



The Royal Australasian  
College of Physicians

## Media Release

### Physicians vote down bid to change College Constitution

9 July 2015

A bid by a small group of members to impose changes on the way the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) operates has not been carried, with fewer than ten per cent of the College's almost 23,000 members endorsing the proposals.

Under the Requisition, proposed by 399 members, the College's board would have been subject to costly member plebiscites and draconian transparency measures on staff and Directors.

The results of the vote, formalised at an Extraordinary General Meeting in Sydney, were that all four motions proposed failed to meet the threshold of 75 per cent of votes.

Significantly, fewer than 2,200 of the College's 22,600 members endorsed any of the four motions.

RACP President, Laureate Professor Nicholas Talley said the result was a vote of confidence in the Board's current strategy to make the College more open and accessible for all members.

He invited those behind the Requisition to re-engage with the College and offered to work collegiately to build a stronger College.

"The reality is that we all share the same aspirations for a democratic and transparent College," Professor Talley said.

"This process has been an opportunity to discuss our plans for the future with many of our members and I am heartened they have endorsed the position of their Board.

"We have exciting plans for the future as we work to create a College that can meet the challenges the profession faces including the creation of a new, representative College Council and prosecuting our active advocacy agenda."

**Ends**

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**About The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP):** The RACP trains, educates and advocates on behalf of more than 14,950 physicians – often referred to as medical specialists – and 6,530 Trainee members across Australia and New Zealand. The College represents more than 34 medical specialties including paediatrics & child health, cardiology, respiratory medicine, neurology, oncology and public health medicine, occupational & environmental medicine, palliative medicine, sexual health medicine, rehabilitation medicine and addiction medicine. Beyond the drive for medical excellence, the RACP is committed to developing health and social policies which bring vital improvements to the wellbeing of patients. [www.racp.edu.au](http://www.racp.edu.au)