

2023 Annual Review

Excellence and equity in the provision
of mental healthcare.



The Royal
Australian &
New Zealand
College of
Psychiatrists





Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the First Nations and the traditional custodians of the lands and waters now known as Australia, and Māori as tangata whenua in Aotearoa, also known as New Zealand.

We recognise and value the traditional knowledge held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Māori.

We honour and respect the Elders past and present, who weave their wisdom into all realms of life - spiritual, cultural, social, emotional, and physical.

Acknowledgement of Lived Experience

We recognise those with lived and living experience of a mental health condition, including community members and all RANZCP members. We affirm their ongoing contribution to the improvement of mental healthcare for all people.

Contents

Our vision, values, purpose and priorities	04	Members' Advisory Council report	54	Section highlights	68
2023 membership	05	Member Representative Committee reports	55	Section of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry	68
President's report	10	Bi-national Committee for Trainees	55	Section of Early Career Psychiatrists	69
CEO's report	12	Overseas Trained Psychiatrists' Representative Committee	56	Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation	69
Trainee engagement and involvement: amplifying each other's voices now and into the futures	14	RANZCP Foundation Committee report	57	Section of Leadership and Management	70
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health	16	New Zealand National Committee report	58	Section of Neuropsychiatry	70
Gender equity in psychiatry	18	Australian Branch Committee reports	59	Section of Philosophy and Humanities	71
Advocacy for the profession: our work in 2023	20	Australian Capital Territory	59	Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry	71
Improving the digital experience for members: our new RANZCP website	22	New South Wales	60	Section of Private Practice Psychiatry	72
RANZCP awards	23	Northern Territory	60	Section of Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	72
Members honoured	29	Queensland	61	Section of Rural Psychiatry	73
Members honoured posthumously	37	South Australia	61	Section of Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry	73
Continuing Professional Development	39	Tasmania	62	Section of Youth Mental Health	74
RANZCP Journals	40	Victoria	62	Network highlights	75
The Psychiatry Interest Forum: celebrating ten years of workforce impact and influence	43	Western Australia	63	Asylum Seeker and Refugee Mental Health Network	75
Conferences and events	45	Faculty highlights	64	RANZCP ADHD Network Committee	76
Board Constituent Committee reports	48	Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry	64	Family Violence Psychiatry Network	76
Audit Committee	48	Faculty of Adult Psychiatry	65	Military, Veterans' and Emergency Services Personnel Mental Health Network	77
Corporate Governance and Risk Committee	49	Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	65	New Fellows	78
Education Committee	50	Faculty of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry	66	Certificates of Advanced Training	81
Finance Committee	51	Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry	66	Vale	82
Membership Engagement Committee	52	Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age	67	Contact us	83
Practice, Policy and Partnerships Committee	53	Faculty of Psychotherapy	67		

Note: All committee member lists current as of 8 January 2024.

Our vision, values, purpose and priorities

Our vision



Excellence and equity in the provision of mental healthcare.

Our purpose



To support our members, advance psychiatry, and advocate for the best mental health outcomes for our communities.

Our values

- Respect
- Collaboration
- Excellence
- Action

Our priorities



2023 membership

Who we are

Members of the RANZCP comprise Fellows, Associates (trainees), Affiliates and International Corresponding Members.

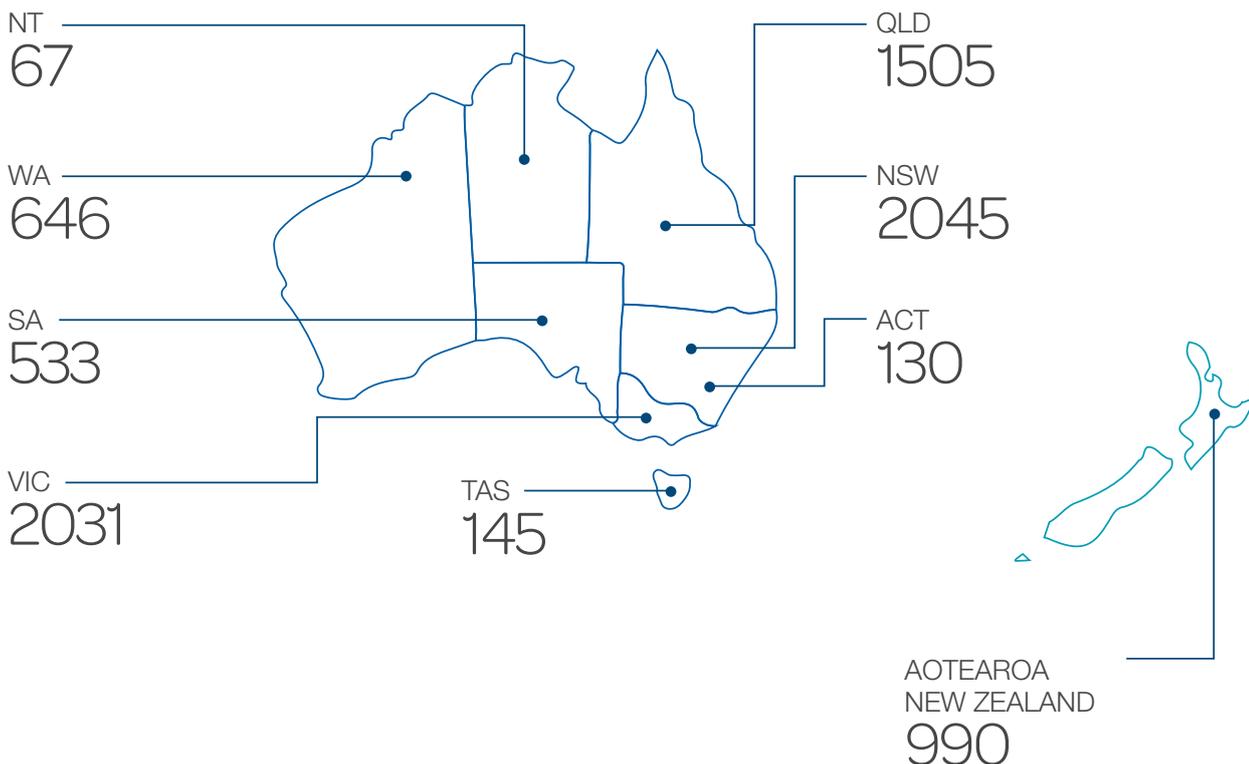
Members are based throughout Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, as well as in 33 other countries worldwide.

Membership numbers

Member type	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overseas	TOTAL
Affiliate	1	3	-	-	-	1	10	2	17	251	3	271
Associate (trainee)	40	585	34	453	143	37	586	175	2053	255	4	2312
Fellow*	89	1457	33	1052	390	107	1435	469	5032	484	153	5669
International Corresponding Member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	17
Total	130	2045	67	1505	533	145	2031	646	7102	990	177	8269

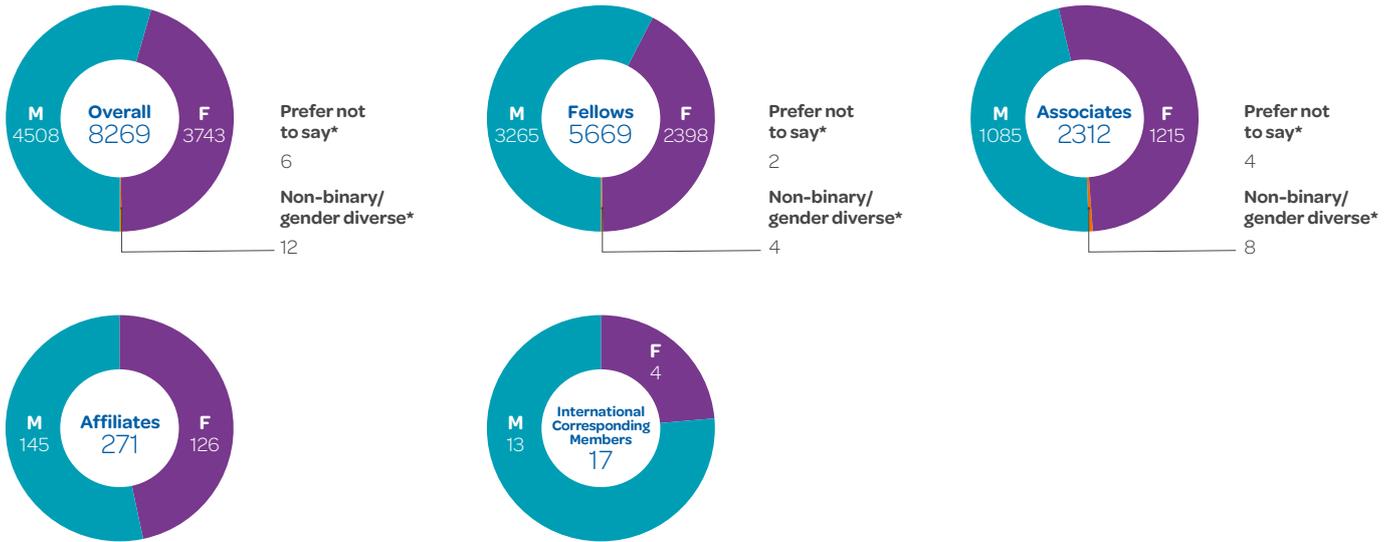
*Includes Retired Fellows

Geographic distribution of membership



The information on this page is correct as at 8 January 2024.

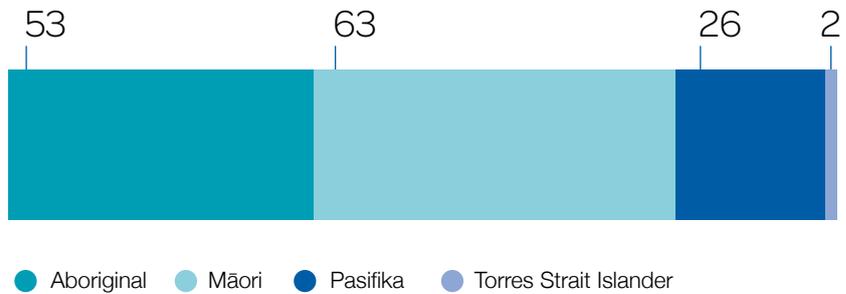
Gender distribution of membership



*As currently recorded

Indigenous information

Members may voluntarily inform the College if they identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori and/or Pasifika. This information assists with the College’s commitment to improving the mental health of communities and to enhancing support for our workforce.



Members of the Members’ Advisory Council at their meeting in Melbourne, October 2023

Delegates at the 2023 RANZCP Congress



New Fellow at the College Ceremony at the 2023 RANZCP Congress



Faculty membership



Section membership



Network membership



The information on this page is as recorded on 8 January 2024.

Membership at a glance



Membership has increased by 5.4% in 2023



The number of Associates (Trainees) has increased by 10.2% in 2023

274

new Fellows in 2023 (increase of 3.3% from 2022)



54% of new Fellows in 2023 were men, 46% were women

29–59

New Fellows in 2023 ranged in age from 29 to 59

412

new Trainees enrolled in 2023



Women make up 53% of new Trainees



62% of Fellows are aged 50+

23

Our youngest member is 23 years of age

97

Our oldest member is 97 years of age



New Fellows at the College Ceremony at the 2023 RANZCP Congress



Community Collaboration Committee Chair A/Prof Simon Stafrace and Co-Chair Ms De Backman-Hoyle

Below is the distribution of our training intake in 2023* by Fellowship Zone.

