

Board Communiqué – June 2023

Please read the highlights of key issues discussed at the RACP Board meeting on 23 June 2023. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss these matters further at president@racp.edu.au. Dr Jacqueline Small, President and Chair RACP Board.

Strategic Matters

AMC

The AMC committee reviewing the College's April 2023 submission met on 7 June. The College is expecting to be notified of the outcome by the end of June.

AMC Site Accreditation

We have met with the CPMC, AMC and some jurisdictions to discuss increasing interest by Government and health jurisdictions around site and specialty accreditation by Medical Colleges.

The President RACP has been invited to a meeting with State and Commonwealth Health Ministers, RACS and two other Colleges. We have also been invited to present our Active Management Processes as a best practice case study.

Regional, Rural and Remote Physician Strategy

We approved the Regional, Rural and Remote Physician Strategy to drive the College's support for equitable health outcomes for in regional, rural or remote locations. The Strategy has recommendations to provide a roadmap for the College to challenge the inequitable status quo and review physician training and employment. The Strategy provides a blueprint to a more inclusive and well-rounded system of training and supporting current and future physicians in all communities.

We express our deep appreciation for the work done by the Regional and Rural Physician Working Group and the College Council to establish this Strategy and look forward to work progressing on its implementation.

Referendum on the Constitutional Recognition of a First Nations Voice to Parliament

The College have previously supported the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which calls for the constitutional recognition of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. Our Constitution and Indigenous Strategic Framework sets out our commitment to improving First Nations health outcomes, and includes recognition of First Nations self-determination, agency, leadership and decision making. We will prepare a public statement of support in relation to the referendum on the constitutional recognition of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

Lead Fellow Māori Health and Maori Health Registrar positions

We have approved the establishment of a Lead Fellow Māori Health position and two Māori Health Registrar positions (12-months, followed by a review period) to reduce cultural load on Māori Health Committee leadership, and provide capacity that will assist us to achieve our strategic goals and meet our Constitutional objects. We thank our Māori Health Committee members for their ongoing commitment to, and support of the College.

Convocation Ceremonies

We delivered the Melbourne Convocation Ceremony on Saturday 20 May and have received positive feedback from Fellows who celebrated with us on the day. Our next Ceremony will be at Te Papa in Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington on Saturday 30 September 2023, and curated according to Māori tikanga.

2023 Trainee Research Award

The 2023 Trainee Research Award (TRA) Symposium will be held on 18 August 2023 at 145 Macquarie St. Trainees will make their research presentations in the Council Room, followed by a celebratory Dinner on the Macquarie Terrace for presenters and invited guests.

Other Business Matters

We approved a number of appointments, and we offer our thanks to our committed members taking on these College Body positions. Your work is important to the College, and as a Board, we greatly appreciate your efforts.