 presentations at national and international meetings.

David Watson MBBS, MD, FRACS, FAHMS
Adelaide

Since 2002, Professor David Watson has been Head of the Flinders University Department of Surgery and an Oesophageal and Gastric Surgeon at Flinders Medical Centre.

His clinical and research interests include gastro-oesophageal reflux, and oesophageal and gastric cancer, and he has led 14 randomised clinical trials designed to improve clinical practice in these areas. He also leads molecular biology and population health research groups at Flinders University which work to improve early detection and prevention of gastrointestinal cancer. Professor Watson has published more than 300 research papers, more than 40 textbook chapters, and he has held many major research grants, including continuous funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council for more than 20 years.

Professor Watson is a Senior Editor of the ANZ Journal of Surgery, and a member of the Editorial Boards for the British Journal of Surgery, Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, and World Journal of Surgery and other international journals.

In 2006, Professor Watson led the establishment of the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association, and he served as the foundation President until 2010. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group, the Board of Directors for Cancer Council SA, and as Secretary for the Executive Committee of the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus.

In 2003, he was the recipient of the RACS John Mitchell Crouch Fellowship, and in 2006 he was awarded a James IV Travelling Fellowship. In 2015 he was elected to Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, and appointed to a Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professorship at Flinders University.
David Watters, OBE, FRCSEd, FRACS
Geelong

David Watters is the current President of RACS. Since 2000 he has been Professor of Surgery for Barwon Health in Geelong, initially with Melbourne (2000-2010), and then Deakin University (2011-). He is a general surgeon with interests in general, colorectal and endocrine surgery. He is actively engaged in advocating for global surgery, having spent almost 20 years in developing countries including Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong, Zambia and South Africa.

He is an Edinburgh University graduate, and in addition to the FRACS, a fellow of the Edinburgh, Hong Kong, and East Central and Southern Africa Colleges of Surgeons. His research interests include history of surgery, surgical audit and performance, colorectal outcomes, perioperative mortality and global health. He has over 120 peer reviewed publications and 6 books including Stitches in Time - Two centuries of Surgery in Papua New Guinea (Xlibris, 2012) and the recently published Anzac Surgeons of Gallipoli (RACS 2015). In recognition of his contribution to surgery and surgical training in PNG he was awarded the OBE (2012), and Rotary’s Paul Harris Fellowship (2000).

John Windsor FRACS
Auckland, NZ

Professor Windsor grew up in the Himalayas, did his surgical training in Auckland and specialist HBP training in Edinburgh. He holds a personal chair in Surgery and is Director of Surgical Research at the University of Auckland and is a consultant surgeon at the Auckland City and Mercy Hospitals. Active in promoting research and education he founded the Pancreas Research Group, Advanced Surgical Skills Centre, HPB/UGI Unit, and the Surgical Research Network encompassing the Applied Surgery and Metabolism Laboratory and the Surgical Centre for Outcomes Research and Evaluation. Surgical interests include the management of pancreatitis, pancreatic cancer, and gastro-oesophageal reflux and cancer. Research includes the role of toxic mesenteric lymph in the promotion of multiple organ failure, the mapping and modulation of gastric electrical activity and the development of medical devices. Over 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Co-founder and director of the start-up SIMTICS Ltd that has developed the ‘Integrated Cognitive Simulator’ for procedural training. Has been Chair Section of Academic Surgery in the RACS, Secretary General of International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association, Awarded Gluckman Medal for distinguished research contribution at the University of Auckland, the Sir Louis Barnett Medal for distinguished contributions to the RACS and has been elected to the American Surgical Association, James IV Association of Surgeons and Royal Society of New Zealand.

Fiona Wood FRACS
Perth

Winthrop Professor Fiona Wood is a Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon specialising in the field of burn care, trauma and scar reconstruction.

Fiona is the Director of the WA Burns Service of Western Australia and a Consultant Plastic Surgeon at Princess Margaret and Fiona Stanley Hospitals.

Her research as Chairperson through the Burn Injury Research Unit UWA and the Fiona Wood Foundation is focused on scarless healing.

In bringing basic science to the bedside the aim is to build a unique capacity to facilitate direct research collaborations between researchers and practitioners across basic science, clinical care and clinical outcomes.

The research includes all facets of burn care, from injury prevention to acute care on to long term outcomes undertaken in collaboration with the multidisciplinary burn care teams, is essential to provide a clear evidence-based practice.