New trainee intake

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
Cohort 2023*	9	103	9	90	22	6	102	29	370	42	412

*Correct as at 8 January 2024. The 2023 training cohort is calculated from February 2023–February 2024.

New Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) intake

2023	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
(Partial Comparability)	1	1	1	8	-	-	25	8	44	-	44
(Substantial Comparability)	2	2	-	3	-	-	10	1	18	-	18
Total	3	3	1	11	-	-	35	9	62	-	62

Numbers are based on dates commenced on the Specialist Pathway.

New trainee gender distribution

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Man	7	53	5	38	12	3	42	11	171	17	188
Non-binary/ gender diverse*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Prefer not to say	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Woman	2	49	4	51	9	3	60	17	195	24	219

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Man	78%	51%	56%	42%	55%	50%	41%	38%	46%	40%	46%
Non-binary/ gender diverse*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3%	2%	0.5%
Prefer not to say	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8%	-	0.7%
Woman	22%	48%	44%	57%	41%	50%	59%	59%	53%	57%	53%

*For 2023, the College is reporting non-binary / gender diverse identity on a national level only, rather than by jurisdiction

President's report



Dr Elizabeth Moore
President

As psychiatrists, we are acutely aware that the past year has been a challenging period for many in our community. It has brought into focus the critical need to bolster mental healthcare and leadership. The RANZCP has played and continues to play a critical role in meeting Australia and New Zealand's current and future mental healthcare needs.

The College is committed to ensure the community receives the best possible care, driven by excellence, evidence and equity. Now, more than ever, it is crucial that we come together to ensure Australia and Aotearoa's mental health system can meet the growing needs of our community.

In May 2023, Associate Professor Vinay Lakra concluded his term as President. I thank Associate Professor Lakra for his leadership, passion, energy and tireless work to the College, our staff, our members and the community during his presidential term. The Board of Directors are building on the forward momentum and solid foundations to realise our ambitious goals.

In 2023, our College Board welcomed Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman in October, as well as Dr Ava Carter who was appointed as a

trainee Board Director in May. We also farewelled and thanked Professor Neeraj Gill for his hard work and dedication to the College, and wished him well in his future endeavours.

It is an immense privilege to be appointed as President. Along with President-Elect, Dr Astha Tomar, we look forward to making a difference to our community and our members.

We welcomed incoming CEO Ms Sharon McGowan who will lead the organisation and ensure we are poised to respond to challenges with agility and that we stay grounded in our purpose.

The College admitted 274 new Fellows in 2023, all of whom will make immense contributions to the profession.

The RANZCP Member Wellbeing Action Plan was launched - a comprehensive, five-year roadmap to support the wellbeing of all members. It consists of 26 carefully developed recommendations. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Membership Engagement Committee, and its Member Wellbeing Subcommittee led by Dr Prue McEvoy, for leading this work.

The College also released the RANZCP Gender Equity Action Plan - a blueprint for change that identifies 36 specific actions to help us collectively improve gender equity in psychiatry. I thank the Gender Equity Working Group, led by Professor Megan Galbally, and all the members involved thus far. It's only with our collective support that we can forge a more equitable future for our profession.

The College's Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy Steering Group released new resources to help psychiatrists, other health professionals, and the broader community understand and prepare for the regulatory changes that came into effect in Australia on 1 July. This work is ongoing and additional resources planned for release include principles for best practice and a training framework for psychiatrists.

The RANZCP Foundation helps to make possible new discoveries in mental health, research theory and methods essential for clinical psychiatry practice. Thanks to the generosity of College Fellow Dr Bryanne Barnett AM, the RANZCP Foundation has launched the Barnett Early Parenting Research and Collaboration Grant to support research in early parenting. I thank all our wonderful supporters for their investment to change the future of mental healthcare in our two countries.

Young people, women and those identifying as LGBTQIA+ are disproportionately affected by mental health issues. The trauma inflicted on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples due to the ongoing impact of colonisation, dispossession, and systemic racism and inequality has a profound and ongoing impact on the lives and mental health of many First Nations people in Australia. Addressing racism in all its forms is an area we can and must address, and our voices must be heard in the call to action around climate change.

I firmly believe that psychiatry must have a seat at the table within community and within governments at all levels so that the voices of our members are heard and acted on. I thank RANZCP members who have joined our advocacy to Federal, state and territory governments for urgent investment to attract, train, and retain the psychiatry workforce to ensure access to

safe, high-quality and person-centred mental health care that is timely and effective.

We wouldn't be the organisation that we are without our Branches and multiple Committees, Sections and Faculties. The diversity of ideas of our members are critical to informing best practice in our advocacy, research and clinical settings. Their valuable insights are applied across our activities.

I would like to acknowledge the determination, commitment and compassion of all those who work and volunteer at the College, to provide the best possible support to people in need of mental health care.

RANZCP Board members (Standing L-R: Dr Sue Mackersey, Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman, Dr Ava Carter, A/Prof Melanie Turner, Dr Nick O'Connor. Sitting L-R: President-Elect Dr Astha Tomar, Dr Mark Lawrence and President Dr Elizabeth Moore.



Associate Professor Vinay Lakra handing over the presidency to Dr Elizabeth Moore at the 2023 RANZCP Congress.



CEO's report



Ms Sharon McGowan, AM
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Thank you for standing with us
and being there for those who
need help, when it matters most.

While the world has moved on from the pandemic, it continues to have a profound legacy and far-reaching repercussions on our health. Mental illness is the second highest burden of disease in Australia, and the economic, personal and societal cost is enormous. Most importantly, mental illness is preventing too many Australians from living their lives and reaching their potential.

With unprecedented levels of the community needing mental health services, this puts greater pressures on our mental health workforce. But real change does not happen on its own.

When I took up the role of Chief Executive of the College, I was heartened to find an organisation grounded in its mission, led by a dedicated team, buoyed by a strong community of psychiatrists who contribute immensely and advocate unreservedly. This Annual Review is a testament of

the incredible achievements, collective efforts, unwavering commitment and determination of our members, our Board and Committee members, clinicians, researchers and College staff.

As I reflect on this past year, there are many achievements for which to take pause and celebrate.

With funding from the Australian Government, we are pleased to have developed and be offering a new Certificate of Postgraduate Training in Clinical Psychiatry, that will enable medical practitioners in Australia to learn new skills in mental health assessment and support. The Certificate will increase access to mental healthcare, particularly in the primary care sector, often the first point of contact for community members seeking support.

On the advocacy front, the College provided a submission to the Australian

National Health and Climate Strategy Consultation. Climate change poses significant risks to our health and health systems, and we continue to advocate for urgent climate action.

The College was unequivocal in our support for the 'YES' campaign to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Australian Constitution. We remain committed to working closely with First Nations communities to ensure their voices are heard, their rights are upheld, and health inequities diminished. With advice from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee and the Reconciliation Action Plan Steering Group, significant progress has been made towards the development of our second Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan to be launched in 2024.

The College developed Position Statement 103 to outline the role of psychiatrists in working with Trans and Gender Diverse people. Trans or Gender Diverse people experience higher rates of mental illness than the general population, and should be supported with person-centred and non-judgemental care which involves family and whānau where appropriate, underpinned by culturally safe practice.

The Board endorsed the Lived Experience Strategy which ensures that lived experience expertise and evidence is embedded in all aspects of the College, to deliver compassionate, person-centred, evidence-based psychiatric care.

In 2023, the College delivered its largest-ever Congress with over 1700 people in attendance and a thought-provoking program filled with keynotes and professional development sessions. My warmest thanks to the organising committee, delegates, presenters and College staff who made this event such a tremendous success.

Psych Matters, the RANZCP's flagship podcast series, continued to grow in popularity and reached a huge milestone of 100,000 downloads. The podcast team continues to innovate and work closely with members and other experts creating fantastic new content that is contemporary and engaging.

The Psychiatry Interest Forum (PIF) celebrated its tenth year. Since launching in 2013 with 208 members, PIF has grown to include over 4900 members across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. I had the privilege to join our PIF 'Insights into Psychiatry' workshop in Hobart and meet with so many who are pursuing a psychiatry career as part of our efforts to continue to grow the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce in psychiatry. With such diversity, focus, drive, energy and compassion, the future of excellence and equity in mental healthcare is in good hands. The PIF has completed its first year in Aotearoa New Zealand, delivering over 16 events attended by over 120 PIF members including 23 Māori and Pasifika members. The forum provides a unique

glimpse into the rich tapestry of Māori culture and furthers our commitment to fostering inclusivity and cultural respect in psychiatry.

Tangible change happens when committed people come together with a compelling story, a solid evidence base and a solutions mindset. I thank each and every one of our members, Board and Committees for your expertise, support and time that you invest to the work of the College. My thanks to the Executive Leadership team and all of our staff across the whole organisation for your true and enduring commitment to advancing our vision of equity and excellence in the provision of mental healthcare. We have much good work to do together. In the year ahead, the RANZCP is excited to build on this great momentum and deliver meaningful change with and for those experiencing mental ill-health.



From L-R : RANZCP CEO Sharon McGowan AM, previous President Dr Vinay Lakra, WA Minister for Health and Mental Health, the Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA, RANZCP President Dr Elizabeth Moore & WA Branch Chair Dr Mike Verheggen at the 2023 RANZCP Congress.

Trainee engagement and involvement: amplifying each other's voices now and into the future

There are now over 2,268 trainees in our College, and last year 274 were admitted to Fellowship of the RANZCP and became psychiatrists in Australia, New Zealand and globally.

Those numbers alone are hard to comprehend sometimes. Meeting our training requirements, as well as living our lives beyond medicine, often means we don't pause and consider how many other psychiatry trainees there are right now, just like us.

The formation of the new Bi-national Committee for Trainees (BCT), as well as the wider Trainee Advisory Council (TAC) signalled a clear unity of commitment by our peers and colleagues in training to represent and advocate for each other's needs through the College governance and structures.

An impressive 71 of our peers volunteered to represent the views of trainees, offering their time and skills to a total of 116 College committees in 2023. That's 78% of all active College committees.

Having a voice on how College assessments are structured and delivered in future was a significant part of 2023. Many trainees were involved in the process of designing and implementing the new program of assessments. Trainee representatives took part in consultation forums, committee meetings and paper discussions, and a dedicated consultation platform was put in place to facilitate this.

Trainee members of the BCT and TAC have helped identify structural areas of improvement for the College, particularly in advocating for ongoing trainee positions in major committees. They brought to attention the need for increased awareness at Branch levels of opportunities for trainees to exhibit their leadership and governance skills within the College.

From L - R: Dr Nicola Campbell (Chair, Bi-national Committee for Trainees), Dr Ava Carter (Appointed Director and Chair, Trainee Advisory Council) and Dr Evan Wilson (Deputy Chair, Bi-national Committee for Trainees)



Additionally, the rich and welcome feedback from trainees regarding the Clinical Competency Assessment has contributed significantly to the creation of the Modified Portfolio Review and adjustment made in the view of welfare, transparency, and ongoing clinically competent learning.

