

Expanding Artificial Intelligence training algorithms for all skin colours

From the editor

As we start a new year I am pleased to begin my tenure in the role of Honorary Secretary and I thank A/Prof Anna Braue for all her hard work in this role and for her support when handing over the role. I look forward to working together with you, our members, and our College over the next 2 years to enhance our communications and engagement activities.

The results of the College Member Survey, detailed in this issue will not only help set the direction of my role as Honorary Secretary but help shape the way we position our service delivery in

the future. This edition of *The Mole* includes information on how we are shaping the future of College and how you can become involved in this process.

The Christmas period always brings a flurry of activity in the Policy and Advocacy space and this season was no different with College being involved in several Medical Board consultations and advocacy activities.

We are pleased to welcome our new cohort of trainees who have taken part in the newly restructured First Year Training Course, and we congratulate our newly graduated Fellows.

The ASM is fast approaching and Early Bird registration is closing soon. Be sure not to miss this opportunity to take in our refreshed program and network in spectacular Sydney.

The Scientific Research Fund is our flagship research fund and this edition contains important information on recent recipients as well as the 2023 grant and changes to the grant process.

As ever, we share many stories from our members and I thank all contributors to this edition.

Dr Anousha Yazdabadi
Honorary Secretary

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Honorary Secretary

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Australasian College of Dermatologists acknowledges the Cammeraygal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which the College head office is located. The College also acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which Australian dermatology services are delivered, and Elders past, present and emerging; for they hold memories, traditions, cultures and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Disclaimer: The Australasian College of Dermatologists wishes to encourage debate and exchanges of ideas amongst Fellows through *The Mole*. Nevertheless, the opinions expressed in articles in *The Mole* are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the College. The inclusion of advertising in this publication does not constitute College endorsement of the products or services advertised.

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President's report

I hope you have all had time to enjoy a more leisurely pace of life with family and friends over the holiday period. I extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the new cohort of trainees and our newly graduated Fellows and wish everyone well as we start on the annual cycle of training and work commitments.

Work has continued at College and in early January we received two reports which highlight the importance of having a supportive work and training environment.

The annual Medical Training Survey is a longitudinal survey that provides important anonymous information from our trainees about how they perceive their training experiences. It also allows us to see how we compare with other College specialist training programs. I am grateful to the 53 ACD trainees who completed this.

One of the most pressing findings is that the culture of medicine needs significant attention. Nationally 55% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees experienced and/or witnessed bullying, harassment, discrimination and racism, as did 34% of all trainees. 23% of our trainees compared with 9% nationally felt they were not confident to raise concerns about bullying, harassment and discrimination in their workplace. In over two thirds of cases, the main source of these behaviours is senior medical staff. Nationally there has been an increase in patients and or family/carers identified as the source of these incidents with this group now representing the second most common category (up from 38% in 2021 to 45% in 2022).

National and ACD findings also point to an increase in trainee workload, a drop in the number of trainees who would recommend their current training position and an increase in the number of trainees considering a future outside of medicine.

As has been mentioned by other commentators, some of these findings are undoubtedly driven by a health care system under increasing pressure. It is therefore encouraging that the recently launched National Culture of Medicine Project will take

a whole of systems approach, to include working not only with the Colleges but also Federal and State health departments and other jurisdictions responsible for trainees' workplaces. It is the stated hope of this project that a system-wide strategy to extinguish harmful behaviours in the workplace will lead to better health and wellbeing, better workplace participation, and ultimately better career longevity in Australia's medical workforce.

We also received the latest AMC accreditation update on our 2022 Monitoring Submission. Overall College substantially meets the accreditation requirements but there are three conditions requiring attention.

These encompass the need to implement regular and safe processes for trainees and for other stakeholders including consumers, First Nations Peoples, medical specialties and health jurisdictions to provide feedback about program delivery and development.

In addition, College is required to continue work on developing and implementing a process for evaluating the performance of supervisors including a mechanism for the provision of feedback to supervisors.

We remain indebted to our Clinical Supervisors, Supervisors of Training and Directors of Training as well as the State Faculty executives, College office bearers and College staff for their continuing commitment to our Training Program. We hope the work we undertake in addressing the concerns of our trainees highlighted in the MTS will not only help satisfy our outstanding AMC accreditation requirements but will ultimately lead to better experiences for all involved, including our patients.

As a final note, we will shortly be calling for nominations for President-elect and for expressions of interest for a new Board member. Please consider whether you would like to serve your College in this way, or whether you know of a colleague you could encourage to apply.

Dr Clare Tait
President



CEO's report

College has kick-started the year with much to look forward to. 2023 is the final year of our current *Strategic Plan 2020-2023*, and it is timely for us to look back over this period and consider what we have achieved, even within the face of such disruption. The last few years have seen a lot of change and we are proud to have been able to remain flexible while being guided by and delivering against our *Strategic Plan 2020-2023*.

Now, looking forwards, throughout the course of this year we will be drafting Strategic Plan 2024-27, which will involve considerable consultation with Fellows and trainees to ensure that College's organisational strategy truly reflects a shared vision. Look out for information in *The Weekly* newsletter on ways to contribute. The findings of the Member Survey conducted late last year will also be key to informing the next Plan. For result highlights, see the article by Director - Membership & Professional Services, Sarah Stedman in this edition of *The Mole*.

We have some great news for the Training Program - College has been successful in gaining funding for five additional registrar positions through the Federally-funded Specialist Training Program (STP) from 2024. Specifically, this funding must support training in regional and rural areas (MMM2-7). This is a huge boost to our capacity and is the largest single increase to our allocation since the inception of the STP a decade ago. While

we still have a long way to go to solve the workforce shortage, this will contribute to the dermatologist pipeline in the coming years and help to build training and services outside of metro centres.

Looking outwards, there has been a fair amount of activity stemming from the regulatory bodies. The Australian Medical Council has released the draft accreditation standards for cosmetic surgery programs of study, as well as the capability statements of the skills, knowledge, professionalism and attributes of their graduates. Thank you to those Fellows who have been integral in directing College's responses to these and the other various Aphra consultations over the last several months. It is unclear at this stage how Aphra will implement the cosmetic surgery endorsement process for program graduates nor what the scope of endorsement will be. It is a changing regulatory landscape and important that we advocate for quality education and training that is delivered to high standards – and critically, that appropriate qualifications are recognisable by patients themselves. This is of course true of all healthcare. Moves such as this, which aim to protect patients and ensure safe care, may in turn be a positive for all AMC-accredited colleges though improved public awareness and understanding of the rigours and processes involved in medical specialist training.

In this vein, late last year the Health Ministers announced that only RACS, RANZOG and

RANZCO Fellows are able to use the protected title 'surgeon'. This decision, aimed to restrict the use of 'cosmetic surgeon', has consequences for dermatologists practicing Mohs surgery. Despite College's formal submission to the COAG Health Council and representations to policy makers, in which we strongly advocated for our Fellows, we were unsuccessful. This is disappointing for those Fellows affected and for our College. It is critical at this point to maintain positive engagement as we look for alternative avenues to advocate.

Moving in-house, after a year in development our new IT database has been launched. The new system is purpose built and will provide a user friendly, mobile-responsive and intuitive interface for Fellows and trainees. Thanks to Kevin Turner, Head of IT, and his team for his management of the build and transition – no easy feat for a bespoke system. Thank you to Fellows and trainees for your patience as we all learn to navigate the portal and make the most of its unique capabilities.

Finally, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new trainees around the country and wish them all the best as they find their feet. We look forward to meeting many of you in person at the Sydney ASM in May. For Fellows, please also save the date for our next virtual AGM on Wednesday 31 May.

Dr Haley Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Your opportunity to help shape the future of College

College will soon be calling for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) for the position of President-elect, and due to completion of terms, applications for two appointed Directors (one Fellow and one Independent). This is an exciting opportunity to join a dynamic, skills based Board and to help shape the future direction of College.

All Fellows who would like to contribute to College's governance, financial oversight, risk, strategic direction and culture are encouraged to apply. The Board aims for diversity of age, gender and cultural background to reflect our diverse Fellowship. All interested Fellows are encouraged to keep an eye on *The Weekly* newsletter and your inbox for more information on how to apply.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Fellows interested in the role of President-elect will need to complete a Nomination Form endorsed by two Fellows, a Mission statement and statement of relevant experience for role.

FELLOW APPOINTED DIRECTOR

Applications will soon be sought for a Fellow appointed Director. The Board will be seeking a Fellow who ideally has an interest in a sub-specialty, higher education, IT, community engagement or stakeholder engagement.

INDEPENDENT APPOINTED DIRECTOR

College is currently advertising for an Independent Director with financial and strategic acumen. Please encourage those who you feel may be appropriate and interested to contact CEO@dermcoll.edu.au.

KEY DATES

- Mon 27 March to Mon 17 April – Nominations for President-elect AND Call for Appointed Director applications
- Fri 21 April to Fri 5 May – Online President-elect voting period (if more than one nomination is received) AND interview of Appointed Director shortlisted applicants
- Wed 31 May – AGM / announcement of President-elect AND Appointed Directors ●



Obituary – Prof John Hawk

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Prof John Hawk on 25 December 2022.

