MEDIA RELEASE

A meeting of the world’s leading medical minds at the RACS Annual Scientific Congress

Thursday 22 March, 2018

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), in partnership with the American College of Surgeons (ACS) will host the 87th Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) at the Sydney International Convention Centre from 7-11 May this year for a series of workshops, discussions, plenaries and masterclasses.

With the theme Reflecting on what really matters, it’s time to register your attendance at the Congress which will help to address many of the competing interests in the delivery of surgical care in our community.

Prominent highlights of the Congress program include high profile speakers delivering named lectures as well as keynote lectures on head and neck surgery, craniomaxillofacial neurosurgery and plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Delivering this year’s Syme Oration, the RACS’s most prestigious lecture, will be Navy Vice Admiral Raquel Bono of the USA.

Ms Bono is the Director of the Defense Health Agency (DHA) and oversees a joint, integrated Combat Support Agency that enables Army, Navy and Air Force medical services to provide a medically ready force to Combatant Commands in both peace and war times.

The international visitor for Burn Surgery, Lieutenant Colonel Tania Cubison from Queen Victoria Hospital at East Grinstead and the McIndoe Centre in the UK, is one of those highlights.

Lieutenant Cubison’s research interests include burn healing and the reduction of scarring, and is heavily involved in the teaching of burn care. She is also on the Emergency Management of Severe Burns Senate of the British Burns Association and will present on acute burn implications on the Tuesday afternoon.

Professor Seon Hahn Kim of Seoul, Korea will present on laparoscopic colectomy and discuss why we should use robots. In 2007 Professor Kim developed a single-docking fully-robotic low anterior resection and has performed more than 3,000 laparoscopic colon and rectal resections, mainly for cancer.

Presenting on minimally invasive surgery in infants and children, will be paediatric surgeon Professor George W. Holcomb of the Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, USA where he currently works as Surgeon-in-Chief and Professor of Surgery. He is also Senior Vice President and Director of the Centre for Minimally Invasive Surgery and was recently appointed Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Paediatric Surgery.

RACS President, John Batten, says the ASC is the biggest event on the RACS calendar.

“The ASC provides a great platform for Fellows and Trainees to present their experience, wisdom and opinions to their colleagues, in a challenging and truly international forum. This year’s ASC will not only offer an opportunity to learn and experience first hand the advances in surgical specialties but put today’s surgery into perspective,” Mr Batten said.
Coupled with the Congress, the Australia New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) will be hosting its Annual Scientific Meeting during the week, which will include partnering with RACS on two plenaries as well as inclusion in various section conveners programs. In addition, ANZCA will also run workshops, lectures, focus sessions and panel discussions on topics such as communicating risk, pain management and workforce burn-out.

With an incredibly diverse selection of speakers, workshops and topics, along with exciting International visitors, this Congress is certainly not one to miss. Register now and take advantage of a variety of registration options at https://asc.surgeons.org/registration/

The ASC program overview is available online at https://asc.surgeons.org/scientific-program/

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About the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

RACS is the leading advocate for surgical standards, professionalism and surgical education in Australia and New Zealand. The College is a not-for-profit organisation that represents more than 7000 surgeons and 1300 surgical trainees and International Medical Graduates. RACS also supports healthcare and surgical education in the Asia-Pacific region and is a substantial funder of surgical research. There are nine surgical specialties in Australasia being: Cardiothoracic surgery, General surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic surgery, Otolaryngology Head-and-Neck surgery, Paediatric surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive surgery, Urology and Vascular surgery.

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