However, assessments are just one sphere of influence our trainee representatives had across the year. For example, our representatives have been advocating strongly in Victoria for improved support and engagement for trainees in leadership roles. And in New Zealand, the local PIF program has been a wonderful success and the presence of trainee support there has helped to promote the next generation of psychiatrists.

Beyond coming together as new representative bodies, the BCT and TAC achieved the following to advance trainee interests across the year:

- » Designed and developed a new three-year trainee engagement strategy that has been endorsed by the College Board. This centrepiece project was led by Queensland trainee Dr Elise Witter and will be a catalyst for change in how trainees are valued, seen and heard within the College.
- » Initiated our own bi-monthly trainee column in *Australasian Psychiatry*, together with a dedicated 'trainee takeover' special issue that featured cover art designed by Dr Ruth Mason-Battley, a New Zealand trainee. Dr Ed Miller, Trainee Editor for *Australasian Psychiatry*, worked hard on this edition together with Associate Trainee Editors Dr Ashna Basu and Dr Oliver Robertson.
- » Hosted an in-person meeting in Rotorua in Aotearoa New Zealand, in acknowledgement of the vital role that our New Zealand trainees play and the issues they experience.
- » Supported the College Board in implementing a fairer and more equitable fee structure, enabling 709 trainees to take up new part time fee options across the year.

- » Advised on projects to improve new trainees' orientation and onboarding into the College, aiming to offer a better experience for those starting out their training journeys.

We know that the agenda for the future cannot be set in stone, but it's clear that there are prominent issues for trainees that will extend into future years, including:

- » Supporting the implementation of the Clinical Competency Portfolio Review assessment program.
- » Working together to meet our College re-accreditation requirements set by the Australian Medical Council.
- » Continuing to support College-wide efforts to address issues with the culture of medicine, reflected through the annual Ahpra Medical Training Survey results.
- » Keeping trainee voting rights squarely on the reform agenda.
- » Aligning our work with the future College Lived Experience Strategy and Reconciliation Action Plan.
- » Being a part of future psychiatry workforce planning consultations.

On behalf of the BCT and TAC members, we want to express our sincere thanks to every College trainee for the opportunity to represent you this year.

Amplifying your voices through our work has been a privilege and we want to continue to encourage you to connect, discuss and engage with your trainee representatives next year, and who knows, even choose to become one yourselves!

Dr Ava Carter

Appointed Director, Trainee,
Chair, Trainee Advisory Council

Dr Nicola Campbell

Chair, Bi-National Committee
for Trainees

Trainees at the ACT Branch registrar welcome event



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health

It was undoubtedly a critical year for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the College was proud to reaffirm its commitment to improving health outcomes for these communities by supporting the 'Yes' vote to enshrine a Voice to Parliament.

This was not a new position for the College - we have long held the view that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should have equal access to mental health and psychiatric care in a culturally-appropriate environment. As psychiatrists, we are acutely aware of the trauma inflicted on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples due to the profound ongoing impact of colonisation, dispossession, and systemic racism and inequality.

The failure of The Voice referendum significantly impacted many of our members and their communities. There was a sad irony in the way the proposed constitutional change to better protect First Nations peoples from trauma served only to add to the harm already done.

The RANZCP respects the outcome of the referendum but will continue to work in a way that promotes the person-centred care and self-determination that is critical for better mental health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The work of the RANZCP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee is key to that being a success, and over the course of 2023, this committee met five times in a mix of virtual and face-to-face settings.

One of its most significant programs of work has been to champion and guide the development of the RANZCP's third Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The

RANZCP's reconciliation journey has, to date, seen the introduction of several changes to build awareness, understanding and action in our organisation to recognise and act on the impacts of colonisation.

This included the introduction of the Indigenous Financial Support Scheme, through which 38 applications were finalised and awarded during 2023 to a total of almost \$62,000. Additionally, the RANZCP received a funding grant from the Commonwealth's Specialist Training Program (STP) for the development of a new 'Back to Country' grant program. One grant per trainee will be available each calendar year of up to \$3,000, and its scope is broad enough to cover a wide range of activities from attending sorry business to personal development opportunities.

The development of the Innovate RAP will build on these foundational initiatives and will guide the RANZCP as we find new ways to support First Nations clinicians into psychiatry. We know there is a growing interest from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to pursue a career in psychiatry - we ended 2023 with 17 Fellows and 36 trainees.

The latter part of 2023 also saw us progress two new identified staff roles to provide guidance and oversight of the RANZCP's work with a specific First Nations lens. These roles will support College staff and psychiatrists alike as we develop and embed our new Cultural Safety Framework over the coming years.

This important Framework will be based on the principles shared by our First Nations colleagues in Aotearoa New Zealand, and the resulting Framework will be a robust bi-national resource.

As a key advisory body within our College, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee takes the lead in advocating for and promoting initiatives for

First Nations communities including providing feedback in the development of the RANZCP's new Lived Experience Strategy, and ensuring an appropriate level of safety and respect to members within the College, in particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, was incorporated.

Externally, the Committee supported presentations at the 2023 Congress in Perth 'Governance - Managing the Two Worlds: Traditional Healers vs Western Medicine', and in Hobart at the AIDA Conference 'Indigenous Perspectives on Health and Healing: Cultivating Thriving through Traditional Knowledges'.

While the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee prides itself on its work as a strong, united group, there are individuals who deserve to be highlighted for their efforts and achievements in 2023.

On behalf of the RANZCP our sincerest thanks go to long-standing community member, Elizabeth McEntyre, who finished her term on the Committee having demonstrated and delivered an invaluable contribution. We thank you for your sage counsel and thoughtful contributions, Elizabeth; yours are big shoes to fill.

We also want to shine the spotlight on Dr Jodi Eatt, who this year was awarded the iconic Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) stethoscope at the AIDA conference in Hobart. The special, hand-painted AIDA stethoscope is gifted to doctors upon graduating from medical school and/or becoming a Fellow.

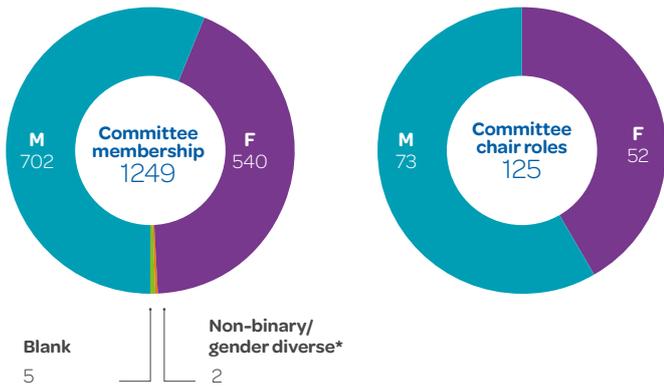
Dr Eatt joins a growing and influential group of First Nations RANZCP Fellows. The AIDA stethoscope symbolises the history and future of First Nations medicine as each additional doctor and Fellow works to change the landscape of healthcare across Australia and normalise our mob being medical professionals – something the RANZCP believes Dr Eatt will play a key role in.



Dr Jodi Eatt, 2023 recipient of the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) stethoscope.

Gender equity in psychiatry

RANZCP committees

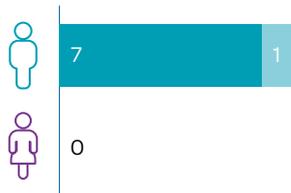


RANZCP and clinical leadership positions

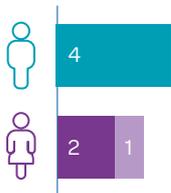
RANZCP Board

Position	Male	Female
1 x President	0	1
1 x President-Elect	0	1
5 x Directors	3	2
1 x Appointed Director, Trainee	0	1

Board Elected Director, Casual Vacancy



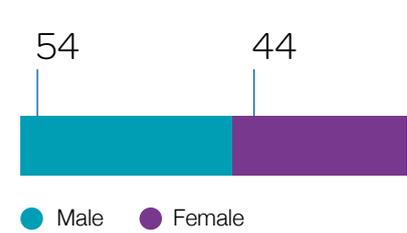
Board Appointed Director, Trainee



President-Elect Election



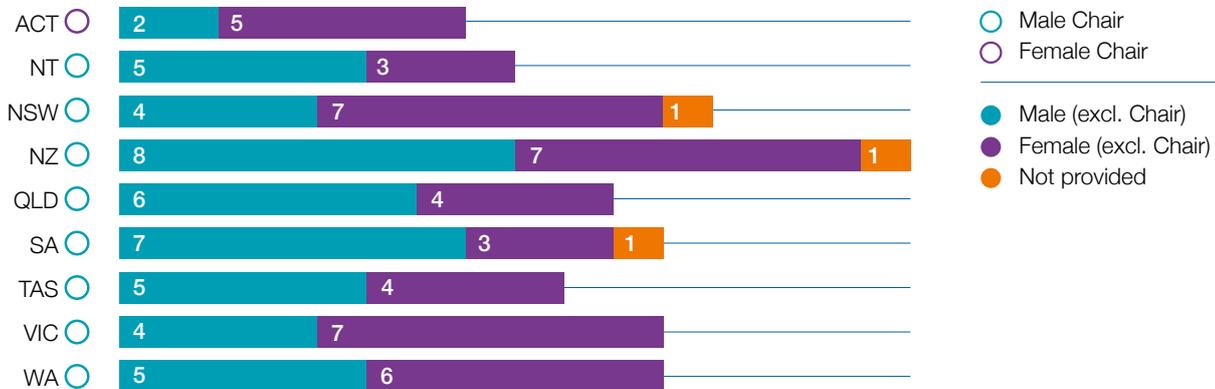
Directors of Training/Directors of Advanced Training combined



- Female candidates
- Female elected
- Male candidates
- Male elected

*Note that for 2023, the College is reporting non-binary/gender diverse identity at a national committee membership level only.

Australian Branch committees and New Zealand National Committee

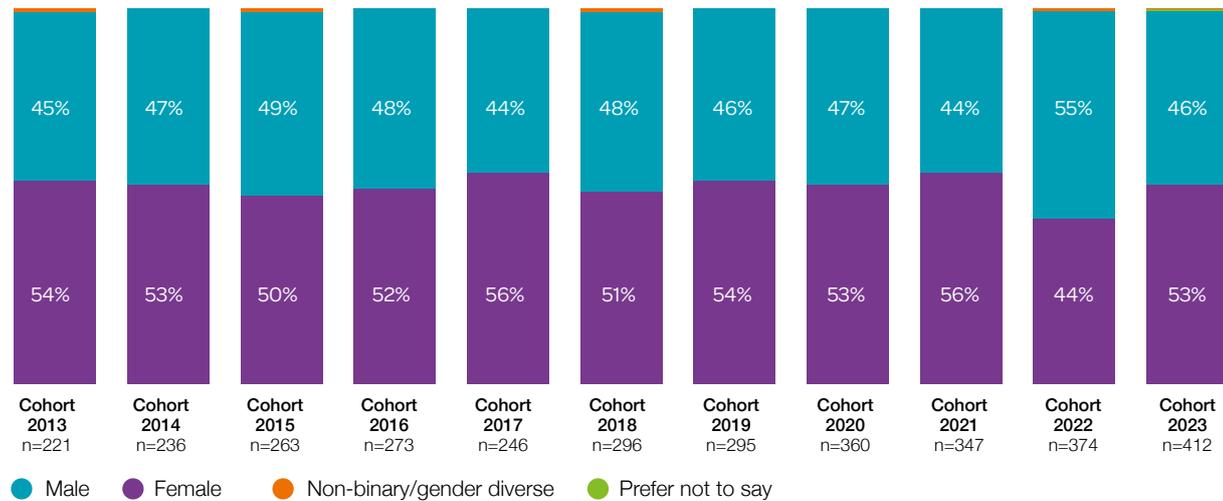


The above data only includes formal committees and networks which hold elections and excludes some committees with ex-officio membership (such as the Members' Advisory Council and the Branch Chairs' Forum), as well as time-limited Advisory Groups, Working Groups and Steering Groups.