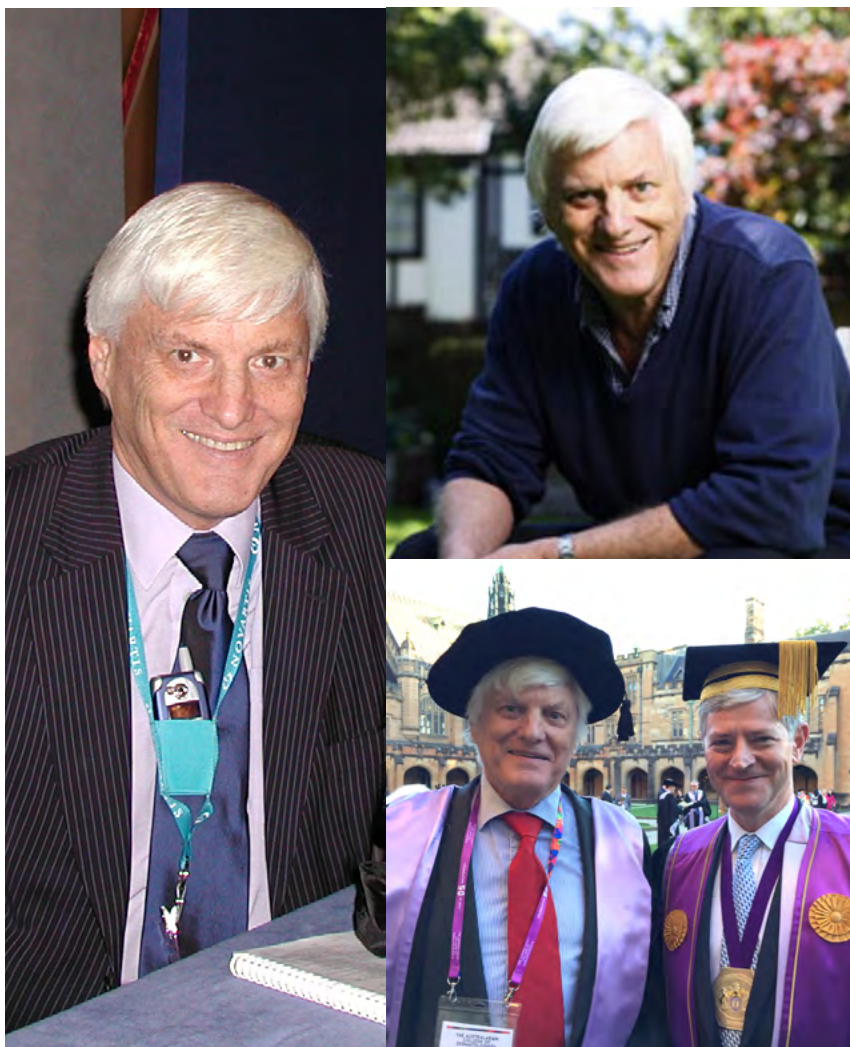
WRITTEN BY A/PROF CHRIS BAKER

Prof Hawk was a consultant dermatologist and Head of the Department of Photobiology (now Photodermatology) at the St John's Institute of Dermatology in London for 30 years, until his retirement in 2006. He was a world-renowned figure in Photodermatology, having published numerous articles on photobiology and phototherapy, in addition to chapters in all major dermatology textbooks. He co-founded the European Society for Photodermatology of which he was a past president, helped establish the British Photodermatology Group of which he was chairman between 1991 and 1993 and was a founding member of the American Photomedicine Society.

John was born in the city of Hamilton, New Zealand, in 1942. He was an exceptional student who won a scholarship for languages and studied physics prior to commencing medicine in Dunedin. As a senior house-officer in Auckland, John met Lorna, a visiting Scottish paediatrician, who would become his wife and life partner. They moved to the UK where John spent most of his professional life in London. Initially working under Prof Ian Magnus, in 1979 John took over the photobiology unit at St John's. He continued to work and advance knowledge on the investigation and treatment of photosensitive conditions. In subsequent years, with the growing awareness of skin cancer, he became an effective community advocate and media figure for sun protection in the UK and a vocal opponent to tanning beds.

Throughout his career, John maintained a great affinity and fondness for Australia and New Zealand. He maintained a connection with dermatology in our part of the world and his clinics were always open to Australian registrars and Fellows wishing to visit. He frequently visited Australia and was guest lecturer at College meetings and provided support to other local conferences. John was recognised for his contribution to Australian dermatology and awarded Honorary Fellowship of College, presented at the conferring ceremony in 2017 held in the Great Hall at Sydney University.

John was a keen sportsman who had a



deep passion for cricket and rugby (especially when New Zealand were beating Australia or England). He was a generous and welcoming man who lived life to the fullest. He was a great friend and colleague to many Australian dermatologists. On a personal note, I remember with great fondness the time I spent in John's department and deep gratitude for his mentorship and enduring friendship.

John is survived by his wife Lorna and sons Simon and Tim. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends from around the world, and the dermatological community. ●

College Policy and Advocacy – Leveraging all opportunities

With a number of key Government consultations released in December and January, College has been focused on rigorously representing the interests of you, our members, and the communities you serve.



It has been a busy start to the policy and advocacy year with a high level of policy activity from the regulatory bodies such as Ahpra and the Medical Boards with several consultations on implementation of the recommendations stemming from the Independent review of the regulation of medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery, recently enacted changes to the National Law and a range of other policy initiatives.

CAROLINE ZOERS, DIRECTOR POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

COSMETIC SURGERY REFORMS

In January, the Australian Medical Council (AMC) released for consultation the draft accreditation standards for cosmetic surgery programs of study, as well as the capability statements of the skills, knowledge, professionalism and attributes of graduates. This follows Ahpra and the Medical Board's consultation at the end of 2022 on the draft new Registration Standard, revised guidelines for cosmetic medical and surgical procedures; and new advertising guidelines for medical practitioners offering these services.

While a number of questions remain about how Ahpra will implement the cosmetic surgery endorsement process, these consultations are a valuable opportunity to shine a light on the value of high-quality education and training, build broader public understanding about the rigorous processes involved in medical specialist training and, crucially, to support consumers to make safer, more informed decisions about their healthcare.

We thank all Fellows who have, and continue to provide, input into College's responses to these reforms.

USE OF TITLE SURGEON

Health Ministers announced late last year that only RACS, RANCZOG and RANZCO Fellows are able to use the protected title 'surgeon'. Aimed at restricting the use of 'cosmetic surgeon', the decision has consequences for dermatologists practicing Mohs surgery. College submitted a formal consultation response in March 2022 and made representations to policymakers that dermatologists performing dermatologic surgery and particularly those on the ACD registry of Mohs surgeons should be able to use the title 'surgeon', due to the rigour of training and assessment in these surgeries and to avoid confusion for patients undergoing these surgeries. The decision by all Health Ministers was therefore a disappointing one. As noted in the CEO's Report, maintaining positive and constructive engagement will be important and we are leveraging all opportunities for dialogue to continue to put forward our position.

NATIONAL LAW REFORM IMPLEMENTATION

In October 2022, the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 agreed by all Health Ministers was passed by Queensland Parliament, the lead jurisdiction for the National Law. Containing over 30 wide-ranging reforms focused on public safety, the reforms responded to various independent reviews and consultations on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

Reforms include increasing the penalty for advertising breaches and new powers to issue public statements to warn the public about risks posed by people, including registered practitioners who are the subject of investigations or disciplinary proceedings. More information on the changes and start dates is available on the Ahpra website [here](#) and [here](#).

Medical Board of Australia Chair, Dr Anne Tonkin sought late last year to reassure the medical community that the power to issue public statements "will only be used rarely, and only when there is a serious unmanaged risk to public health and safety". A targeted consultation on how Ahpra will use this power was released in January 2023. While Ahpra and the National Boards may legally have the power to issue public statements,

our submission called for extremely tight limitations and rigorous checks and balances on how and when Ahpra should use these new powers and reiterated our concerns about whether they should be used at all.

AHPRA DATA STRATEGY

College has also responded to Ahpra's recent consultation on the regulator's draft Data Strategy calling for robust-decision making when considering any additional information to be included on the public register and streamlining of data collection. We put forward that only verifiable data should be included and 'additional qualifications' and 'areas of special interest' only where there is evidence of a qualification from an externally accredited training body against a nationally recognised standard, and where there is a requirement for ongoing CPD. We strongly opposed adding health practitioners' disciplinary history to the register noting the importance of support to return to safe practice after disciplinary action has been completed.

MEDICAL BOARD GUIDELINES FOR TELEHEALTH CONSULTATIONS

In an earlier round of consultation on the Medical Board's revised *Guidelines for telehealth consultations with patients*, several peak bodies raised concerns about opportunistic telehealth providers, particularly in primary care, offering low value models of care that by-pass a patient's usual GP or general practice, leading to unnecessary fragmentation of care. This resulted in the inclusion of a statement in the latest draft that 'prescribing or providing healthcare for a patient with whom you have never consulted, whether face-to-face, via video or telephone is not good practice and is not supported by the Board'.

While supporting the intent of the new statement, the College put forward our concerns about the potential for the term 'providing healthcare' in particular to have unintended consequences for high-value models of service delivery like Store-and-Forward teledermatology that support access to care through rapid triage, continuity of care by assisting in GP-led patient management and ensure optimal use of a specialty workforce in recognised national under supply.

As we look towards the year ahead, workforce remains a core advocacy priority and has resulted in very positive engagement with a number of key decision-makers.

WORKFORCE

As we look towards the year ahead, workforce remains a core advocacy priority. Our ability to showcase College's proactive approach in engaging with the diversity of federal, state, regional and local stakeholders to find workable solutions that meet the needs of local communities while addressing broader national issues of supply and distribution has resulted in very positive engagement with a number of key decision-makers.

The College's White Paper, *Accessible and quality dermatology care for all Australians* (available on the College's website [here](#)) was positively received by the Department of Health and Aged Care and Minister's office and has resulted in an invitation to meet with the Minister Butler's advisers. Meanwhile our Federal Pre-Budget 2023-2024 submission includes a specific ask for additional Federal

funding for training positions.

We welcome news of funding for five additional training positions (see Education Update). The first round of evaluation of our Federally-funded *Flexible Approach to Training in Expanded Settings* (FATES) projects in Darwin and Townsville are showing very positive results and we thank all Fellows, trainees and partners involved in the successful implementation of those projects. We hope to be able to share the outcome of our FATES Round 2 application with you shortly.

We would also like to acknowledge the tireless work of those Fellows who are working alongside us and regional bodies like the NSW Rural Doctors Network to open up new outreach services and regional training opportunities in areas of significant and unmet community need. ●





Launch of Parliamentary Friends of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness

The melanoma and skin cancer community gathered at Parliament House on Wednesday 15 February for the launch of Parliamentary Friends of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness.

ANNIE BYGRAVE, POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Several College Fellows along with Caroline Zoers and Annie Bygrave from College's Policy, Advocacy and Engagement Team attended the launch, with politicians rolling up their sleeve for a skin check with Fellows to help raise awareness.