Fiona has also been involved in a number of education and disaster response programmes associated with her interest in burns and has presented and published a variety of papers over the years.

In addition, she has been the recipient of the 2003 Australian Medical Association ‘Contribution to Medicine’ Award and an Order of Australia Medal for work with Bali bombing victims. Fiona was named West Australian of the Year for 2004, and was nominated as a National Living Treasure and Australian Citizen of the Year in 2004.

Fiona was again named West Australian of the Year for 2005, and received the honour of being named Australian of the Year in 2005.

Fiona and Marie Stoner, co-founders of Clinical Cell Culture, now Avita Medical, won the 2005 Clunies Ross Award for their contributions to Medical Science in Australia.
Session 1
7:30am – 7:50am
WHY EVERY SURGEON CAN AND SHOULD BE AN ACADEMIC SURGEON
Thomas Hugh
Academic surgery is a broad term encompassing many non-clinical activities of surgical practice. There are varying incentives and disincentives to undertake these activities in different health settings.

This presentation discusses the motivation behind academic pursuits, and attempts to explain why all surgeons have the intrinsic capability to be academic in some way or other.

In the Australian healthcare setting surgeons of the future will have no choice but to participate in at least one aspect of non-clinical academic activity.

7:50am – 8:10am
TRAINING TO BECOME AN ACADEMIC SURGEON: PATHWAYS AND GOALS
Julian Smith
A career in academic surgery provides significant intellectual challenges and satisfaction through participation in surgical education, research and administration over and above exclusive clinical practice. Academic surgeons have for many years enhanced the art, science and evidence base of their discipline through detailed study, interpretation of results and reporting of advances to patients, colleagues and the community. For multiple reasons there is currently a critical worldwide shortage of surgeons who make academic activity a major component of their career – a major reason being the lack of a clear pathway by which to achieve such. An important initial step is the attainment of a higher degree (MSurg, MD or PhD) that may occur in combination with undergraduate/graduate medical studies, during time as a prevocational doctor, and during or following the completion of surgical training.

The creation and funding of suitable academic training and/or practice positions within teaching hospitals, university departments of surgery and medical research institutes has been sporadic and resultant opportunities ad hoc. The recently established Working Party on Clinical Academic Pathways hopes (1) to highlight and advocate for the importance of clinical academics including surgeons, (2) to identify established and potential positions for clinical academic training and practice, and (3) to propose a viable model pathway for future bi-national funding and implementation. Irrespective of the location along the pathway sufficient dedicated academic time must be provided to individuals for research productivity whether it be in a training mode or as an established academic striving for funding, promotion and academic leadership. Aspiring academic surgeons need to decide what research project to do and with whom to do it. This should be in an established national or international centre with an active basic science and/or clinical research community and plenty of funding. Joining an established program is much more rewarding than starting from scratch where the track record may be poor. Such opportunities exist in all surgical specialties. A clear vision and planning well in advance of commencement greatly facilitates a smooth passage along a pathway and the attainment of academic goals.

8:10am – 8:30am
SECURING AN APPOINTMENT AS AN ACADEMIC SURGEON: OPTIONS, CONTRACTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
John Windsor
An appointment does not define an academic surgeon, but it can be their undoing. Securing the definitive appointment is often difficult for the aspiring academic surgeon. While it requires long-term planning, demonstrable achievement, and good fortune, there is nothing as important as a senior academic colleague actively supporting you before and after appointment. Negotiations can be difficult because it involves both University and Hospital. Ensuring satisfactory protected time to pursue your academic priorities is important. Be wary if this is not explicit in the contract. Compromise is often necessary with your first appointment, recognizing that the perfect job is something that takes time. Shoes are not always comfortable when first worn. Understanding your options and the flexibility within the contract is important. Your responsibilities and the expectations of your employer(s) requires active management or the quadruple threat will loom large to extinguish academic progress, especially during those vulnerable first few years of an academic appointment.

8:30am – 8:50am
GETTING STARTED: RESEARCH - IDEAS, PROCESS AND OUTCOMES
Christobel Saunders
Research covers a continuum of fields from basic laboratory work, to epidemiology, to clinical studies and trials, to supportive care and health service research; and across the continuum of disease from prevention to end of life care.