124 committees were included in this data set. One committee has a Co-Chair position. The above data also includes Board Directors that hold roles on Australian Branch and New Zealand National Committees.

Fellowship program enrolment

RANZCP intakes by cohort and gender



New trainee intake gender distribution by State / Territory for Cohort 2023

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Man	7	53	5	38	12	3	42	11	171	17	188
Non-binary/ gender diverse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Prefer not to say	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Woman	2	49	4	51	9	3	60	17	195	24	219

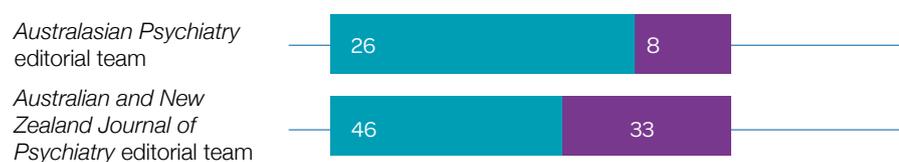
The 2023 training cohort is calculated from February 2023–February 2024. For 2023, the College is reporting non-binary / gender diverse identity on a national level only, rather than by jurisdiction.

Keynote speakers



Average time to complete the program by gender (considering only trainees from the 2012 program).

RANZCP Journals



All the above gender data correct as at 8 January 2024

● Male ● Female

Advocacy for the profession: our work in 2023

The year was marked by successful advocacy outcomes, with elections in Aotearoa New Zealand and New South Wales providing the College with opportunities to advocate for improving mental health care in both jurisdictions.

In Aotearoa, psychiatrists united in their calls to address the workforce shortage to support the 260,000 New Zealanders suffering from moderate-to-severe mental illness. In New South Wales, the RANZCP joined forces with mental health peak bodies in calling for the creation of an expert task force, improving access and quality of care, and injecting new funding into the state's mental health system and workforce.

Aotearoa New Zealand: Putting mental health front and centre

Tu Te Akaaka Roa, the RANZCP's New Zealand National Committee, played a crucial role in the pre-election campaign in Aotearoa.

Our goal was clear – to gain support and concrete commitments from all sides of the political spectrum to address the psychiatry workforce shortage in the country.

A survey of 540 psychiatrists in Aotearoa, published in the *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, underscored the issues that plagues the mental health system: inadequate resources, structural inefficiencies, insufficient funding, and an increasing demand outpacing the system's capacity.

These findings prompted Tu Te Akaaka Roa to call on all political parties to prioritise mental health in their election platforms, seeking urgent commitments such as workforce solutions, increased budget allocations, and comprehensive surveys to understand New Zealanders' mental health.

Tu Te Akaaka Roa Chair, Dr Hiran Thabrew hosted a political candidate forum, engaging attendees such as former Health Minister Dr Ayesha Verrall and the National Party spokesperson and now the first Minister for Mental Health, the Hon Mark Doocoy.

This forum, combined with strategic media engagement that was supported by insights from frontline surveys, successfully spotlighted challenges within the public mental health system in Aotearoa, and provided a platform for candidates to directly address concerns felt by members.

We were able to secure some key commitments from both major parties, including significant and tangible commitments to ramp up the training, recruitment and retention of psychiatrists in the system.

New South Wales: A coalition for change

In New South Wales, our pre-election campaign set the mental health agenda for the new state government with consistent and targeted advocacy around improving mental healthcare delivery.

It began with a comprehensive report led by the RANZCP, which was a joint effort with the Mental Health Alliance – an alliance of peak mental health bodies that includes the Mental Health Coordinating Council, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, the Australian Medical Association (NSW), BEING – Mental Health Consumers, and Mental Health Carers NSW.

The report, titled 'The NSW mental health care system on the brink: Evidence from the frontline', was based on input from over 1300 mental health practitioners, highlighting chaos, confusion, fiscal neglect, and fragmentation within the state's mental health system.

This report set the stage for a political candidate forum, where NSW Branch members, led by Branch Chair Dr Angelo Virgona, voiced concerns about the fragmented mental health systems to the former Health Minister for NSW, Bronnie Taylor MLC, and Ryan Park MP, the new Minister for Health.

We secured a commitment from the NSW Minister for Mental Health, Rose Jackson, for one of our key policy asks – an independent and co-designed gap analysis of all state-funded mental health services, across community, outpatient, and inpatient systems and services.

Laying the foundation for our work in 2024

The effectiveness of our advocacy last year lay in clear, consistent messaging, a targeted focus, and a person-centred approach that prioritised both the community and workforce.

Through impactful member surveys, the College gathered real experiences from frontline mental health practitioners, painting a clear picture of challenges within the mental health system.

Recognising the significance of accurate data to inform policymaking, we're urging governments to enhance systems for collecting, organising, and reporting mental health data.

Much of our work in late 2023 was focused on laying the groundwork for future advocacy. We submitted recommendations for the 2024 Federal Budget in Australia, which will be followed by a campaign to call for greater Commonwealth funding in mental health.

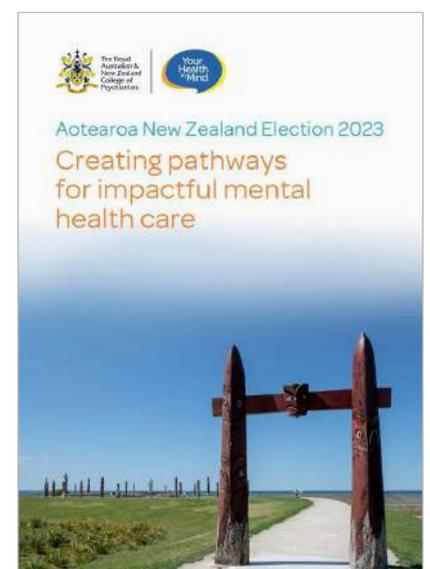
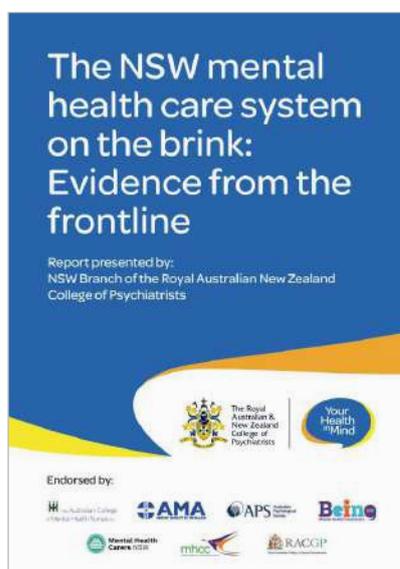
Moving forward

The campaign for mental health reform is gaining further traction across both New Zealand and Australia.

The College's commitment to mental health reform and to the mental wellbeing of communities across our two countries remains steadfast. As we navigate the complex landscape of mental health, we look forward to championing an environment where mental health is prioritised, there is equity of access to services, and excellence in treatment and care is appropriately resourced.



The Hon Emma McBride MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, with RANZCP President Dr Elizabeth Moore and CEO Ms Sharon McGowan AM.



Improving the digital experience for members: our new RANZCP website

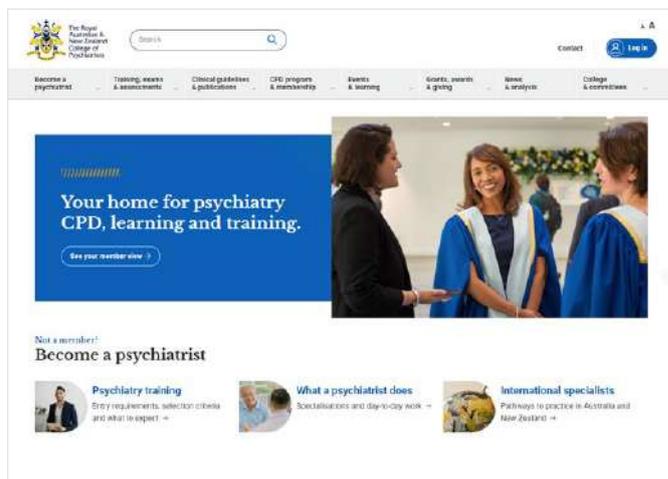
Making the everyday tasks members have to do with the College as accessible and hassle free as possible was the goal of the redevelopment of the RANZCP website, delivered in 2023.

Our new site went live in May and has formed a solid foundation to support the future growth of the College, better meet the needs of trainees and support Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements in the CPD Home environment.

During the design process, the RANZCP interviewed members to understand their context, needs and key tasks. Members were able to test out the menus and structure, and work with three prototype designs.

Priorities in the build phase included ensuring that the various audiences of the site could find and make use of the information most relevant to them, that the site follows security best practices, and that it achieved Web Content Accessibility (WCAG) level AA compliance.

Work is ongoing to make improvements to and linkages across our different online platforms such as InTrain and MyCPD and connect members with the information that is most important to them in upgrades to the MyRANZCP dashboard.



Website by the numbers



page views per month across all RANZCP platforms



log in events per month



members helped with testing and interviews

RANZCP awards

Each year, the College presents a variety of awards and grants to acknowledge outstanding achievements in psychiatry, recognise excellence in psychiatric research and training, and encourage new and emerging researchers.

The College is extremely proud of this year's winners, from those who have dedicated their lives to psychiatry, enabling improved patient care through innovation and mentorship; to those undertaking ground-breaking research to transform mental health care. There have also been awards given to trainees who have shown incredible potential and positivity for the future of psychiatry. The following awards were conferred in 2023.



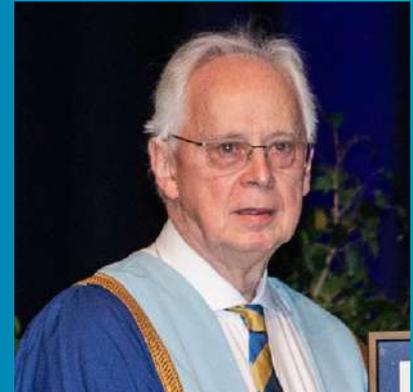
The College Medal of Honour

Associate Professor John Allan

The College Medal of Honour is the College's highest and most prestigious award. It is presented for distinguished and meritorious service to the College to a Fellow who has given a minimum of 10 years' active service in organisational and/or administrative areas of the College.