The friendship group, co-chaired by Federal Minister for Education and skin cancer survivor, the Hon Jason Clare and National MP, the Hon Darren Chester, was launched with support from the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP who gave the opening address.

Organised by the Melanoma & Skin Cancer Advocacy Network (MSCAN), this event brought together researchers, clinicians, consumer advocates, industry, MPs and Senators to shine

a light on our national cancer and to emphasise the importance of prevention, early detection and research.

Speakers also included Tamara Dawson, MSCAN Founder and Director, Prof Richard Scolyer AO, Co-Medical Director at Melanoma Institute of Australia, Karen van Gorp, Stage IV melanoma survivor and Chair of Melanoma Patients Australia Consumer Advisory Group, and Deborah Hutton, media personality and melanoma and skin cancer advocate.

We look forward to further discussions with MSCAN and other stakeholders on collaborative efforts to advocate for adequate and appropriately directed government investment in skin cancer prevention, early detection and treatment. ●



AIDA-led cross-college Specialist Training Support Program

As part of our commitment to growing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specialist medical workforce, College is part of formal collaboration with AIDA and 12 other speciality medical colleges on the AIDA-led *Specialist Training Support Program* (STSP).

CAROLINE ZOERS, DIRECTOR, POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT



Participants at the third meeting of the AIDA-led Specialist Training Program Cross-College meeting, hosted by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

Funded through the Federal Government's *Flexible Approach to Training in Expanded Settings* (FATES) funding, this pilot program aims to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors applying for and in specialist training with the overarching aim growing the number of First Nations non-GP medical specialists.


AIDA's STSP Team works with colleges and First Nations trainees, developing resources and other initiatives to strengthen recruitment and retention strategies. Activities to date have included workshops, webinars and other supports for medical students, doctors, trainees and Fellows including performance coaching, counselling and advocacy; webinars for supervisors to support them to provide the best possible support to trainees; and promotion of college training forums via online forums.

Regular Cross-College Project Group meetings are held providing the opportunity for AIDA and colleges to share learnings, progress and future plans. The fourth meeting of the Cross-College Project Group was held in February hosted by National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).

The meeting provided the opportunity to take a closer look at strategies colleges are using to support trainee retention and action needed in response to the concerning data from this year's Medical Training Survey in relation to racism, bullying and harassment and discrimination.

Presentations from NACCHO Medical Advisors, Dr Jason Agostino and Dr Kate Armstrong provided college attendees with a better understanding of the role of NACCHO and its members. This built on learnings from the group's December 2022 meeting, hosted by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) where VACCHO presented on their work and opportunities to collaborate with the community-controlled sector to better integrate culturally safe specialist services and training. ACD Fellow, Dr Crystal Williams, our CEO Dr Haley Bennett and I look forward to meeting with VACCHO shortly to explore further how to support dermatology specialty training in the sector.

For more information on the STSP project, visit AIDA's website [here](#). ●



Education update – Advancing trainee workshop design

We look forward to implementing the integration of the new Evidence Based Medicine workshop with the incoming 1st year session.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and found plenty of time to enjoy the festive period with family and friends. I would like to extend a warm welcome and congratulations to our incoming first year trainees for 2023 and wish you all the best for your journey ahead on the Training Program.

JENNIFER CHOWDHURY, DIRECTOR, TRAINING PROGRAM

The Training Program Team also welcomes Bhumika Singhal as the new Training Program Manager. Bhumika will be responsible for managing many aspects of the training program including trainee progression, examinations and Fellowship and can be contacted directly via [email](#).

The first visits commenced on Monday 17 January. We are excited to announce that College was recently awarded funding for four additional Specialist Training Program (STP) positions and one Integrated Rural Training Pipeline (IRTP) position from the Federal Government, to commence in

2024. The positions are specifically for rural locations to enhance training opportunities and increase workforce supply in those areas. College's STP Taskforce manages the allocation of funding and will be in discussion with a number of sites over the coming months.

We also received our recent AMC Accreditation Progress Report with some areas requiring attention including ensuring safe and regular processes are in place for trainees and stakeholders to provide feedback to College about the program delivery and development, and evaluating the performance of supervisors.

Over the summer months the team has been working on the arrangements for the 1st and 3rd year workshops, which now includes the integration of the new Evidence Based Medicine workshop with the 1st year session. This new workshop has replaced the research method modules for all incoming 1st years and is being rolled out with the support of the University of Melbourne.

Trainee Selection applications will open on Monday 13 February and will be open until early April. College looks forward to receiving interest from a number of doctors across the country. ●

ASM: Supervisor professional development offerings



During the ASM, College will be hosting a variety of workshops for HoDs, DoTs, SoTs and Clinical Supervisors. The supervisor workshops will be held at the International Convention Centre in Sydney and are free of charge. To secure your position please select the relevant workshop in the main ASM online registration form.

ASHLEIGH THOMAS, CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGER

Workplace-based Assessment Workshop

TOWARDS CULTURAL CHANGE IN WORK-BASED ASSESSMENTS: PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL APPROACHES

This workshop will present the main findings from a review of College's Work-based Assessment program led by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), supported by an internal College Working Group. This project reviewed the current clinical work-based assessment formats, interviewed supervisors and trainees, and analysed the relevant literature to identify strengths of the current work-based assessment program and suggest potential areas of improvement. A key finding is that the current culture of work-based assessment could benefit from placing a greater focus on the value of such assessment for trainee learning and opportunities for expert feedback, with supervisors being enabled and positioned to act more as mentors than examiners. The need for culture change around work-based assessment practice is not specific to our College, and is a common finding in the international literature concerning professional

training programs. It is, however, a significant challenge to shift a traditional assessment culture towards an assessment for learning model, while still meeting the necessary summative (ie. decisions about trainee competence and progress) function of assessment. This workshop will seek to brainstorm with participants key ideas and potential approaches for improving the current College assessment system.

The workshop will be delivered by:
Dr Cate Scarff – FACD, Department of Medical Education – The University of Melbourne
Dr Kate Reid, Senior Research Fellow – Education Policy and Practice – Australian Council for Educational Research
Mr Neville Chiavaroli, Principal Research Fellow, Assessment & Selection – Australian Council for Educational Research

Date: Saturday 27 May 2023
Time: 1:45pm – 3:15pm

Cultural Safety Training for Supervisors

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS DOCTORS ASSOCIATION (AIDA) ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH IN CLINICAL PRACTICE (ATSIHICP)

College's commitment to creating culturally and clinically safe environments is supported by the recent reaccreditation of the College in late 2021. The Australian Medical Council has mandated cultural safety training for all members working in a supervisory capacity. Heads of Department, Clinical Supervisors, Supervisors of Training and Directors of Training will have the opportunity to attend these one-day workshops free of charge. Completing this workshop assists your site with maintaining accreditation and also attracts CPD points.

**Date: Friday 26 May 2023
OR Monday 29 May 2023
Time: 8:30am – 4:30pm**

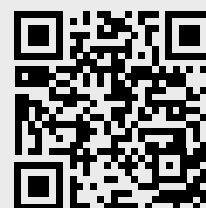
Supervisor workshops that assist in creating cultural change, culturally and clinically safe environments, and supporting stress related mental health issues.



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Dermatology
AUSTRALASIA

Dermatology Australasia – Increasing reach in 2023

Now into our second year of operation, Dermatology Australasia has started 2023 strongly with a pleasingly high number of enrolments across a range of courses, including the new Women's Health Course, *Certificate in Vulval Dermatology*.

MAGDA DICKERSON, DIRECTOR EXTERNAL EDUCATION

Dermatology Australasia launched our *Certificate in Vulval Dermatology* at the end of 2022 and we are pleased to announce that the course has already garnered enough enrolments to run from the first day of Semester 1, 2023. The course was developed by FACD A/Prof Gayle Fischer and College Consultant Dr Bob Corderoy and is being led by FACD Dr Tevi Wain who has expertise in diagnosing and managing women's genital skin conditions.

We are also looking forward to attending a range of trade shows, conferences and exhibitions this year. The first of these will be the 2023 Australasian Melanoma Conference (AMC 2023) at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on 24-25 March. These events provide us with the opportunity to promote our brand and our courses, as well as engage with the target audience to see how we can best position our brand in the market as well as identify gaps in the market for improving the referral pathway. ●

From the Faculties

NSW Faculty

Happy New Year! It has been very good to see how well our registrars are settling into their new hospital rotations. A particularly warm welcome to our 11 new 1st year trainees: Dr Nicholas Allen, Dr Ashod Kherlopian, Dr Chelsea Jones, Dr Matthew Verheyden, Dr Emily Kozera, Dr Rhiannon Russell, Dr Emily Sideris, Dr Tim Cowan, Dr Sarah Hanna, Dr Mina Kang and Dr Janice Yeon. Currently, there are 32.5 training positions in NSW and the ACT, and a combination of 41 registrars share these positions due to Variations of Training. As you can imagine, the task of looking after such a large cohort of trainees is significant and our three Directors of Training – Dr Andrea Tomizawa, Dr Catherine McKay and Dr Michelle McRae do a truly magnificent job. I am so grateful to them, as well as our training sites, Heads of Departments, and clinical supervisors for another year of teaching, supervising and mentoring.

The NSW Mentor/Registrar end of year celebration was a great success, fostering connections and collegiality in a social environment. We thank Dr Nina Wines for her

generosity in sharing her home for this event. If you are interested in becoming a formal mentor, please contact Nina or myself.

It is now over a year since the first of the devastating Lismore floods wreaked havoc on its community and the livelihood of so many. The practice of one of our Fellows, Dr Ken Gudmundsen, was completely destroyed by this event. Government relief funding has sadly been lacking and Dr Gudmundsen has been doing it tough, an understatement to say the least. If you would like to support Dr Gudmundsen, the Queensland Institute of Dermatology have generously facilitated a means for tax deductible donations to be made. Please contact mstaunton@qiderm.com.au for details and thank you for your continuing generosity to help Dr Gudmundsen get back on his feet. Another way to assist is to consider the possibility of doing one-month locum for him in May 2023. This could be a wonderful short term sea change opportunity, and to experience the beauty and the lifestyle of our fabulous Northern Rivers Region. If you are interested

or would like more information, please contact Karen Charnock at office@lismoreskinclinic.com.au or Dr Gudmundsen directly.