Getting stated in research can be daunting with barriers including how to get started (often due to a lack of formal research training, a lack of ideas – or at least well developed ones, and not being in an academic environment) time (to write protocols, ethics submissions, maintain governance documents, recruit participants, analyse data, write up results and prepare presentations), a lack of funding, no personnel to assist and the inability to implement results in surgical practice.

Solutions to these dilemmas are explored: these include how to develop research ideas and work with senior academic clinicians, how to obtain funding and thus personnel to help and freeing up of time, how to set up a research based clinical practice to use as a resource for further studies, and importantly how to collaborate effectively with a wide range of clinicians and researchers to ensure you not only get started in research, but continue it long term and eventually see the results of your efforts changing practice and patient outcomes.
Monday 2 May, 2016 | Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

8:50am - 9:10am
**GETTING STARTED: TEACHING, LEADERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION**
Adil Haider

Teaching, leadership and administration are not covered in medical training, but vital to success in academic surgery. This presentation will discuss the importance of developing these skills and tips for success. We will discuss the path of surgical educators, including the challenges for measuring achievement and how to build a portfolio to support promotion throughout your career. We will discuss how to evolve your leadership roles from local to regional and national positions, including choosing positions that are the most beneficial to your career. We will also cover the importance of administration and tips for career advancement. Attendees will learn how to build strong academic careers while balancing the competing demands of clinical experience, research, teaching, and administration.

10:02am - 10:20am
**PROFESSIONALISM IN ACADEMIC SURGERY**
Cathy Ferguson

This talk will explore what it means to be a professional and aspects of professionalism. Some of the challenges identified by the College in relation to discrimination, bullying and sexual harassment will be discussed and related back to the academic world, with particular reference to the world of academic surgery.

Session 2

10:20am - 10:40am
**WRITING AN ABSTRACT**
Julie Ann Sosa, MD, Duke University, Durham, NC USA

Writing an abstract can be a daunting task. The goal is to convey your work in a way that is concise, clear, and compelling so that readers are 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 are included. Ultimately, your conclusions need to be supported by the results presented, and the results must be based on sound scientific methodology. If tables and figures are allowed, 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 that will 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 will also further delineate some “tricks of the trade” so that abstract writing will be a successful art form for disseminating your research findings.

10:40am - 11:00am
**WRITING AND SUBMITTING A MANUSCRIPT**
Rebekah White

Publications are the main currency of academic surgery. The ability to write a good scientific manuscript is an important skill that is not typically taught in medical school. Unlike creative writing, scientific writing requires a standard structure and style to help the reviewers and readers to understand the importance of your research. This talk will provide tips on the preparation and writing of an original research manuscript as well as the usually necessary process of revision and resubmission. The “Introduction” and “Methods” sections can often be started before or while the research is being done, and the early organization of the “Results” section can help you to think critically about the research. The “Discussion” section can be the most difficult to write, and feedback from colleagues is invaluable. Common pitfalls related to authorship, figures, tables, and references will be discussed. Practice and resilience are necessary to become a good scientific writer!

11:00am - 11:20am
**PRESENTING AT A SCIENTIFIC MEETING**
Jacob Greenberg

This session will describe how to successfully present at a scientific meeting. Presenting and publishing one’s scientific work is vital to a successful career in academic surgery. Whether one’s work is accepted as an oral presentation or as a poster it is critical to present the work in a clear and concise manner. We will start by providing a framework for an oral presentation. This will focus on slide design, presentation delivery, and fielding questions from the audience. We will also dedicate a portion of the session to poster creation and presentation. Finally, we will discuss some general tips and tricks for a successful presentation.

Upon completion of the session, attendees should understand the basic principles of presenting their work at a scientific meeting.

11:35am - 12noon
**KEYNOTE: THE UK CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK**
Derek Alderson

In 2012, RCS England embarked on a Clinical Trials Initiative to increase patient recruitment to surgical studies. It was based on the belief that surgical trainees could develop, initiate and conduct clinical trials in conjunction with clinical trials centers interested in surgery. A pilot study by trainees in the West Midlands using the trials unit based in Birmingham, developed a randomized clinical trial (ROSSINI) that investigated the effects of a wound protector on surgical site infection rates after laparotomy. 760 patients were recruited in under 2 years leading to publication in the BMJ from the West Midlands Surgical Collaborative.