Associate Professor Allan was bestowed the College Medal of Honour for his enormous contribution to the College and to the profession more broadly. He has dedicated his life to improving the care for those with serious mental illness and the mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Throughout his career, he has helped transform mental health services and practice. He is considered a national leader in mental health reform in Australia.

He has contributed immensely to promoting psychiatry via various leadership positions, his clinical and academic service, and activity on multiple committees at branch and bi-national levels. Notably, he was the College President from 2019–21 and Chair of the Committee for Specialist International Medical Graduate Education between 2008 and 2015. Within the Training and Specialist International Medical Graduate space, he led significant reform in education and assessments. He has been a champion for overseas-trained psychiatrists and contributed to the training and mentoring of newer generations of psychiatrists.



The College Citation

Associate Professor Campbell Paul

Established in 1986, the College Citation honours special service to the RANZCP or psychiatry.

Associate Professor Paul received the award for his extraordinary contribution to psychiatry and his pioneering influence and advocacy efforts for infant and transgender psychiatry worldwide. Notably, in his role as Child Psychiatrist at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, he established the Infant Mental Health Program through which he has cared for thousands of sick infants and their families. He has also taken a strong human rights approach and has contributed to law reform allowing better access for transgender children and adolescents for medical treatment.



The Ian Simpson Award

Professor Andrew Chanen

The Ian Simpson Award honours College foundation member Dr Ian Simpson and acknowledges the most outstanding contribution to clinical psychiatry through service to patients and the community.

Professor Chanen was acknowledged for his outstanding contribution to the care of patients and the community through his clinical and academic work. He is currently Chief of Clinical Practice and Head, Personality Disorder Research at Orygen as well as a Professorial Fellow at the Centre for Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne.

Through his academic work Professor Chanen has improved the evidence base for the treatment of personality disorders and translated this new knowledge nationally and globally. He takes this knowledge into his practice as an expert clinician – one who has advocated for a fair deal for patients with these conditions – and has great understanding of the suffering that these neglected illnesses produce.



The Maddison Medallion

Dr Benjamin Newham

Dr Evan Peterson (pictured)

First awarded in 1970, the Maddison Medallion recognises and encourages excellence in the study of psychiatry. It is awarded for meritorious performance during training and in the examinations leading to Fellowship of the RANZCP.

In 2023, the Medallion was awarded to two recipients.



The Margaret Tobin Award

Professor Jackie Curtis

Named in honour of the late Dr Margaret Tobin, the Margaret Tobin Award is presented to the RANZCP Fellow who has made the most significant contribution to administrative psychiatry in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand over the preceding five years.

Professor Curtis was awarded the 2023 Margaret Tobin Award for her administrative expertise, international reputation and noteworthy achievements.



The Mark Sheldon Prize
Professor Pat Dudgeon AM

The Mark Sheldon Prize was established by the family, friends and colleagues of the late Dr Mark Sheldon to recognise noteworthy contributions to Indigenous mental health in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

Professor Dudgeon was recognised and commended for their meritorious contributions to psychiatry and psychology over decades. From role modelling through to personal and political advocacy, professional activities and community contributions, they actively and continuously supported best practice in Aboriginal mental health.



The Pirika Taonga
Dr Kiri Prentice

The Pirika Taonga (established in 2021) is in memory of Poiti Arama-karaka Pirika, the RANZCP's Kaumātua from 2008–17. It recognises noteworthy contributions in Māori mental health and addiction in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The award may be given to a Māori member of the RANZCP or a member of the Māori community who has contributed to increasing Māori relationships across the New Zealand mental health sector. The individual's commitment to Te Reo Māori me onā tikanga in practice is one of the noteworthy principles underpinning the award.

Dr Prentice was a fitting recipient of the Pirika Taonga, given her commitment to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of the broader community, as well as her leadership in psychiatry. Her work to date with Māori Minds is an indication of her connection to traditional and contemporary Māori worlds, which has contributed significantly to improving Māori health outcomes. She demonstrates a clear focus on matauranga Māori, tangata whaiora and their whānau and hāpori, as well as on her clinical team and colleagues, which indicates strength in Te Reo Māori and in the practice of psychiatry.



The RANZCP Senior Research Award

Professor Chris Pantelis

Established in 1978 to recognise excellence in research in psychiatry in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, the RANZCP Senior Research Award is presented to the Fellow or Affiliate who has made the most significant contribution to psychiatric research in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand over the preceding five years.

Professor Pantelis was selected as the recipient of the 2023 RANZCP Senior Research Award based on his significant early contributions to the understanding of the onset of psychotic disorders, long history of research excellence, and continuation of high-impact publications from multiple international collaborations.



The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award

Dr Jayson Jeganathan

The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award was established in 1979 to encourage and promote research in psychiatry in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. It is presented to the Fellow, Affiliate or trainee who has contributed the most significant paper published in the past two years.

Amongst a very competitive field, Dr Jeganathan was selected for his sophisticated and innovative study, which developed and validated new techniques with clinical significance, and was published in a high-impact journal.



The Lived Experience Australia Award for Best Practice in Consumer and Carer Inclusion

Dr Calina Ouliaris

The Lived Experience Australia Award is awarded to the psychiatry trainee who has submitted the best reflection following completion of all five *Collaboration, Communication and Cooperation between Health Professionals* modules in *Learnit*. The award recognises best practice in consumer and carer inclusion.

Dr Ouliaris received the award for her comments about the Circle of Care, given the experience of fragmented care that many service users/consumers and their families and carers experience. Also of note was her emphasis on the importance of keeping the GP not only informed, but ideally included as a co-designer in treatment plans.

The Scholarly Project Award

Dr Jenna Cheney

The Scholarly Project Award recognises and encourages excellence in the study of psychiatry. It is awarded for the most meritorious scholarly project submitted for the previous calendar year.

Dr Cheney’s project, ‘The use of the representativeness heuristic by psychiatrists in Early Psychosis diagnosis: a pilot study’ was considered a refreshingly innovative and original enquiry into a very important aspect of basic clinical psychiatric practice.

The Addiction Psychiatry Prize

Dr Carmen Nayer

The Addiction Psychiatry Prize is an incentive award designed to encourage achievements and excellence in addiction psychiatry.

Dr Nayer’s literature review ‘Comparison of the characteristics of patients treated with sublingual vs. long-acting injectable buprenorphine formulations for the treatment of opioid use disorder: a retrospective cohort study’ was considered comprehensive and well written, with thoughtful discussion which summarised findings and implications well.



The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Basic Psychiatric Trainee Prize

Dr William Pridmore

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Basic Psychiatric Trainee Prize recognises originality, scientific merit and contribution to the knowledge base of psychiatry of old age by a psychiatry trainee.

The findings in Dr Pridmore's paper 'Aducanumab for Alzheimer's disease: Observations and opportunities' read well and was a good synthesis of the controversial trial of aducanumab.



The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Psychiatric Trainee Prize for Scholarly Project

Dr Matthew Kang

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Psychiatric Trainee Prize for Scholarly Project is awarded to a current or recent advanced trainee in psychiatry of old age, for meritorious research in the field of psychiatry of old age.

Dr Kang's paper 'Cerebrospinal fluid neurofilament light can assist earlier distinction between neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders and reduce change in diagnosis and misdiagnosis in a clinical neuropsychiatry service' was considered very interesting and important, moving things forward in this research.

The Medicott Award

Dr Rosemary Williams

The Medicott Award honours Emeritus Professor Reginald Medicott, a leading forensic psychiatrist in Aotearoa New Zealand and inaugural president of the RANZCP, following its incorporation in 1963. The award seeks to encourage achievements and excellence in research in forensic psychiatry.

Dr Williams' project 'Does ending night-confinement reduce use of seclusion and prevalence of violence in a forensic psychiatric hospital? A retrospective observational study' was well written, interesting and beneficial.

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Prize for Best Mental Health Service Improvement

Dr Terence Chong

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Prize for Best Mental Health Service Improvement encourages and promotes the highest clinical and ethical standards in the delivery of psychiatry of old age services and is awarded for improvements focused upon the needs of people with mental illness who are older.

The model outlined in Dr Chong's paper 'Too old for early intervention? The Healthy Ageing Service's mental health response' was considered very useful for psychiatry of old age community care, as a new service directing care to previously unsupported individuals.



The Faculty of Psychotherapy Essay Prize

Dr Calina Ouliaris

The Faculty of Psychotherapy Essay Prize is given for the best essay submitted by a psychiatry trainee or recent Fellow on a psychotherapy topic.

Dr Ouliaris' essay 'Models of care for gender dysphoria in young persons: how psychiatry lost and is finding its voice' was a sophisticated overview and mature critical analysis, as well as enjoyable to read.



The RANZCP Psychotherapy Research Award

Dr Setareh Hakimi (pictured)

Dr Kelsey Josling

Supported by the RANZCP Foundation and Faculty of Psychotherapy, the RANZCP Psychotherapy Research Award encourages research in psychotherapy among psychiatry trainees and recent Fellows in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Considered a well-described and feasible project, 'Transforming the Journey Together: Exploring the experience of psychiatry trainees using modified Adult Attachment Interviews (AAs)' had a realistic budget and appropriately explained the sampling approach and qualitative methodology.

Members honoured



Mr Ronald Tuakana Baker
(Auckland, New Zealand)

New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM)

Mr Ronald Tuakana Baker, RANZCP Kaumātua, was appointed to the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori mental health.

Mr Baker (Ngāti Porou, Ngāi Tāmanuhiri, Whānau o Rongomaiwahine) has contributed to better mental health care for Māori for more than 60 years.

Mr Baker was a Charge Nurse at Whaiora, the first Māori Mental Health Unit, established at Tokanui Hospital in the 1980s. He was part of a collective who were determined to establish further Kaupapa Māori Mental Health Units throughout New Zealand. Manawanui was founded, a purpose-built Marae for Māori who experience mental illness and addiction in Auckland.

He has travelled with his wife to deliver Te Ihi Ora, a program aimed to educate around suicide prevention, steeped in Mātauranga Māori. He has helped guide and train others in the field to address the impacts of suicide on Māori, particularly in the East Coast region where Māori suicide rates are extremely high. Mr Baker has provided support and mentorship for a mental health program which will address healing in a cultural way. This has sparked further community groups being formed to address the impacts of suicide and mental health on Māori.

He has been Kaumatua of several organisations including Manwanui since 2010 and the College of Mental Health Nurses since 2005. Mr Baker is also a Life Member of the College of Mental Health Nurses.



Associate Professor Josephine Beatson
(Victoria)

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

Associate Professor Josephine Beatson was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to psychiatry.

Associate Professor Beatson achieved Fellowship of the RANZCP in 1983. She was working at Footscray Psychiatric Hospital (FPH) at the time, which remains a highlight of her early career. Working there was 'gold' for a new College Fellow. It provided a breadth of experience in treating inpatients, outpatient follow-up (now seldom possible) and vigorous case discussions with a multidisciplinary team.

This experience at FPH, and later at St. Vincent's Mental Health Unit was pivotal to her developing interest in personality disorders, particularly borderline personality disorder (BPD). She joined the staff at Spectrum Service for Personality Disorder and Complex Trauma in 2003. She has worked with Associate Professor Sathya Rao, Spectrum's current Clinical Director, and Spectrum staff towards improving treatment and educating the mental health workforce in Australia about BPD and Complex Trauma.