Congratulations to Dr Ian McCrossin, who received an Order of Australia in January this year. This was in recognition of the significant contribution he has made over the last 40 years to the field of dermatology and in particular, in the area of First Nations Health. Dr McCrossin has been a tireless advocate for equitable rural health and currently works in the South Coast, Coonamble Aboriginal Medical Centre and the Royal Flying Doctor Services. A more worthy recipient could not be found.

NSW is looking forward to hosting our upcoming ASM in May. This really will be a wonderful event and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Lastly, this will be my final report before stepping down as NSW Faculty Chair. It has been a sheer privilege to hold this position and serve our Faculty. Thank you for your support throughout the last couple of years.

Dr Li-Chuen Wong
Chair, NSW Faculty



Congratulations to FACD Dr Elizabeth Dawes-Higgs – Australian Photographer of the Year Awards 2022



I am delighted to announce that my business partner and close friend, Dr Elizabeth Dawes-Higgs has been awarded a Highly Commended Award in the Australian Photographer of the Year Awards 2022. This is a great honour and I know she is humbled to be recognised for her work.

DR SHREYA ANDRIC

The Australian Photographer of the Year Awards is one of the most prestigious awards in photography, and it recognises excellence in all aspects of photography. Dr Dawes-Higgs received her award for a portfolio of work centred around Action Photography in the Black and White Division of the Awards.

Dr Dawes-Higgs' passion is Action Photography – and not surprising – saying to everyone around her that it is a bit of a break from photographing moles all day! Her portfolio included snow sport athletes from junior levels right through to athletes from the Institute of Sport. The project took over 2 years and I think she may be underestimating when she says there were close to 10,000 images that she had to sift through!

Dr Dawes-Higgs is a strong supporter of women in sport and is known in the industry for her unique ability to capture athletic beauty by showcasing strength, courage and determination. In fact, she was recently involved in photographing the girls from the Perisher Ski School training in Snow Sports for UNICEF's International Day of the Girl. All of this whilst running a large Dermatology Practice in Sydney with me!

This award has opened many doors, and she is already booked to photograph most of the important snow sports events this year – I expect she'll be telling me next she's moving down to the Snowy Mountains.

Dr Dawes-Higgs has always focused on capturing moments that are meaningful and powerful and this award is a testament to her dedication to creating beautiful images that tell stories. ●

VIC Faculty

Much has been happening in Victoria over the last few months. After all the rain we have had throughout winter and spring Victoria truly looks like a garden state.

The medical year finished in January and we are excited to have nine new trainees who started the dermatology training program in February. We welcome our new registrars Dr Neda So, Dr Jennifer Nguyen, Dr Ferial Ismail, Dr Claire Ronaldson, Dr Hellen Geros, Dr Honey Oo, Dr Blake Mumford, Dr Anthony Moussa and Dr Malindi Haggett. Many of our new trainees have had a lot of practical experience, completing research projects and attending dermatology clinics on a regular basis.

Although COVID-19 is still circulating throughout the community, life is getting back to normal, or at least, post COVID-19 'normal'. It is expected that several of our dermatology clinical meetings throughout the year will revert back to a face to face format though some will remain virtual with the St Vincents virtual clinical

meeting on Saturday 24 February followed by the Victorian Faculty AGM.

Following the success of the inaugural Pillars of Dermatology Practice Symposium meeting last year, the Skin Health Institute held a second Pillars of Dermatology Practice Symposium on 17-19 February at Sofitel Melbourne on Collins.

Dr David Malone took up the position of CEO at the Skin Health Institute (SHI) in October. A/Prof Rosemary Nixon stayed on in her role as President of the SHI to ensure a smooth transition but will soon step down. Dr Edward Upjohn will be taking up the role. Thank you to A/Prof Nixon for her assistance throughout the last two years and for doing such a great job of steering the SHI through some challenging times.

My thanks go to all those Fellows and College staff involved as we work with stakeholders towards solutions for reinstating training in Tasmania.

Melbourne will host the Autumn Symposium of the

Australasian Society of Cosmetic Dermatologists. It will be held at The Crown Conference Centre from 24-26 March. Once again Prof Greg Goodman and his team have put together an excellent scientific program with the emphasis on innovative delivery systems and applications for devices.

On a social front, the Victorian Faculty will hold its annual dinner on 18 March. It should be a superb night and members of the Victorian Faculty should book their tickets to the event early.

Finally I would like to thank Dr Aaron Robinson who will be taking over from me as Faculty Chair. I have found the role challenging at times but I have also enjoyed working closely with other members of the Faculty and our College to accomplish great things. I would like to thank all the members of our committee and our Faculty who have been so inspirational and generous with their time.

Dr Jill Cargnello
Chair, VIC Faculty

QLD Faculty

The Queensland Faculty year is off to a vibrant start. We welcome our seven newest trainees to our training program: Dr Frank Chiu, Dr Hannah Gribbin, Dr Fleur Kong, Dr Yolanka Lobo, Dr Alex (Sarsha) Mortimore, Dr Tabrez Sheriff and Dr Scott Temple. Dr Temple is the first in our newly created North Queensland Training Position designed to support and encourage a trainee from North Queensland to complete most of their training there in order to build a sustainable workforce for rural and regional patients.

The Queensland Faculty watches with concern the expansion of

the areas involved in increased prescribing rights for pharmacists. What started as a proposal for underserved rural north Queensland is now being rolled out in other states. We feel increasing the scope of pharmacists prescribing medications for eczema, acne, psoriasis and fungal infections is not going to deliver better care for Australians. We have major concerns about who and how they plan to train pharmacists to properly diagnose and treat these conditions, and how proper time and space for consultations is occurring in pharmacies? Both AMA and GP

colleges are strongly against it and our Faculty continues to work with College to oppose this plan.

We enjoyed our annual Faculty dinner on 4 February where we welcomed nine new graduating Fellows including Dr Jazlyn Read, Dr Genevieve Peek, Dr Stephanie Rea, Dr Lena Von Shuckmann, Dr Jenna Sullivan, Dr Charlotte Man, Dr Kendall Sharpe, and Dr Jean Marie Tan. It has been great to reconnect in person and build relationships both personally and professionally.

A/Prof Erin McMeniman
Chair, QLD Faculty

SA Faculty

The SA Faculty AGM was held on 22 February 2023 and was my last meeting as Chair.

Dr Sachin Vaidya was elected as my successor and Dr Yu-Chuan Lee will succeed him as the new Faculty Secretary. Dr Chris Tyson will continue his work as Treasurer.

Dr Warren Weightman announced his retirement as Head of Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH). He has held this position for over 20 years, providing an excellent service to the western suburbs of Adelaide, carrying out clinical research, and invaluable teaching to a generation of trainees. He will continue as a visiting specialist at the QEH, supporting Dr Abby Wallett, the new Head of Unit.

Prof Gillian Marshman announced plans to retire in 2023. It will be difficult to replace such

an energetic clinician, academic, teacher and mentor. Her contribution will be missed by both the SA Faculty, Flinders University and College at a national level.

Dr Catherine Reid also intends to retire in 2023. She has been at the centre of dermatology in SA for many years, not least as a former Head of Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Honorary Secretary of College.

We hope to celebrate the careers of both Prof Marshman and Dr Reid at a dinner later in the year.

My thanks to Dr Emma Haverhoek for her work as our representative on the National Examination Committee. It has been a difficult few years, delivering the exam during the pandemic, and her final year will finish with organising the Fellowship examination in Adelaide

this year.

Thanks to Dr Rachel Manifold for organising the training program so effectively as director. This includes the trainee selection process, in which she was assisted by Dr Wallett, Dr Elizabeth Christou and Dr Vaidya.

Dr Karen Koh continues to represent us on the AMA Council.

I would like to thank Dr Vaidya, who has been an efficient and effective Secretary. He will be an excellent Faculty Chair.

Thanks to the College staff in Sydney who have been unfailingly helpful and friendly.

Finally, thanks to all the local Fellows for your support and for answering my occasional annoying emails.

Dr Jeff Wayte
Chair, SA Faculty

WA Faculty

2023 has begun and we have a number of new training positions. This year we are increasing from 6 registrars to 8.5. Dr Anna Schauer has returned from maternity leave and we have 7 new faces as several of our training registrars have headed off on maternity leave. Best of luck to Dr Anita Smith, Dr Anita Kothapalli and

Dr Jasmin Korbl with the new additions to their families.

The Faculty will farewell Dr Chris Clay at our first meeting of the year. Dr Clay retired at the end of last year and we thank him for his teaching and mentoring, as well as his contribution to dermatology in Western Australia.

We have a new treasurer,

Dr Patricia Le who will take over from Dr Gary Moloney.

Dr Moloney has done a brilliant job over the last few years and we hope Dr Le is going to do the same amount of research to ensure the best venue for the Christmas party!

Dr Rachael Foster
Chair, WA Faculty

2022 Member Survey – Providing insight into our College and members

Understanding member sentiment is at the core of our focus, enabling us to respond to your needs and futureproof the profession for our members and in turn, patients and community.

SARAH STEDMAN – DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

YOUR COLLEGE, YOUR VOICE

Thank you to all members who participated in our member survey late last year. After the disruptions of the last few years, taking time to review, refine and improve our support and services to members has never been more important. To ensure we continue to successfully evolve our membership and engagement offerings, we sought your feedback to inform the scope and nature of support College provides.

Our ongoing motivation is to support members as individuals and as a collective through our communications, advocacy, CPD, events and other services. The aim of carrying out this survey was to ensure your voice was heard and in response, College will focus on developing relevant, contemporary and intuitive support to all members.

Pleasingly, we saw a strong response from across the membership, including trainees. As a result we have confidence that the data captured will help shape our areas of focus for the future.

LOOKING FORWARD

2023 will be an important year for College as we commence consultation on and development of our next strategic plan. Understanding member sentiment is at the core of our focus, enabling us to respond to your needs and futureproof the profession for our members and in turn, patients and community.

KEY FINDINGS

What is important to you?

Members see **education** as the key benefit of College membership. With education being at the forefront of College's purpose, it will remain in critical focus ensuring we continue to evolve the training program in line with the highest standards and most contemporary practices. This in turn will drive our profession forward, positioning us as the leaders in skin health education and training now and in the future.