As a result, a competitive process resulted in the initial funding and designation of 5 (now 7) surgical trials centers across England. Each surgical specialty, again by competition, provided a research lead, with the remit of developing trials in conjunction with the trainee collaborators. There are presently 15 specialty leads in post and 30 trainee collaborators across the UK.
Since 2012 patients have been entered into 62 different studies, the number of patients recruited has risen from 11,000/annum to 25,500/annum and the number of hospital trusts involved in trials has gone from 73 to 127 by 2015. Between January 2012 and December 31st 2014, the NIHR awarded £28 million for surgical trials.

**Session 3**

**Workshop 1: Career Development**

**1:05pm - 1:20pm**

**MEDICAL STUDENT**

Jonathan Karpelowsky

Medical school is an ideal opportunity to develop essential skills for research and an academic career pathway. Most universities permit opportunities in a supportive environment from short summer research scholarships to programs which permit the attainment of a higher degree while undertaking medical training. Looking to establish research skills should be seen as an integral part of medical training. The ability to identify a problem, undertake a literature search or to design a study to answer the question will enhance your ability as both a doctor as well as a researcher.

Most curricula will focus on statistical analysis, literature appraisal and trial design but seeking opportunities to apply these skills is what will permit you to progress beyond your peers. Any skill unless used will be lost and thus asking for opportunities and seeking out mentors is a vital part of your personal and career development. Most researchers are willing to offer guidance and support providing they see enthusiasm and hard work.

Apart from formalised research projects or degrees alluded to above, small projects which lead to publication are a good way to enhance your training and create a track record, many researchers will have large data sets or databases that provide opportunity for publication.

**1:20pm - 1:35pm**

**JUNIOR DOCTOR**

Gregory O’Grady

Junior surgical doctors face multiple competing demands, including upskilling in their clinical practice, learning basic operative skills, studying for primary exams, and building their application to the Surgical Education and Training (SET) program. In addition, most junior surgical doctors will also want to undertake research, whether to strengthen their SET applications, or to begin a path toward a career in academic surgery. This talk provides advice to the busy junior doctor about how to start and succeed in undertaking surgical research. Themes addressed include identifying the right mentor, choosing the right project, deciding on higher degrees and full-time research, pitfalls to avoid, and balancing your research goals with your many other work demands.

**1:35pm - 1:50pm**

**SET TRAINEE**

Sarah Aitken

Developing an academic career during surgical SET training can be a challenging task. The pressure to achieve required logbook numbers and clinical hours can detract from time spent pursuing academic milestones and progression. Completing publications and research tasks beyond the requirements of training can be daunting and requires focused commitment and prioritisation.

The first step to maintaining your academic growth during SET training is to set clear academic and clinical goals. Once determined, achieving these goals requires support and personal growth in many different domains. This presentation discusses the importance of mentors and role models as well as how support can be found through academic associations such as the RACS SAS, Universities and Research organisations. There are many opportunities for presenting research within the College of Surgeons and societies that provide trainees with assistance, awards and recognition. Trainees who have strong relationships with their mentors and affiliated academic institutions have been shown to have a greater likelihood of progressing into a future academic role.

Research and teaching skills should be acquired during SET training and mandatory courses like CLEAR and STATS provide a minimum level of academic knowledge. Research skills can be further developed through higher degrees, clinical audit processes and health service quality initiatives are given.

Various models for how this can be achieved may include interrupted or part time training, course work or dissertation masters, and involvement in clinical teaching. Finally, some practical tips on how I personally balanced clinical and academic goals are given.

**1:50pm - 2:05pm**

**FELLOW**

Michelle Locke

Becoming an academic surgeon requires both surgical and research training. Your Fellowship years can be a great time to either undertake a higher degree or consolidate your research interests and increase your outputs. This talk will discuss the options available to you for your Fellowship time and will assess the challenges and benefits of the different types of Fellowships possible. If you do not have a higher degree, your Fellowship years can be a great opportunity to enhance your future career with a Masters or Doctorate. For others, a clinical Fellowship with research opportunities would be more appropriate.

We will look at key points for being involved in effective research and how to make a research Fellowship work for you.