Having lectured in the University of Melbourne's psychiatry courses for 30 years, Associate Professor Beatson experienced a great opportunity to inform psychiatric trainees about complex trauma and BPD. She is particularly proud of having been a member of the Peer Review Working Party from 1989–97. The Working Party's hard work and research led to the inclusion of Peer Review within the RANZCP's CPD requirements. She served on the Editorial Board of the *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry* from 1996–2004, and has been involved with the RANZCP's Psychotherapy Section Education Subcommittee and Victorian Branch Examinations Committee.

Associate Professor Beatson was awarded the RANZCP's College Citation in 2020, its Victorian Branch Meritorious Service Award in 2017, and has received three certificates for outstanding teaching from the University of Melbourne.



Associate Professor Ravi Bhat
(Victoria)

**Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)**

Associate Professor Ravi Bhat was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to medicine and to rural psychiatry.

Associate Professor Bhat is Divisional Clinical Director, Goulburn Valley Area Mental Health Service (GVAMHS) and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne's Department of Rural Health in Shepparton, Victoria.

After completing his specialist training in psychiatry in India from Christian Medical College, Vellore and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi, Associate Professor Bhat moved to Australia in 1999 as a staff specialist in psychiatry with GVAMHS. He became a Fellow of the RANZCP in 2002. He completed Advanced Training in Psychiatry of Old Age in 2005 under the supervision of Professor Edmond Chiu.

Associate Professor Bhat's research interests are delirium in older adults, suicide, and mental health service delivery in rural areas. He has published nearly 50 scholarly works. He has been a member of Victorian statewide and national committees, such as the Mental Health Ministerial Advisory Committee (MHMAC), Victoria 2019–21 and the Delirium Clinical Care Standard Topic Working Group of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care 2014–15 and 2020–21. He is a current member of the Interdisciplinary Clinical Advisory Group, a subcommittee of the MHMAC.

Associate Professor Bhat was the rural representative and later a member of the RANZCP Victorian Branch Committee (2014–19). He is currently a member of the RANZCP's Section of Rural Psychiatry committee and a member of the Regional, Rural and Remote Training Steering Group. He was awarded the RANZCP Victorian Branch Meritorious Service Award in 2021.



Dr Susan Blinkhorn
(New South Wales)

**Medal of the Order
of Australia (OAM)**

Dr Susan Blinkhorn was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to medicine as a psychiatrist.

As a child and adolescent psychiatrist with almost 30 years' experience in rural New South Wales, Dr Blinkhorn has dedicated her career to improving mental health outcomes for young people and families. She recognised a vast unmet need for psychiatric services in rural areas, and over time, her understanding of the needs of remote children and their families deepened.

Research Dr Blinkhorn conducted in the late 1990s on the feasibility of community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) teams in rural areas guided her contribution to local teams. She sought to increase the capacity of local clinicians to provide timely and effective treatment through collaboration with paediatricians and CAMHS clinicians and through GP training. Dr Blinkhorn was pleased to contribute to the RANZCP NSW Branch Rural Project, and later chair the NSW Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry committee.

She helped establish training posts for basic and advanced trainees in child and adolescent psychiatry in Orange. An Advanced Skills training post for GP registrars was also accredited. Dr Blinkhorn was privileged to have played a role in setting up a rural inpatient CAMHS. This was perhaps the most challenging and rewarding professional task she had undertaken.

Dr Blinkhorn is now retired from public practice but continues to support the next generation of psychiatrists in rural NSW and to advocate for improved access to mental health services for children and families.



Emeritus Professor Philip Boyce
(New South Wales)

**Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)**

Emeritus Professor Philip Boyce was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to psychiatric research and education.

Philip Boyce is Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry, University of Sydney and Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist at Westmead Hospital. He has an outpatient clinic one day a week at the Ramsay Clinic, Northside. He sits on the Mental Health Review tribunal and is a senior examiner for the Australian Medical Council.

He has a clinical and research interest in mood disorders, particularly in the management of bipolar disorder over the perinatal period and research into the triggers for bipolar relapse. He is still involved in several perinatal psychiatry research projects and projects on bipolar disorders. He ran perinatal psychiatry services in Western Sydney (at the Nepean and Westmead Hospital) for over 30 years. He was President of the International Marcé Society (a society focused on perinatal mental health) from 2000–02.

Emeritus Professor Boyce has played an active role in the College, initially serving on Branch committees in South Australia and New South Wales, and as a General Councillor. He was also Chair of the Board of Research for two years, chaired the Curriculum Improvement Project that designed the competency-based curriculum for the College, and was an Associate Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry* for 10 years. He has led or contributed to the development of RANZCP clinical practice guidelines on a range of topics, spanning several decades.

His extensive contributions also included serving as the President of the RANZCP between 2003–05. As a result of his tireless and dedicated work with the College, Emeritus Professor Boyce was awarded the College Medal of Honour in 2016.



Dr Shailja Chaturvedi
(New South Wales)

**Medal of the Order
of Australia (OAM)**

Dr Shailja Chaturvedi was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to medicine, and to the community.

Dr Chaturvedi undertook her medical studies at the University of Lucknow, India. She qualified for Fellowship of the RANZCP in 1976 and worked for 10 years for NSW Health before branching out into private practice. Dr Chaturvedi worked for over 25 years as a part time member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal.

For some five years, Dr Chaturvedi worked as a part time tutor at the Institute of Psychiatry. She was a panel member for the RANZCP Dual Pathway assessment team, and represented the RANZCP for the Doctors' Mental Health Program initiated by the Medical Council of NSW and the Australian Medical Association (AMA). Dr Chaturvedi has been involved in many educational seminars and also been a reviewer for *Australasian Psychiatry*.

Dr Chaturvedi was a past President of the Australian Indian Medical Graduate Association and is currently an advisor to the Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin. She was involved in supporting the mental health services of Fiji in an exchange program of nurses and visiting Australian psychiatrists for consultations.

Dr Chaturvedi has published three books including one on her 50-year professional journey, titled *Reflections of a Psychiatrist*.



Dr Siale Alokihakau Foliaki
(Auckland, New Zealand)

**New Zealand Order
of Merit (MNZM)**

Dr Siale Foliaki was appointed to the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to mental health and the Pacific.

Dr Foliaki is a psychiatrist who has made significant contributions to mental health, particularly in the Pacific community.

Currently, Dr Foliaki is a consultant psychiatrist at Te Whatu Ora Counties Manukau and Clinical Lead Psychiatrist, Pasifika Health for Whakarongorau Aotearoa, New Zealand Telehealth Services, having held other clinical lead roles there since 2016.

He has helped establish several Pacific health organisations, including the Tongan Health Society, Faleola Mental Health Services for Pacific adults, and Vaka Toa for Pacific children and adolescents for Counties Manukau DHB. He is on the Board of Vaka Tuatua and Chair of the Pacific Information Advocacy Support Services (PIASS) Trust. He was lead Pacific researcher in Te Rau Hinengaro, the New Zealand Mental Health Survey.

Dr Foliaki has held policy roles with the Ministry of Health and the Mental Health Commission, developing mental health policies and guidelines addressing the needs of Pacific peoples in New Zealand. He contributed to the development of the Pacific Mental Health Services and Workforce Papers that established the blueprint for the Mental Health Commission in the early 2000s. He helped write the Cultural Competency Guidelines for Pacific People for the Medical Council of New Zealand. Dr Foliaki is a dual Fellow in adult and child and adolescent psychiatry with the RANZCP.



The Late Clinical Associate Professor Edwin Harari (Victoria)

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

Passed away 16 October 2023

Clinical Associate Professor Edwin Harari was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to medicine as a psychiatrist.

Associate Professor Harari graduated from the University of Melbourne in 1970 and his early clinical practice saw him work as Consultant Psychiatrist to the Rape Crisis Intervention Service and Crisis Intervention Centre at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. After this early clinical experience, he travelled to study and work as a Fellow in Child and Family Psychiatry at the Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic (PCGC).

Associate Professor Harari was a beloved and extremely respected senior Consultant Psychiatrist at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne and Psychotherapist for over 40 years. He held multiple roles in his professional life and was notably a Clinical Associate Professor at the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne. His input has had a profound impact in relation to the teaching and learnings of psychiatry and psychotherapy in a range of areas. These diverse areas include Consultation-Liaison hospital-based work, Psychosomatics, European Continental Philosophy, Applied Neuropsychanalysis, Psychotherapy for those with severe mental illness, eating disorders and family therapy.

Associate Professor Harari delivered highly renowned, weekly seminars in psychodynamic psychiatry over a period of 35 years to a multidisciplinary and cross-service audience. Spanning decades, his contributions included countless lectures, collegiate debates and published literature spanning abundant journal articles, book reviews, correspondences, letters to the editor of the *Age* and book chapters.

Associate Professor Harari lived an integrated approach to the practice of psychiatry, acknowledged the importance of the intersection of mind and body, and rose to the challenge of bringing these often dichotomised worlds together.

Associate Professor Harari was also actively involved with the work of the College. This included membership of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry* Editorial Board for 10 years, involvement in the RANZCP Supervisor Peer Review Group and membership of the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Faculty of Psychotherapy.



Professor Brian Kelly
(New South Wales)

**Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)**

Professor Brian Kelly was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to medical education, and to professional organisations.

Professor Kelly is Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) and Professor of Psychiatry, University of Newcastle. He is a Consultant Psychiatrist (Clinical Academic) at the John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle. Professor Kelly has a record of educational and research contribution in the psychiatric aspects of physical illness, relating to his longstanding clinical and research activity in consultation-liaison psychiatry, specifically psychiatric aspects of cancer and palliative care. He also has a substantial background in population mental health and mental health services research in rural and remote regions, including leading the Australian Rural Mental Health Study when he was Director of the University of Newcastle's Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health.

He has made a significant contribution to undergraduate and postgraduate education in psychiatry and medical education in general over many years, most recently in his role as Dean, Joint Medical Program, Head of School and Professor of Psychiatry, School of Medicine and Public Health (2016–21), University of Newcastle. He has previously contributed to education and assessment within the RANZCP including state and bi-national Committees for Training, Examinations and in consultation-liaison psychiatry and rural psychiatry initiatives.

He has 30 years' experience in consultation-liaison psychiatry and mental health services (including senior clinical leadership positions) in large metropolitan centres, rurally-based centres, and currently within a large tertiary referral general hospital and health district, each providing the opportunity for clinical research alongside service provision.



Professor Helen Milroy
(Western Australia)

**Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)**

Professor Helen Milroy was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to public health, and to the Indigenous community.

A descendent of the Palyku people of the Pilbara region of Western Australia, Professor Milroy was born and educated in Perth. She is Australia's first Indigenous doctor and child psychiatrist. Professor Milroy is currently the Stan Perron Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Perth Children's Hospital and University of Western Australia and Honorary Research at the Telethon Kids Institute. She is the Chair of the Gayaa Dhuwi Proud Spirit Australia organisation and a board member of Beyond Blue.

Professor Milroy has been on state and national mental health and research advisory committees and boards with a particular focus on Indigenous mental health as well as the wellbeing of children. From 2013–17 Professor Milroy was a Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and from 2017–21 was a Commissioner with the National Mental Health Commission. In 2020, she was the joint winner of the Australian Mental Health Prize and named the WA Australian of the Year for 2021.