The survey outcomes highlighted the very high value you place on the Training Program, overseen

by Jennifer Chowdhury (Director, Training Program) and her dedicated team. It is and will remain at the very core of our operations. We also recognise the generous time and support of Fellows who work closely with staff and trainees to ensure the training program continues to deliver the best possible learning opportunities. Thank you to those Fellows who take on roles as supervisors, examiners and mentors. We also thank those who participate in our curriculum review projects as well. It is immensely important work and we are grateful for your expertise and enthusiasm.

Also flagged as an important benefit to members was **professional credibility**. College will continue to strive to promote exceptional standards and practice, ensuring the professional credibility you have with the post nominals you attain as a Fellow are recognised as the highest possible standing in the field of dermatology. We are committed to enhancing your professional credibility as individuals in your

everyday practice and as a group of highly skilled, devoted professionals.

We also recognise your desire for strategic and **ongoing advocacy**. This has been a key focus for College in recent years and our capacity to support advocacy opportunities and projects has grown in response. We have been particularly focused on addressing workforce shortage and on scope of practice for other medical professionals, however it was identified in the survey outcomes that College could present our work in this space more effectively to ensure members can see the progress we are making. We look forward to sharing more news and updates about our activities and initiatives throughout 2023.

Where should we be focusing our time and energy?

The last few years have meant that we have had to switch our focus rapidly where the pandemic was concerned and we are proud of the flexibility we were able to achieve while still delivering on what was crucial to the membership at the time. Now that

the pandemic seems to be, and hopefully remains, firmly in our rearview mirror, we appear to be moving into an environment where clear, deliberate and determined focus can be placed on agenda items you feel are critical including:

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

With changes mandated by the Medical Board of Australia around the scope of CPD beginning this year, College has responded with some important developments. We now have two staff dedicated to supporting Fellows in their CPD activities. Claire Kennedy took on the role of Post-Fellowship Development Manager just over 12 months ago and has been instrumental in navigating these changes, with the generous assistance of an expanded CPD Committee, preparing resources, information and support to Fellows transitioning to the amended framework and annual CPD cycles commencing this year. Kyrie Richard-Nasar joined us in late 2022 as Member Engagement Coordinator and brings to College a wealth of experience in member and customer service. Kyrie has been engaging closely with

Fellows to get their 2020-2022 CPD finalised and is working hard to ensure the rollout of our new CPD Portal goes as smoothly as possible.

Both Claire and Kyrie look forward to having more direct contact with Fellows and will be sharing important news and information on a quarterly basis as the new cycle commences. They are always available to you via email at CPD@dermcoll.edu.au for assistance and advice.

Raising Awareness

As touched on previously, the survey indicated College needs to more effectively present the ongoing work carried out particularly around advocacy activities relating to workforce issues.

The Policy, Advocacy and Engagement team, led by Caroline Zoers continues to achieve some excellent outcomes and we are well positioned to build on recent successes to ensure College remains a strong voice to government and community more broadly. We will also showcase our strong commitment to community engagement and campaigns specifically curated to highlight the work of dermatologists, scope of practice and expertise, as well as your commitment to patients and the long-term relationships developed to ensure the delivery of best possible care and support.

Media Messaging

Also identified in feedback was your desire for a stronger presence across various media channels. We are continually monitoring and responding to the changing media landscape. Social media remains an effective and rather immediate opportunity to engage with community and highlight the important work Fellows are doing. College has invested in media monitoring programs which include a platform for us to develop and distribute our messaging across various social media channels. Importantly it also captures analytics about our activity and provides valuable intel for us to more strategically map out our

Survey Outcomes

- Two thirds (65%) of members believe the key benefit of membership of College is that it enables them to demonstrate their professional qualifications.
- Nearly seven-in-ten members (69%) rate the Fellowship Training Program as either good or excellent.
- Promotion of an inclusive culture (51%) and the CPD Program (47%) are rated highly by approximately half of members.
- Over a third of members are interested in hearing more about Government advocacy – which could help to improve perceptions of ACD performance in this area.
- Over four-in-five members agree that the frequency of communication from College is about right (83%). They have a preference to hear from College about upcoming events (52%) and post-fellowship education and CPD offerings (49%).

social media presence.

We will also continue to work very closely with Fellows who share their time and expertise to be spokespeople for College. They provide interviews, participate in podcasts and collaborate with journalists and various media outlets to develop timely and practical messaging for the community. We recognise the importance of putting a face to the profession and showcasing Fellows as often as possible. Marketing and Communications Manager Anita Allen and Communications and Media Coordinator Ally Chandler who oversee our marketing and communications portfolio are very grateful to so many Fellows who ably assist, often at very short notice.

Continuing the Conversation

Staff across College also recognise you as individuals and not simply as 'Fellows' or 'trainees' and we are committed to keeping this in focus when communicating with you in the

future. We are passionate about tapping into smaller focus groups and the different segments that exist across our membership. We have an incredibly diverse and evolving member base and it is critical to respond to these various subsets with accurate, timely and intuitive support and service. We look forward to taking a more segmented approach to our engagement with members this year and understanding more accurately what we can provide by way of ongoing education, resources, networking opportunities, news, updates and much more.

We always welcome feedback, ideas and opportunities to work closely with all members. Please contact us at membership@dermcoll.edu.au or phone (02) 8765 0242. ●

Valuing Good Communication

"Excellent communication with CEO/president/president-elect and staff, working together for ongoing improvements in College activities." – Fellow

Member Experience – Providing Support

"Great experience with College so far in my training. Professional and regular communication from College. Supportive Fellows provided great education." – Trainee

Benefits of Membership

"Participation in CPD, exchange with colleagues/meetings, training organisation and supervision, information relevant to my field of work, support of research in dermatology." – Fellow

Supporting the Profession

"Leadership, interacting with government and other medical groups to influence policy and fund training." – Fellow

Reasons for Membership

"The strength of our Fellowship and the commitment of Fellows to dermatology as a science and an art. I am very proud to be a Fellow of our College and I respect the majority of the other Fellows in our College." – Fellow



ACD CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Transition to CPD 2023

This year marks the end of the triennium structure and the start of the new CPD year and the new CPD requirements. A special thank you to all Fellows for submitting their CPD for 2020 – 2022, and for your patience while we transition to our new CPD Portal.

CLAIRE KENNEDY, POST-FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Your incoming requirements

Our new portal is structured around the 2023 CPD requirements which are:

- Annual calendar cycle
- Completion of a mandatory Professional Development Plan
- Change from CPD points to 50 hours of CPD

Your 50 hours will need to include:

- A minimum of 12.5 hours of activities in Category 1: Educational Activities
- A minimum of 25 hours of activities across Category 2: Reviewing Performance and Category 3: Measuring Outcomes.

CATEGORY 1: EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

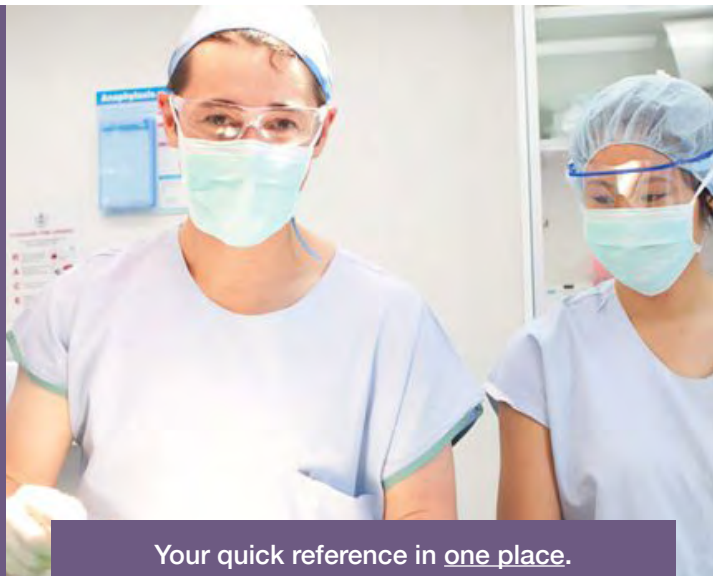
These are traditional activities such as conferences, personal reading, or online modules.

CATEGORY 2: REVIEWING PERFORMANCE

This refers to activities that involve critical reviewing practices, skills and behaviours – either your own practices, peers, teams or the broader professional environment, to identify strengths, weaknesses and areas of improvement.

CATEGORY 3: MEASURING OUTCOMES

This is focused around a quality improvement process that includes review of everyday work and resultant patient/health outcomes. Activities in this category are undertaken with the aim of reviewing and improving practice in dermatology, within an individual, workplace or wider context.



WHERE TO BEGIN

To begin the new CPD year, all Fellows should complete your Professional Development Plan, which you can find under the “worksheets” heading in the CPD portal.

ENTERING POINTS AS YOU GO

The new portal makes it easier to enter your CPD points as you go and we encourage you to check into the CPD portal at least once every quarter to ensure your CPD is up to date. As this is now a yearly program, it is important to keep your CPD up to date to avoid the end of year rush.

The College CPD team is here to help. Please do not hesitate to contact us at cpd@dermcoll.edu.au if you have any questions around how to navigate the new program and/or the new Portal. ●

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ASM

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Engage
Enhance
Elevate

27-29 May 2023

Register Now! Early Bird Closing Soon

REGISTER NOW FOR OUR 55TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING (ASM)

The ASM promises to be an engaging, informative and fun event, with an exciting scientific program and plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues while overlooking Sydney's Darling Harbour.

Early Bird closes on 31 March 2023 so register now to take advantage of the reduced rate. We look forward to seeing you there!

AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF DERMATOLOGISTS
55TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
27-29 MAY 2023
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, SYDNEY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR DEDICATED
ASM WEBSITE AT [ACDASM.COM.AU](https://acdasm.com.au)

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ASM

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Australian
Dermatology
Nurses'
Association

Promoting and Developing Excellence in
Dermatology Nursing

ADNA Update

We are looking forward to the next few months with our 21st National Conference from 26-28 May in conjunction with the ACD ASM, and the 25th World Congress of Dermatology in Singapore in July.