As with undertaking any research, there are key requirements which will allow you to be successful on your Fellowship. These include dedicated research time, good ideas, appropriate facilities and crucially, strong mentors or faculty support. This presentation will discuss ways to achieve each of these aspects to ensure you have the best chance of success in research during your Fellowship, as well as reflecting on my own experience, to discuss how the research I performed while on Fellowship has benefited my career on an ongoing basis.
Opportunities

Workshop 2: Research Opportunities

1:05pm - 1:25pm

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Fiona Wood

Clinical research is the driver to innovation. We clearly practise surgery in a framework of continual change. The understanding that today’s knowledge and practise forms the platform for tomorrows solutions is the initial step in becoming a driver of that change. On a daily basis we solve problems by bringing together the triangle of care; the patient’s assessment, the level of education and training of the clinician, and the environment of operation. There are opportunities to improve every side of that triangle. By the identification of an opportunity to push the barriers of knowledge by application of a problem solving approach to clinical research clinical care advances.

Science and technology are advancing at an unprecedented rate. The challenge is how to harness that information, develop knowledge, which is translated into clinical care with improved outcomes.

The use of a research strategy combining population health, basic science and clinical research, the Western Australian Burns Translational Network will be used to illustrate the opportunities at the coalface of clinical research.

1:25pm - 1:45pm

LAB-BASED / ANIMAL MODEL RESEARCH

Alexander Heriot

There has been an increased focus on translational research in surgery, in particular in relation to surgical oncology. Exploration of the molecular mechanisms underpinning tumour development and progression and exploration of the oncogenic pathways require laboratory platforms to facilitate investigation. This is also true when the potential effectiveness of novel therapies is investigated.

This talk will consider the spectrum of laboratory and animal models available for use as experimental platforms. It will include cell lines, organoids, genetically modified mouse models, and patient derived human tumour xenograft models.

1:45pm - 2:05pm

EDUCATION / SIMULATION RESEARCH

Rachel Kelz

Education and Simulation are themes for a research focus. Like any other area of investigation, the strength of the work is often determined by the questions asked and the time committed to the design and execution of the study. Scholarly activity is performed for multiple reasons and we will discuss the importance of defining objectives in order to craft a project that will be successful. As best practices in surgical education are defined, opportunities for research on education and simulation abound. This lecture will 1) provide an overview of the breadth of available topics, learners and settings for education and simulation research, 2) explore different types of education and simulation research through a review of concrete examples and 3) discuss funding mechanisms for education or simulation research.

2:05pm - 2:25pm

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

Caprice Greenberg

This session will provide an introduction to the field of health services research (HSR), a growing segment of the academic surgery research portfolio. We will start by defining the field and providing an overview of the key differences between HSR and traditional clinical research. We will provide a conceptual model that maps the disciplines of health services research onto the components of the healthcare system and can provide a scaffold for those interested in developing a departmental program or identifying their own area of focus and interest. A brief overview of the main research areas that fall under the broader heading of HSR will be presented including comparative effectiveness and patient-centered outcomes research, variation and practice patterns, health policy research, disparities, quality measurement, collaborative quality improvement, implementation science, medical decision-making, organizational change, and patient safety. Finally, we will discuss some key issues for consideration if one is considering a career in this research field.

Workshop 3: Practicalities of Research

1:05pm - 1:25pm

CRITICAL ETHICAL ISSUES IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL RESEARCH

Amir Ghaferi

This session will cover the critical issues of ethics in the conduct of medical and surgical research. A recognition of the “dual loyalties” of surgeon scientists and the delicate balance of potential conflicts of research with the duty to the individual patients we treat. We will discuss strategies for handling such conflicts. Further discourse regarding the requirements for ethically responsible research will introduce the importance of informed consent, scientifically valid study designs, and subject rights.
1:25pm - 1:45pm
ASSEMBLING THE TEAM AND ESTABLISHING COLLABORATIONS
Ian Bissett

Research is a collaborative process. No one function well alone. Working together does more than increasing the labour force, it generates the critical mass to see a problem from multiple angles, to offer creative solutions, and to identify likely pitfalls.

This session will describe how to set up a team, recognize what each member has to offer and work together. It will then discuss ways to look beyond the immediate team to arrange collaborations with other disciplines and geographic sites. These work best when everyone involved is benefiting from the interaction and enjoys the stimulation of each other’s ideas. The sum total then is much greater than the parts and above that it is also fun.

1:45pm - 2:05pm
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
Paul Bannon

“As part of implementing its Plan for Growth, the government should undertake a review of public funding of translational research in surgery and academic departments of surgery in delivering this research(1).

