



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

MEDIA RELEASE

Australasian surgeons to meet in Kuala Lumpur

Tuesday 13 March, 2012

Up to 2,500 delegates from around Australia and New Zealand are expected to gather in Kuala Lumpur in early May for the 81st Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

College President, Mr Ian Civil, said the theme of the meeting – “The Making of a Surgeon” – was particularly apposite and that the meeting’s plenary sessions would highlight the importance of the non-technical skills that are essential to being a good surgeon. These include communication, collaboration and professionalism.

“The ASC will feature 28 specialty and subspecialty programs, some running for half a day, others across all four days,” Mr Civil said. “These programs enable delegates to consider recent developments in the science of their surgical specialty. And, as delegates can only be in one place at a time, the programs will again be available for download from the College’s Virtual Congress.”

“Delegates who have done particularly important work within their specialty have forwarded abstracts to the College in advance of the Congress and will be making formal presentations in Kuala Lumpur,” Mr Civil said.

“The College is also delighted to be welcoming some 40 guest speakers from around the world. These surgeons are world leaders in their fields of surgery and surgical research.”

Highlights of the ASC will include the Syme Oration, to be delivered this year by Datuk Paul Low Seng Kuan, the President of Transparency International Malaysia.

The Edward “Weary” Dunlop Memorial Lecture will be given by the distinguished Melbourne neurosurgeon, Major General Professor Jeffrey Rosenfeld.

Mr Civil said that the choice of Kuala Lumpur as the ASC venue reflected the College’s ongoing commitment to strengthening its ties with surgeons in the Asian region.

“The College looks forward to welcoming Malaysian surgeons to many of the ASC lectures and workshops,” he said. “The most recent off-shore ASC, in Hong Kong in 2008, was so successful there was a demand from Fellows for another such meeting.”

“The Malaysian capital was selected because the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre is such a stunning venue. Opened in 2006, it has won numerous international awards and is set among beautifully landscaped gardens in the shadow of the Petronas Towers. It could have been purpose built for our meeting.”

The ASC will run from 6 to 10 May.

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