KAREN DAZKIW, ADNA PRESIDENT

If there are any dermatology nurses attending the 25th World Congress of Dermatology 2023 Nurses meeting in Singapore, the organisers of the program have requested that we supply the names of any Australian nurses attending so they can put together a registry for all the countries, which will assist with planning.

I will be attending and liaising with the BDNG (UK) and Singapore Association regarding the program.

Please email: admin@adna.org.au if you have registered.

There will now be an early bird meeting for the Global nurses' group on the Saturday 1st July, organised by the SNA (Singapore Nurses Association) from 1pm - 5pm, with a networking Dinner Saturday night, sponsored by EGO. This will be the first time the host country has organised a nurses meeting prior to the WCD nurses meeting, which will be held on Monday 3rd July.

This is an amazing opportunity for Australian nurses to attend WCD so close to home, as the next one in 4 years could be Germany or..... the last one was Milan! ●



australian
dermatology
nurses'
association

**ADNA
21st
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE
2023**

FRIDAY 26th MAY

TO

SUNDAY 28th MAY

**SYDNEY (ICC)
INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION CENTRE,
AUSTRALIA**

together with the Australasian College of
Dermatologists Annual Scientific Meeting

**THEME:
CHALLENGE. DIVERSIFY. EVOLVE**

2022 Scientific Research Fund Round 2, recipient announced

College received a total of eleven applications for the second round of the 2022 Scientific Research Fund (SRF), covering a broad range of dermatology topics.

We are pleased to announce that Prof Nikolas Haass has been awarded the SRF grant for his project, *Changing the melanoma tumour microenvironment to improve both targeted and immune therapy*. Congratulations to Prof Haass and his team!

PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE: Despite the success of modern melanoma therapies, many patients with advanced melanoma still die due to therapy resistance, with a 5-year survival of approximately 30% (Cancer Australia 2019). This study aims to find a novel approach to improve both current melanoma therapies: targeted therapy (TT) and immunotherapy (IO). IO helps the patient's immune system to attack the tumour. TT destroys growing melanoma cells but is dependent on reduced diversity of melanoma cells that compose the tumour. Our preliminary results suggest that melanoma cells have a single mechanism to block both these phenomena. Our goal is to inhibit this mechanism to improve both targeted and immune therapies.



2021 ACD Scientific Research Fund Progress Summary

An update on Artificial Intelligence and
3D imaging of the total skin surface in
Australians with skin of colour.

A/PROF ERIN MCMENIMAN

THE TEAM

Tabrez Sheriff^{1,2}, Brigid-Betz Stablein¹, Astrid
Rodriguez-Acevedo¹, Erin McMeniman^{1,2}, Peter
Soyer^{1,2}

1. Frazer Institute, The University of Queensland,
Dermatology Research Centre, Brisbane, Australia
2. Department of Dermatology, Princess Alexandra
Hospital, Brisbane, Australia

BACKGROUND

There has been great success in research and development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms to provide accurate diagnoses for a number of skin diseases including skin cancer, eczema and psoriasis.¹ This could be a huge benefit to traditionally underserved populations around the world, however predominantly white skin has been used to train AI algorithms.² These algorithms will underperform on populations excluded from the training dataset. Skin colour is not frequently reported amongst the existing, publicly available training datasets. A recent systematic review in JAMA Dermatology highlighted only 7/70 (10%) AI studies reported skin colour type.³ It is therefore imperative that future research examines how AI performs on skin of colour, which may need varied algorithms and new data sets. Unless medical research addresses this issue, we risk further disadvantaging people with skin of colour who will not have access to this promising resource.

Skin diseases can also present differently across different skin types and/or race and ethnicities. For example, acral lentiginous melanoma is the most common type of melanoma in darker skin types and is often diagnosed later, with worse survival rates.⁴ Recognition of anatomic and dermoscopic differences with 3D total body imaging may help distinguish physiologic and pathological pigmentation.⁴

3D total body imaging has the ability to capture the total skin surface and allows for the assessment of phenotypes associated with melanoma risk including skin colour, naevus count, freckling and UV damage. In order to develop reliable and accurate AI models, large, labelled training datasets are required. We aim to develop a training dataset of 100 total body images of skin diseases from Australians with skin of colour in the Australian Centre of Excellence for Melanoma Imaging and Diagnosis (ACEMID) study, validate skin colour measurements using a skin-colorimeter and compare the performance of existing algorithms for 3D phenotyping and dermoscopic imaging between Australians with skin of colour and Australians of European descent.

PROGRESS

Aim 1. Collect and clinically annotate 100 3D total body images of skin diseases from Australians with skin of colour

To date we have recruited 58 participants through ACEMID who identify as having some non-European ancestry. To accelerate recruitment to meet our target of 100 participants, we plan to submit an ethics amendment to allow for targeted recruitment. For this study, an Australian with skin of colour was defined as anyone who identified as having any non-European ancestry. Participants were allowed to list as many ancestries as they chose. A summary of ancestries of the 58 participants is in Table 1:

Table 1

| Ancestry | Yes (n=58) |
|------------------------|------------|
| Aboriginal | 13 |
| Torres Strait Islander | 1 |
| Asian | |
| Chinese | 13 |
| Indian | 8 |
| Korean | 2 |
| Japanese | 2 |
| Thai | 1 |
| Vietnamese | 1 |
| Indonesian | 1 |
| Malaysian | 1 |
| Burmese/Myanmar | 1 |
| Pacific | |
| Maori | 3 |
| Fijian | 1 |
| Samoan | 1 |
| Middle East | |
| Egyptian | 2 |
| Lebanese | 2 |
| Middle East | 1 |
| Persian/Iran | 1 |
| Other | |
| Brazilian | 1 |
| African | 1 |
| Jamaican | 1 |
| European | |
| English | 23 |
| Scottish | 13 |
| Irish | 10 |
| German | 5 |
| Danish | 4 |
| Russian | 2 |
| French | 2 |
| Italian | 2 |
| Swedish | 2 |
| Welsh | 2 |
| Eastern Europe | 1 |
| Portuguese | 1 |
| Scandinavian | 1 |
| Mediterranean | 1 |
| <i>Australian*</i> | 20 |
| <i>American*</i> | 1 |
| <i>New Zealand*</i> | 1 |

*Considered European unless otherwise specified

To determine how AI performs on skin of colour, varied algorithms and new data sets may be needed.

Aim 2. Validate skin colour measurements on sun-exposed and non-sun-exposed skin extracted from 3D total body images

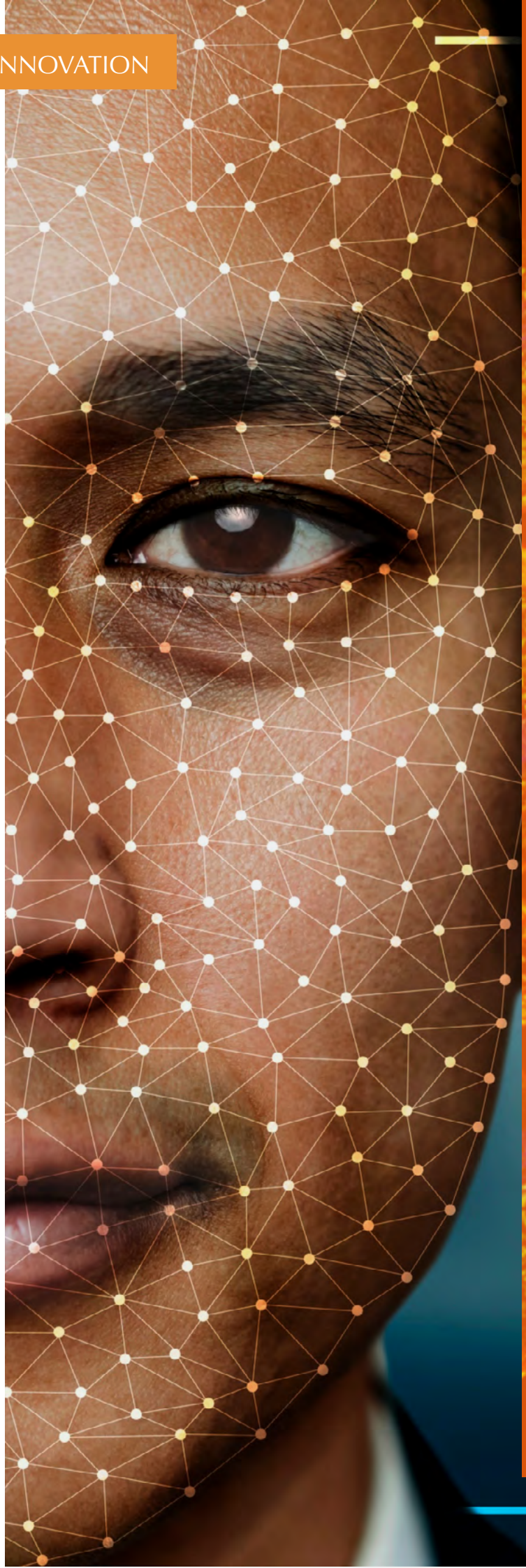
We procured a Courage+Khazaka skin-colorimeter, and have used it to take measures from 18 body sites for both Caucasian participants and participants with skin of colour. Vectra calculated ITA doesn't directly match the gold standard colorimeter measures for either group. Therefore, we are collaborating with Canfield to find a solution. In addition we are trying to model the relationship between the gold standard and values extracted from VECTRA to see if this will provide a solution.