Also an artist and published author and illustrator of children's books, Professor Milroy has been shortlisted for several children's literature awards. In 2021, she received the Whitley Award for best early childhood reader for *Backyard Birds*.



The Late Emeritus Professor Barry Nurcombe (formerly of Queensland)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Passed away 3 March 2023

The Late Emeritus Professor Barry Nurcombe was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to medicine as a psychiatrist, and to tertiary education.

Professor Nurcombe initially graduated from the University of Queensland and then trained in psychiatry in Brisbane and Melbourne. As a Fellow of the Commonwealth Fund of New York, he undertook training in child psychiatry at the Children's Hospital Medical Centre, Boston, Massachusetts. Professor Nurcombe held roles including Associate Professor in Child Psychiatry at the University of New South Wales, and Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Vermont, Brown University, Vanderbilt University, and The University of Queensland. He undertook research in preschool education, low birthweight infants and sexually abused children. Professor Nurcombe published numerous scientific articles, and was the author or co-author of numerous books, including *Child Mental Health and The Law*.

In 2018, Professor Nurcombe received the College Citation for his significant contributions in the fields of child and adolescent psychiatry and forensic psychiatry. At the time of his passing, he was one of the longest standing Fellows of the RANZCP and would have reached the milestone of 60 years of Fellowship in October 2023.



Emeritus Professor Bruce Tonge (Victoria)

Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)

Emeritus Professor Bruce Tonge was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to psychiatric medicine and research, to tertiary education, to youth, and to the community.

An academic specialist child psychiatrist, Emeritus Professor Tonge is a Monash University medical graduate and trained in psychiatry at Oxford and Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Prior to his retirement from Monash University (2012) he was the Foundation Head, School of Psychology and Psychiatry, and from 1990, Head of the Discipline of Psychological Medicine and Senior Clinical Advisor of the Mental Health Program of Monash Health. He has a distinguished record of clinical work, teaching and research and established the internationally recognised Monash University Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology.

Professor Tonge has been an internationally recognised researcher in mental health over 30 years. His clinical, research and teaching interests are in the areas of developmental psychiatry with a particular focus on neurodevelopmental disorders including autism and intellectual disability; childhood anxiety and depressive disorders; and treatment outcome studies, parent education and skills training and public mental health interventions.

Emeritus Professor Tonge's professional involvement has included serving in various roles with Neuroscience Victoria & Australia, *beyondblue*, Autism Victoria and the Mental Health Foundation Australia.

Other notable achievements include being a Chief Investigator on 133 competitive grants of \$47.5M including 37 NHMRC/ARC grants, 325 articles, 69 chapters, 22 books/manuals. Emeritus Professor Tonge was Editor of the *Handbook of Studies on Child Psychiatry*, author of the *Draw a Dream* child mental state assessment technique, and co-author of the Developmental Behaviour Checklist, which assesses psychopathology in children and adults with intellectual disability, and is in wide use in Australia and internationally.

He received the Victorian Public Healthcare Award for 'Outstanding Individual Achievement in Mental Healthcare' in 2009, the RANZCP Victorian Branch Meritorious Service Award in 2010, the Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research Founders' Medal in 2010 and the RANZCP's College Citation in 2019.



**Dr William Wright
(New South Wales)**

**Medal of the Order
of Australia (OAM)**

Dr William Wright was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to medicine as a psychiatrist.

Dr Wright graduated in medicine from Queen's University in Northern Ireland in 1959.

Undecided on a future career, Dr Wright moved to Australia in October 1961, which at that time had multiple openings for overseas graduates. He worked first in Toowoomba, then in April 1962 he accepted a locum position at the Brisbane Special Hospital where his interest in psychiatry was sparked. He returned to the United Kingdom in April 1964 to complete his psychiatric training and was awarded the Diploma of Psychological Medicine later that year.

In 1965, Dr Wright commenced at the Mental Health Unit in the Belfast City Hospital. Whilst there he finished his adult psychiatry training, and then trained in child and adolescent psychiatry.

In 1967, Dr Wright was appointed Medical Director at the Institute for Child Guidance in Brisbane and the following year became Director of the first Child Guidance Clinic in North Queensland, based in Townsville. Here, Dr Wright became involved with many community groups and was instrumental in establishing the Townsville Welfare Council. He also established the EEG service at the Townsville General Hospital.

In 1979, Dr Wright moved to the Gold Coast as Senior Psychiatrist at Community Health. After a short stay, he moved to private practice in Tweed Heads and was visiting psychiatrist at Tweed and Murwillumbah hospitals and at John Flynn and Currumbin private hospitals. In 2002, Dr Wright was appointed inaugural Director at the new psychiatric inpatient unit at Tweed Hospital.

In 2005, Dr Wright returned to private practice and retired in 2020.

Members honoured posthumously



The late Dr Edgar Freed
(formerly of New South Wales)

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

The late Dr Edgar Freed was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to medicine as a psychiatrist.

Dr Freed was born in Johannesburg, South Africa and graduated with an MBChB from the University of Witwatersrand in 1961. He later specialised in psychiatry, and became a Fellow of the Faculty of Psychiatry in South Africa in 1967, followed soon by memberships of the RCPsych and the RANZCP.

In 1978, he immigrated to Australia where he spent 18 years as a Senior Staff Specialist at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst. Dr Freed later entered private practice which he continued at The Sydney Clinic until his retirement in 2015.

During his career he held many posts including as chair or a member of several medical and drug advisory committees; as Secretary, President, and Councillor (Psychiatry) for the NSW Branch, Australian Medical Association; as founding member and later life member of the Chapter of Addiction Medicine, Royal Australasian College of Physicians; as Conjoint Lecturer, School of Psychiatry, University of NSW; and as Editor of the *Australian Journal of Psychopharmacology*.

He was awarded the RANZCP NSW Branch Meritorious Service Award in 2017 and the Marjory Johnston Award for Service to the Mentally Ill and their ARAFMI in 1995.

Above all, Dr Freed was a humble and kind person who dedicated his life to the care of people with mental illness.



The late Professor George Patton
(formerly of Victoria)

Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)

The late Professor George Patton was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to psychiatry and developmental epidemiology, to youth health and wellbeing, and to mental health research.

Professor Patton was an eminent child and adolescent psychiatrist and psychiatric epidemiologist whose career focused on improving the health of adolescents.

He graduated in Medicine from the University of Melbourne and subsequently trained in psychiatry and epidemiology at London's Royal Free Hospital, where his training included stints at the Institute of Psychiatry, the Tavistock Clinic, University College Hospital and the Zentralinstitut für Seelische Gesundheit in Mannheim, Germany. In 1991, he returned to Melbourne to the newly established Centre for Adolescent Health, where he became Director (1997–2003), before shifting to a full-time research role as Director of Research (2003–2022).

Professor Patton established many valuable cohort studies that, for more than 30 years, have enabled description of the natural history of common mental disorders from adolescence into adulthood, the interface with pubertal timing and educational outcomes. This led to him establishing one of the world's first intergenerational cohort studies that is uniquely placed to examine preconception parental antecedents of maternal health and child and adolescent development. He led several multifaceted, intersectoral prevention trials in schools, as well as trials of youth-friendly health care, and more recently focused on disadvantaged Indigenous Australians, homeless young people and those in youth justice settings.

From 2002, he chaired the advisory groups to Australia's Institute of Health of Welfare for their reports on the health of Australia's children and young people, the main sources of information for tracking national progress in child and adolescent health and well-being. His leadership of the Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing (2016) proved highly influential in shaping how the UN agencies now conceptualise adolescents and their health within the life course.

Professor Patton published over 600 peer reviewed papers and was a powerful scientific communicator, receiving the RANZCP's Senior Research Award in 2009.

Congratulations to our 50 year Fellows

The annual RANZCP Member Recognition Program recognises Fellows who have recently attained the milestone of 15, 25, 40 and 50 years of Fellowship.

Each member receives a letter from the RANZCP President accompanied by a commemorative RANZCP lapel pin for their anniversary tier. The 25-, 40- and 50-year Fellows also receive a gift aligning with traditional anniversary themes of silver, ruby and gold.

We would like to congratulate and thank recognised members for their milestone association with the College. We are grateful for your dedication, support and contribution to the College's rich history.

The following members achieved a 50 years of Fellowship milestone in 2023 and will be recognised in 2024.

50 years of Fellowship

- » Dr Lois Achimovich
- » Dr Maxwell Bawden
- » Dr Laurence Blows
- » Dr Peter Churven
- » Dr Fred Curtis
- » Dr Elizabeth Delaney
- » Dr Peter Evans
- » Dr Robert Gertler
- » Emeritus Professor Robert Goldney AO
- » Dr Barrie Kenny
- » Dr Frank Lumley
- » Dr Donald Montgomery
- » Dr Peter Mulholland
- » Dr Rajakarier Nagulendran
- » Dr Thomas Newlyn
- » Dr Martin Nothling
- » Professor Gordon Parker AO
- » Dr Igor Petroff
- » A/Prof. Jonathan Phillips AM
- » Dr Rene Pols
- » A/Prof. Carolyn Quadrio
- » Dr George Rawson
- » Dr Peter Shannon
- » Dr Garry Sheehan
- » Dr Livio Turecek

Continuing Professional Development

In January 2023, the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) introduced a new Registration Standard for Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Key to this new standard is a requirement for all doctors to be registered with a 'CPD Home', with the option of a fully self-guided CPD program no longer available.

While specialist medical colleges have always been CPD Homes, accredited by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) to provide CPD programs for their speciality, other organisations can now seek accreditation as a CPD Home in Australia. The completion of the College's first annual reporting submission to the AMC, a new requirement to maintain accredited CPD Home status, was a major milestone for 2023.

During this transition year, the focus has been on providing a CPD program that enables participants to meet their registration requirements. Conferences, webinars, Learnit modules, College journals, Peer Review Groups, Practice Peer Review, and the MyCPD online record are some of the components of the College's CPD Home offering that delivers flexible and relevant CPD activities for psychiatrists.

More work is occurring behind the scenes, overseen by the Committee for Continuing Professional Development, other relevant committees, and with significant support from the College's Education staff.

Trainees and SIMGs must also meet the registration standard for CPD in Australia. While they are active on their training pathways, trainees and partially comparable SIMGs will meet this standard, and their compliance will be reported through InTrain. To support trainees on a prolonged break in training, a new CPD program has been developed with separate CPD requirements and a customised MyCPD online record to go live in 2024.

CPD programs for both Australian and New Zealand doctors must include activities that cover the domains of culturally safe practice, addressing health inequities, professionalism, and ethics (CAPE requirements). During 2023, the Council of Medical Colleges Cultural Safety Training Plan was endorsed by the College Board as the framework to be adopted, and adapted to the Australian context, for cultural safety training across the Fellowship and CPD programs. To better record and monitor these domains, further development of MyCPD is underway, along with work to increase the breadth of College activities that can be automatically uploaded to MyCPD. In 2024, members will see draft activities appearing in their MyCPD records for some College activities they have attended. Draft activities will have recorded the date, allocation of hours, title, and description of the activity along with the CAPE requirements that have been covered during the activity. To complete the recording of the activity, members will just have to add a reflection on the activity and hit "submit". This will be progressively rolled out across all College activities.