“Scientists have applauded the Abbott government for sticking to a pledge to establish the $20 billion Medical Research Future Fund”(2).

“The Federal Government will spend almost $1.1 billion in the next four years to promote business-based research, development and innovation”(3).

Despite many past promises, in the 2014 NHMRC round there were more successful grant applications identified as dentistry than surgery, 2015 looks to be worse. There are many barriers to surgical research. Funding is one of the biggest challenges. However, of all the challenges surgical research faces, it is one we can manage if we have a clear plan. A lot of research needs to be done before the big grant and a lot of can be done without it. This talk will give a detailed approach to setting up your own funding stream through private donors, small seed grants, philanthropic organisations, industry scholarships and bequests. We will discuss choosing a subject, designing a long game, selling your message, donor relations, the value and pitfalls of collaboration and the many avenues for small to medium funding to help achieve your objectives.

1. From Theory to Theatre. Overcoming barriers to innovation in surgery. Report by the Royal College of Surgeons 2011
2. The Australian newspaper May 2015-Report: Rosie Lewis
3. ABC news December 6, 2015

2:05pm - 2:25pm
GRANT WRITING
David I Watson

To undertake research that addresses big questions, funds are needed. Obtaining funds is a competitive process and requires a successful application to a granting body. In Australia the major funding scheme is run by the NHMRC, and in recent years competition for this funding has intensified. Many secondary funders also use NHMRC assessments to determine their funding priorities. Hence, applications via the NHMRC are the key to significant research grant funding in Australia.

Keys to writing a successful grant application include:

- Make sure your research will solve this important problem
- Write so the non-expert can understand - not everyone who assesses your grant application works in your area. Have clear hypotheses that will be addressed by the research plan
- Have good preliminary data to present that confirms your proposal is feasible
- Plan a manageable workload - don’t put too much in the application - an ambitious proposal won’t get funded.
- Make sure the aims are independently achievable across the time frame, and avoid aims that depend on earlier steps being successful.
- Develop your track record and make sure it is competitive. This might require a strategic approach across 5-10 years
- Publish all of your previous research. Publications underpin success!

Session 4
3:00pm - 3:15pm
FINDING AND BEING A MENTOR
Mark Smithers

A mentor is someone who imparts wisdom to, and shares knowledge with, a less experienced colleague.

A surgical career will be influenced by such things as personality, cultural and social issues and exposure to role models in the various specialties. While role models are vital, mentorship is a more intensive relationship between two people and carries responsibilities on both sides. There may be multiple mentors in an individual’s career that may involve research, clinical practice and overall career.

When choosing a mentor, look at the individual, the personality, the type of person, a role model within the professional and general community, track record and connections. The individual should be open to...
feedback, be an active listener, be responsible, respect the time and input of the mentor and should take responsibility for driving the relationship. Failed mentorships occur due to poor communication, lack of direction, lack of connections, personality differences and there may be a perceived (or real) sense of competition.

The successful mentor will develop a reciprocal relationship, have mutual respect, clear expectations, a personal connection and shared values. He or she will be seen as a role model who offers sound guidance, advice and has a network and connections. The mentor should accept that it is a privilege to be in a position to prepare future leaders but should not do this by creating a mirror image of him or herself. The mentor should accept one measure of success is to have a mentee whose output and success is more than that of the mentor.

3:30pm - 3:45pm
THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIC SURGERY
Guy Maddern

Academic surgery cannot be viewed as a hobby done around other commitments. In order for it to survive, a focussed and organised approach is needed. The academic surgeon working in an academic surgical department needs to have a team of like-minded individuals able to support and advise on areas of mutual academic interest. Administrative and research infrastructure needs to be provided or sourced in order for the academic surgery to develop areas of research and support teaching. In 2016 Australasia, most academic surgical teaching is given to postgraduate surgical trainees with the occasional higher degree student and much less teaching occurs at the undergraduate level. If more is to be achieved in the academic surgical space this must be increased and with it postgraduate surgical courses or even university surgical trainees, either partnered with or independent of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Clinical leadership also remains important. A successful academic is likely to attract students and support but must maintain a strong focus on providing clinical leadership if only in a narrow sub-specialty area. Without academic surgery we will be an importer of surgical knowledge rather than an exporter and leader.
For more information about the DCAS Course contact:

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