Aim 3. Compare performance of currently available algorithms for 3D phenotyping (photo-damage, freckling and naevus counts) and dermoscopic imaging (lesion classification) between Australians of European descent and Australians with skin of colour

Annotation of the phenotypes on the total-body photographs and dermoscopic images has begun. Once the full 100 participants have been collected and annotated we will run the images through the algorithms. ●

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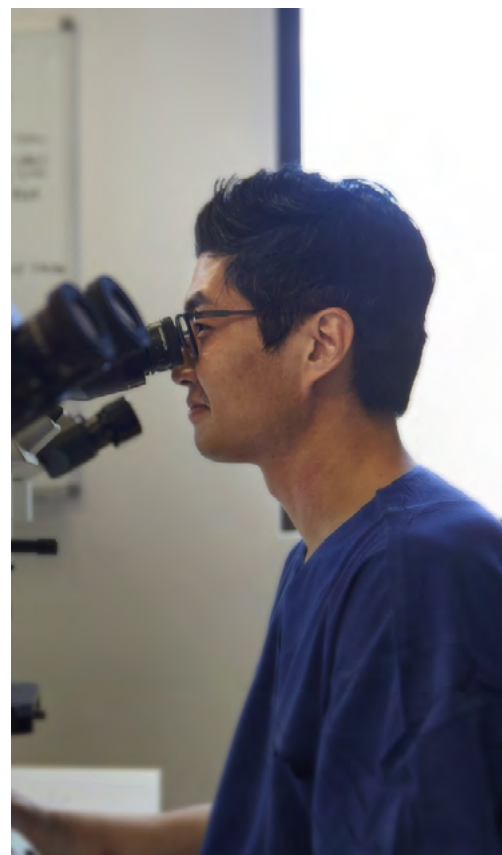
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2023 Scientific Research Fund

College is pleased to announce that applications for the 2023 Scientific Research Fund will open from Monday 1 May to Tuesday 31 May 2023. This is the first year that College will be offering a single Grant of \$50,000.

Eligibility requirements and terms and conditions will be made available on our website on 17 April 2023. We encourage all members who are considering submitting an application to familiarise themselves with the Grant marking criteria, and updated terms and conditions as there have been some changes. For further information, please contact [Annie Bygrave](#), Policy Manager. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Scientific Research Fund, please contact [Andy Wong](#), Director Finance and Risk Management. ●



ACD updated research grant processes

College has recently reviewed and updated our research grant processes to ensure they are rigorous and transparent both for applicants and funders.

For any grant administered by College, successful recipients will be required to sign an agreement with College, and submit a 12-month progress report and full report at the completion of the grant funding period. These new requirements will be shared with successful grant recipient in the outcome notification letter.

Thank you to the Grant Review Panel members for their ongoing input ensuring College is delivering a quality and consistent peer-review process. ●



2022 Australasian Journal of Dermatology: A year in review

The Australasian Journal of Dermatology maintained the gains made in reach and impact since 2019, thanks to the ongoing dedication and support of Editors-in-Chief, Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani and A/Prof Helmut Schaidler.

The 2021, 2-year Impact Factor was 2.48. Readership remained relatively stable in 2022, with just over 223,000 full-text articles downloaded for the year. Of those downloads, the United States continued to have the highest number, accounting for 18% followed by Australia (14%) and mainland China (11%). New submissions in 2022 also remained relatively unchanged, with just over 1,400 papers submitted from countries around the world with 175 published. Of those, nearly one-quarter were published as open access. ●

Full-text downloads over the past 5-years

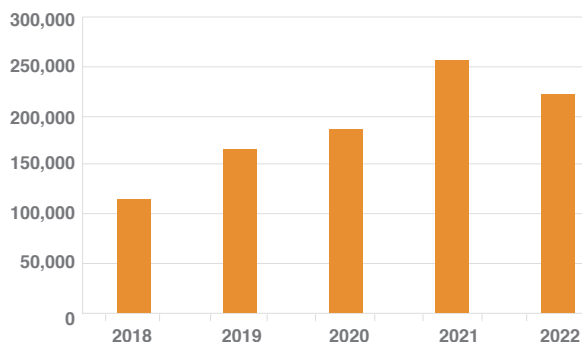


Figure 1. Full-text article downloads by year

Top 10 downloading countries 2022

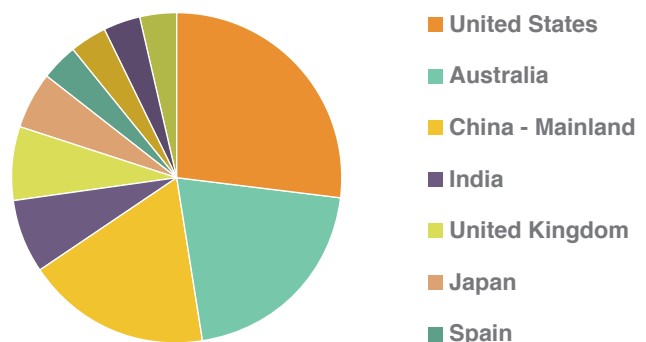


Figure 2. Top 10 downloading countries, 2022

Top 3 Downloaded Papers in 2022

1. O'Connor A et al. Chemical peels: A review of current practice. Accessed 7,780 times in 2022.
2. Veraldi S, Romagnuolo M, Benzecry V. Pityriasis rosea-like eruption revealing COVID-19. Accessed 3,362 times in 2022.
3. Paediatric and adolescent dermatology. Accessed 3,155 times in 2022

The Australasian Journal of Dermatology brand refresh

PROF KIARASH KHOSROTEHRANI & A/PROF HELMUT SCHAIER,
CO-EDITORS IN CHIEF

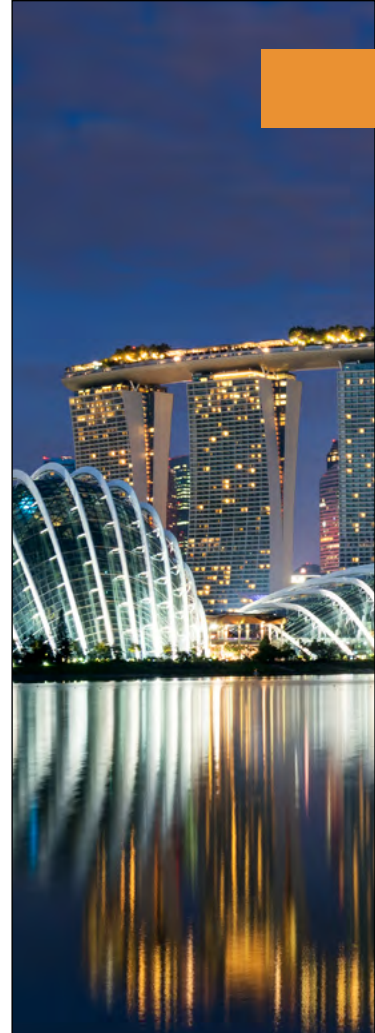
The Australasian Journal of Dermatology (AJD) has been undergoing some important changes in the past year. To manage the increasing flow of submissions to our journal, we have broadened our Editorial Board with new associate editors. This allows more specialised reviewing of manuscripts as each of our associate editors covers a sub-specialty. Moreover, this has allowed us to acknowledge the international reach of our journal that is now reflected in the composition of the Board. We are extremely grateful for the work and dedication of the Editorial Board and Wiley staff.

We have also undertaken a review of the cover of our journal, as well as the banners as you will notice from the first issue this year. The new choice of colours will hopefully allow us to stand out among other dermatology journals.

Finally, we would like to thank all Fellows who help review the content of AJD when called upon. We cannot stress how important this is to ensure the quality of our publications reflects the excellence of dermatology in Australia and New Zealand. ●



In order to manage the increasing flow of submissions to our journal, we have broadened our Editorial Board with new associate editors. We have also revised our cover in order to stand out among other dermatology journals.



Save the Date!
AJD Cocktail Reception:
6 July 2023
in Singapore

On behalf of the Australasian Journal of Dermatology, co-editors in Chief Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani and A/ Prof Helmut Schaidler invite Fellows and trainees attending the WCD23 in Singapore to attend a cocktail reception.

Date: 6 July 2023
Time: 5.30 – 8.00pm
Venue: SKAI Suite,
Level 69,
Swissotel,
The Samford

Register your interest at
admin@dermcoll.edu.au



Australasian
Society for
Dermatology
Research

The Australasian Society for Dermatology and Research

The Australasian Society for Dermatology Research (ASDR) was founded in 2004 so doctors treating patients with skin disease and scientists researching skin and its diseases could have the opportunity to collaborate and exchange information.

PROF JOHANNES KERN

ASDR also provides a forum for the promotion and exchange of dermatologic research across Australia and the Asia-Pacific. We strongly support clinicians and researchers seeking to expand dermatology research with awards ranging from publication-of-the-quarter to travel awards, best presentation and best poster awards for scientific meetings, to Young Investigator and Women in Dermatology awards.

ASDR holds an annual Scientific Meeting for clinicians and researchers in an Australian city, and every fifth year joins international skin research societies for the conference of the International Societies of Investigative Dermatology (ISID). For the first time in 2023, ASDR is one of the co-hosts of ISID in Tokyo, together with the Japanese, Taiwanese, Korean, European and American societies. In 2024, we will be back in Sydney for the next ASDR meeting and hope to see you there.

Our Board brings together dermatologists and researchers involved in cutting edge research across Australia: Prof Johannes Kern, President; Dr Aideen McInerney-Leo, President-elect and Secretary; Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani, Immediate Past President; A/Prof Helmut Schaidler, Treasurer; Prof Nikolas Haass, International Liaison; Prof Pablo Fernandez-Penas, Membership; and Dr Snehlata Kumari and Dr Mitchell Stark, Scientific Program and Awards. Our advisory board is made up of distinguished dermatologists and academics Prof H. Peter Soyer, Prof Dedee Murrell, Prof Rod Sinclair, Dr Joe Rothnagel, A/Prof Pritinder Kaur, and Prof Allison Cowin.

Benefits of joining ASDR include discounted attendance at our scientific meetings, the opportunity to present data at our meetings, eligibility for awards, and discounted attendance at The Japanese, Taiwanese, Korean, European and American societies for dermatological research as well as the ISID. The find out more, visit our website at <https://www.asdr.org.au/about> ●

Career Opportunities

The Skin Hospital is currently recruiting for Registered Nurses with theatre experience on either a part-time or full-time basis. Positions are available at The Skin Hospital's Darlinghurst and Westmead locations.

The Skin Hospital is focused on attracting the highest level of talent. To offer insight into what it is like to work at The Skin Hospital, a [promotional video](#) has been developed which features a cross section of our dermatologists, nurses, research staff and our CEO.

For further information on our vacancies and to watch our video, please visit our careers page: <https://skinhospital.edu.au/careers/>

If you are a dermatologist looking to expand your practice, extend the reach of your patient base across Sydney or consolidate your patients into one centrally located facility, please contact us. For a confidential conversation about a career at The Skin Hospital, contact Kylie Seccombe, Head of HR at kseccombe@skinhospital.edu.au



Dr Raaisa Islam

RECENT STAFFING UPDATES

Dr Raaisa Islam is The Skin Hospital's new Dermatology Research Fellow in Research & Clinical Trials. Dr Islam is a post-graduate year 3 Senior Resident Medical Officer. Dr Islam will work across The Skin Hospital's Darlinghurst and Westmead locations.

OTHER RECENT APPOINTMENTS:

- Donna Gara, Deputy Director of Nursing, Westmead
- Stephanie Partridge, Education and Training Officer for The Skin Hospital's Registrar program.



Clinical Trials and Research

Help advance the clinical understanding of hand eczema: Darlinghurst is currently looking for participants aged between 12 and 17 for a new chronic hand eczema clinical trial.

The trial is suitable for anyone in the selected age group who has been suffering from moderate to severe hand eczema for at least three months, and have had limited success with steroid creams. The trial will last up to 22 weeks and will require eight on-site visits in Darlinghurst and one phone call.

Medical care will be given, there will be no cost required to participate and reasonable travel reimbursements will be included.

OTHER CLINICAL TRIALS WHICH ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING AT THE SKIN HOSPITAL:

- Adults with moderate to severe Eczema – LEO 152020 or placebo by oral tablet.

For further information, please email clinicaltrials@skinhospital.edu.au or call 02 8279 2739.



Education and training

REGISTRARS

In February The Skin Hospital farewelled our 2022 registrars who successfully completed their rotations. We were also excited to welcome four new registrars to our team, making a cohort of 16 registrars this year. These registrars will work across NSW, providing innovative and integrated patient care. The Skin Hospital looks forward to supporting them to achieve their goals over the next 12 months. We are proud to be a major teaching centre for dermatology registrars, training more registrars than any other institution in Australia.

THE SKIN HOSPITAL'S DERMATOLOGY PRIZE

Each year, The Skin Hospital holds the Dermatology Prize, which consists of two examinations: one for Junior Medical Officers (JMOs)/Unaccredited Registrars and one for medical students. The prize of \$500 per examination is awarded for academic performance in the dermatology exam to further fund professional development in the field of dermatology.

We are very pleased to announce our 2022 winners:

- Dr Mina Kang in JMOs/Unaccredited registrars' category
- Helen Sun in the medical students' category

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

This year's education program for dermatologists, GPs and medical students kicks off in March. The calendar will be packed with innovative content and expert speakers.

The Skin Hospital will host a Webinar Series for dermatologists once again this year, which will cover a wide range of dermatology topics.

An updated educational calendar will be available in the coming weeks. The 2023 events will be publicised on The Skin Hospital's website and on our LinkedIn channel in the coming weeks.

If you, or someone you know, would like be considered to present an online seminar, hosted by The Skin Hospital, on a speciality of your choice, please contact Communications@skinhospital.edu.au ●

Educating healthcare professionals

Education is one of the three core pillars of the Skin Health Institute.

The programs we deliver provide professional education and training for dermatologists and dermatology trainees, upskill GPs & GP trainees, and offer other educational resources and information sessions for the community. The Institute supports the Victorian Faculty's professional development program by delivering Clinical Meetings, Update Meetings, Dermatopathology and Surgical tutorials, and Skin Schools for registrars. They are all essential elements of the training and continuing professional development of dermatologists and dermatology registrars. It helps keep our members at the leading edge of the profession. In 2023 The Skin Health Institute will continue to host/help support the State Clinical Meetings for the Victorian Faculty.

CLINICAL MEETINGS (VIC)

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 25-Feb-23 | St Vincent's Clinical and Victorian Faculty AGM |
| 1-Apr-23 | RMH/Genetics |
| 13-May-23 | Monash Medical Centre |
| 5-Aug-23 | Austin/Repat Hospital & Box Hill & Northern |
| 2-Sep-23 | The Alfred |
| 7-Oct-23 | RMH/Western/PMCC |
| 18-Nov-23 | Royal Children's Hospital |

If you are not on the invite list for registrar education (trainees in the ACD Training Program) or clinical meetings (Victorian Faculty including Tas) please contact education@skinhealthinstitute.org.au with your details.

Masterclasses are our flagship events and aim to educate Australian dermatologists, dermatology registrars, and dermatology nurses on the mechanisms of action and use of any new therapies.

This year the Institute is adding four masterclasses featuring an international key opinion leader (KOL). Hosted by A/Prof Peter Foley and featuring an international speaker, these 60-minute masterclasses will be presented online.

We are particularly excited to introduce our first International Masterclass on *Treat-*

to-Target: A European Perspective this year. In this Masterclass, Professor Kristian Reich explains how the concept of treat to target arose initially in Germany, then in Europe and globally and how it evolved across dermatological indications, available to watch online now.

Our next International Masterclass will be in late March and features world-renowned International Psoriasis Council councillor and key opinion leader in Psoriasis, Richard Warren, Professor of Dermatology and Therapeutics, and Honorary Consultant Dermatologist, University of Manchester. He will be discussing the explosion of therapeutic options over the last two decades in psoriasis, what is currently available, what is about to become available, and how to use them appropriately.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 29 March

International Masterclass

Psoriasis - Treatment Options

Monday 24 April

Masterclass

**Is there a role for TNF Inhibitors
in 2023?**

Tuesday 16 May

Masterclass

**Metabolic Syndrome and
Psoriasis**

Wednesday 24 May

Institute Update

Genetics Clinic

Visit our website to register

For further information email education@skinhealthinstitute.org.au

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Spot Diagnosis podcast surpasses 30,000 downloads

Spot Diagnosis is a podcast series that examines the skin complaints commonly encountered by general practitioners. It is tailored for all medical professionals, including medical students.

The series provides evidence-based, up-to-date medical education & information aimed at upskilling medical practitioners in treating skin complaints in order to improve the skin health of our communities.

Spot Diagnosis is currently in its fourth season, it has been listened to in 111 countries and there have been over 33,000 downloads. The most popular episodes to date have been on psoriasis, hidradenitis suppurativa and melanoma.

'We launched the Spot Diagnosis podcast just as the COVID-19 pandemic was declared, in March 2020. Our aim was to provide monthly, evidence-based teaching for medical students and GPs using a free podcast platform and Spot Diagnosis Podcast has now been going for nearly three years. We have published 33 episodes on a range of skin diseases - from acne to psoriasis to melanoma. Amazingly, not only have we found a willing audience locally, but our episodes have also been downloaded over 30,000 times in 109 countries, with each episode averaging more than 700 downloads. We are on the resource lists of many medical schools in Australia and we have been accredited for RACGP and ACCRM CPD education.'

I am always thrilled when medical students and GPs tell me that they have listened to the podcast. I believe that in educating our health professionals about skin disease, we are contributing to the skin health of our community.'
– Spot Diagnosis podcast creator, A/Prof Alvin Chong



Advanced Therapeutics Education Portal

LOOKING FOR MORE RESOURCES FOR DERMATOLOGISTS, DERMATOLOGY REGISTRARS AND DERMATOLOGY NURSES?

Register now for our Advanced Therapeutics Education Portal. This portal provides Australian dermatology professionals with access to the most current information on clinical management, prescribing information, documentation requirements and support services for the use of advanced therapeutics. ●



Update

The Queensland Institute of Dermatology and the Queensland Skin and Cancer Foundation –Embarking on a new era


Under the guidance of our new Chief Executive Officer, Mellita Limberg, 2022 has seen a whole new direction for the organisation marking the start of a new era of dermatology education in Queensland.

After the development and launch of our 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, the organisation decided to separate our clinical services from our educational and training activities to focus on the provision of dermatology education in Queensland. While exploring this uncharted territory, we uncovered gaps in the support networks, educational


opportunities and platforms for training and sought to expand our services to fill them. We have developed a future for our foundation through consultation with the QLD Faculty, Registrars, QIDerm Staff, and Board members. Under our five key strategic pillars, we will focus our efforts on creating an inclusive, supportive skin healthcare program over the next four years.

OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS


ENGAGE


Engage Medical Professionals


INVEST


Invest in our partnerships & processes to create an efficient, sustainable business model.


SUPPORT


Support Education Programs

INQUIRE


Inquire about policy, processes & other reforms to grow awareness

EMPOWER


Empower our people, community & leadership team to drive change

Our first step to fulfilling these goals was creating an optimised space for clinical and educational learning opportunities. We recently finished renovations and launched our new education and training centre. This purpose-built facility in Queensland is dedicated to advancing dermatology education. Our centre offers

a wide range of resources and opportunities for experienced practitioners and those just starting their careers in dermatology.

We seek to work with our clinical institution to implement our education for improved patient outcomes. As the backbone of private practice

specialty training for Queensland registrars, we pride ourselves on offering unique, collaborative clinical experiences.

We believe this centre will play a vital role in supporting, sustaining, and strengthening

dermatology in Queensland. We are proud to be at the forefront of dermatology education and are excited to see this centre's impact on our field.

Please join our mailing list for any upcoming educational events [here](#).



Thank you

2022 saw a year of change for our organisation, with Prof H. Peter Soyer retiring from our board and clinical practice at QIDerm after 15 years. As a long-serving board member and clinician, we want to acknowledge the immeasurable time and effort Prof Soyer has given to our organisation. His contributions to the field of dermatology and his dedication to patient care will be greatly missed.

We would also like to mention Dr Michael Pitney who is retiring from QID practice after 3 years. Thank you to Dr Pitney for his kind, knowledgeable, measured approach to registrar training.

New doctors joining the team

In 2023 we continue to grow and expand, with Dr Charlotte Man and Dr Stephen Thomas joining the Queensland Institute of Dermatology in March. This takes our total number of Consulting Dermatologists to 14. These two highly qualified doctors bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team.


We look forward to the positive impact of the next generation of dermatologists on our clinic and patients. They join their peers Dr Stephen Andrews and Dr Lucy Pitney who joined our clinic shortly after graduation in previous years. With the addition of these new doctors, we are excited to continue to support dermatologists, both in their training years and beyond. ●





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