We have also developed the capacity for MyCPD to provide a pro-rata program for participants who are eligible for an exemption from part of a CPD year. This includes new Fellows and members on parental or sick leave. The policy was amended in 2023 to include an exemption for cultural obligations.

All the work undertaken is to ensure the RANZCP remains the CPD Home of choice for doctors practising in psychiatry: offering a program that is included in the membership fee, is overseen by psychiatrists, and contains high quality educational opportunities that are supported by staff with experience in the professional development needs of psychiatrists. This is the value proposition developed for the RANZCP to market and promote to College members and other doctors working in the area of psychiatry in line with the recognised scope of practice.

Some statistics for 2023:

- » more than 5300 active CPD participants
- » 98% of participants had complete CPD records
- » over 550 participants were assisted by the CPD team to complete their records during the March–June period with individual emails and phone calls
- » 4441 email enquiries were addressed by the CPD team, along with numerous phone calls
- » 4 CPD newsletters, with an update on individual progress and advice on CPD activities, were sent to participants
- » 30 podcasts were published on subjects ranging from rural psychiatry to the history of psychiatry to Māori experiences of intellectual disability
- » 362 CPD records were audited, with 97.8% complete and meeting the audit standard
- » 186 psychiatrists and 58 facilitators participated in two rounds of Practice Peer Reviews
- » 1704 Peer Review Groups are operating with qualified privilege in both Australia and New Zealand and automatically recording attendance.

RANZCP Journals

The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry

Impact Factor: 4.6 (2022)

(This data is taken from Web of Science's Journal Citation Report, and they do not currently have 2023 listed. They include data only as far as the JCR Year (2022) and should update once the next Impact Factor is published in June 2024.)

Production



Total Articles Published



These numbers are based on articles' first publication date (not the issue publication date).

Impact Factor by Year

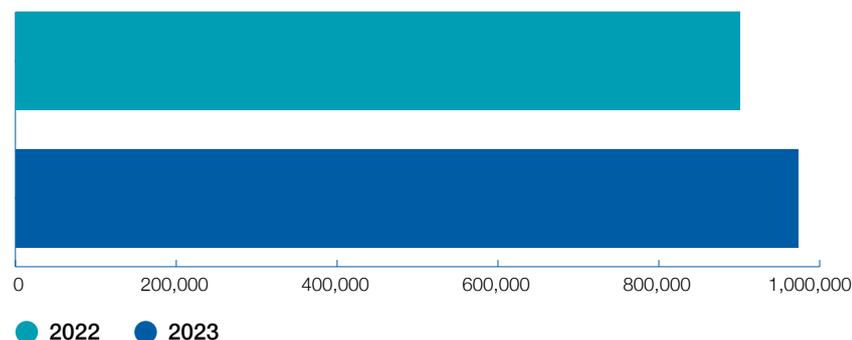
	2022	Percent Change 2021-2022
Impact Factor	4.6	-18%
Ranking in Psychiatry (SCIE)	56/155	N/A
Ranking in Psychiatry (SSCI)	43/144	N/A
Cites to Recent Items	1,283	12%
Citable Items	279	37%
Total Citations	8,736	-7%
Immediacy Index	0.900	-33%
5-Year Impact Factor	5.2	-14%

Total Submissions and Acceptance Rate (2023)

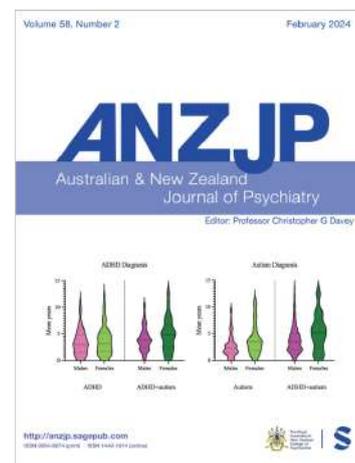
Total	631
Original	504
Accept	124
Reject	348
Accept Ratio	26%

Total and original submission counts are based on the date manuscripts were submitted to Sage Track. Acceptance rate is based on manuscripts that have received final decisions of accept or reject (does not count revisions). Counts for acceptances, rejections, and acceptance ratios are based on the date the decision is made, not the date the manuscript was submitted.

Full Text Downloads by Year



The journal had 973,463 full-text downloads in 2023. This is a 8.1% increase over 900,695 full-text downloads through 2022. Full-text downloads include HTML, PDF, and ePub article usage.



Australasian Psychiatry

Impact Factor: 1.8 (2022)

(This data is taken from Web of Science's Journal Citation Report, and they do not currently have 2023 listed. They include data only as far as the JCR Year (2022) and should update once the next Impact Factor is published in June 2024.)

Production



Total Articles Published



These numbers are based on articles' first publication date (not the issue publication date).

Impact Factor by Year

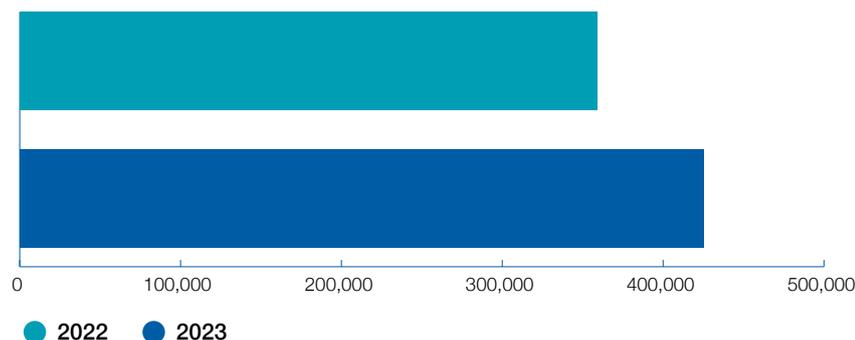
	2022	Percent Change 2021-2022
Impact Factor	1.8	-2%
Ranking in Psychiatry (SCIE)	131/155	N/A
Ranking in Psychiatry (SSCI)	109/144	N/A
Cites to Recent Items	571	0%
Citable Items	317	2%
Total Citations	2,125	3%
Immediacy Index	0.300	-21%
5-Year Impact Factor	1.6	2%

Total Submissions and Acceptance Rate (2023)

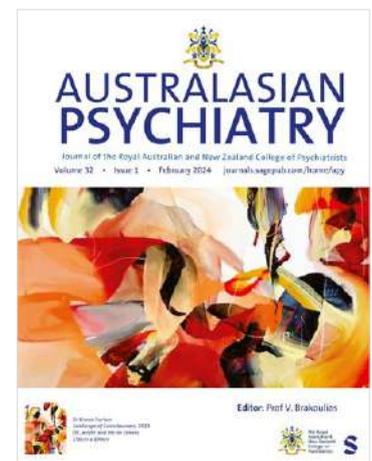
Total	495
Original	338
Accept	192
Reject	114
Accept Ratio	63%

Total and original submission counts are based on the date manuscripts were submitted to Sage Track. Acceptance rate is based on manuscripts that have received final decisions of accept or reject (does not count revisions). Counts for acceptances, rejections, and acceptance ratios are based on the date the decision is made, not the date the manuscript was submitted.

Full Text Downloads by Year



The journal had 425,494 full-text downloads in 2023. This is a 18.6% increase over 358,872 full-text downloads through 2022. Full-text downloads include HTML, PDF, and ePub article usage.





ANZJP Editorial Board members A/Prof Nicola Warren, Prof Dan Siskind, Editor Prof Chris Davey, A/Prof Julia Lappin, Dr Iain Perkes, Prof Susanna Every-Palmer, A/Prof Gary Cheung and RANZCP CEO Ms Sharon McGowan



Australasian Psychiatry Editorial Board members Dr Edward Miller, Dr Michael Weightman, A/Prof John Kasinathan, Editor Prof Vlasios Brakoulias, A/Prof Shuichi Suetani, with Hester Tilbury and Manuela Brun (SAGE)

The Psychiatry Interest Forum: celebrating ten years of workforce impact and influence

From an idea to help grow the psychiatry workforce, to a decade of impact and influence. In 2023, the Psychiatry Interest Forum (PIF) marked this milestone occasion by delivering its strongest program yet.

Over 250 College Fellows and trainees generously donated their time and shared their experiences that enabled the PIF program in 2023 – offering an established recruitment pathway that generates and fosters interest in medical students, prevocational and other medical practitioners to choose psychiatry as their medical specialty.

By taking part in a PIF event or activity, these groups get access to comprehensive educational presentations and interactive sessions with Fellows and trainees that offer fresh insights into a day or week in the life of a psychiatrist. They get to unpack and explore the psychiatry subspecialties, learn about the Fellowship Training

Program, and debunk psychiatry stigmas and misconceptions. Selected events also include educational enrichment sessions with case studies, and the opportunity to hear from community members who share both consumer and lived experience perspectives.

With the support of the Department of Health and Aged Care (Australia) and Te Whatu Ora (Aotearoa New Zealand), in 2023 PIF grew in its scale and influence as a key program to attract the next generation of psychiatrists.

Constantly evolving, the program included a rural event hosted in Darwin, a two-day retreat in Melbourne, and PIF's largest program at the Perth Congress, with 50 PIF members joining us from Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, as well as delivery of events in Rotorua and Wellington. The program continued to focus on increasing interests in psychiatry careers in rural and regional areas, and from Indigenous doctors and medical students.

Here's a snapshot of what the PIF program achieved bi-nationally in 2023:

- » 1023 medical students and doctors joined – a new annual program record!
- » 36 new Indigenous members joined
- » 81% of the total new College trainees in 2023 were former PIF members
- » 15 dedicated PIF events and activities were hosted
- » Over 550 PIF members took part in PIF supported events and activities, as well as RANZCP conferences
- » 24 external activities and 22 student-led university medical and psychiatry interest societies were supported
- » PIF membership reached a total of 5100 members, including 224 Indigenous members.

Behind that data are the experiences of the PIF members themselves. Here's what some of them shared:

“

My favourite part of the PIF Congress was the ability to interact with like-minded PIF peers and psychiatrists and trainees from all over Australia and New Zealand. Another PIF member had said 'I feel like I've found my tribe', which is a comment I particularly resonated with.”

PIF members with Fellow Dr Michelle Atchison, RANZCP 2023 Congress PIF Networking session



“

I not only connected with like-minded peers, but also gained knowledge that few medical students have access to. Several leaders in the medical field shared their authentic experiences throughout medical school, the specialised training program, and their respective careers. Their openness confirmed my interest in psychiatry and made it seem much more attainable.”

“

The workshops on rural psychiatry further highlighted the barriers faced by individuals in remote areas in accessing mental health services. As an attendee, I couldn't help but draw parallels between the insights shared in these workshops and the context of rural and Māori mental health in Aotearoa.”



PIF members with Board Director Dr Mark Lawrence, RANZCP 2023 Congress PIF event

Looking back, how has ten years of impact and influence translated?

Since the program's inception:



7900

Over 7900 medical students and doctors have joined PIF



1870

have transitioned into the Fellowship Training Program



48

Indigenous PIF members across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand have chosen to join the Fellowship Training Program



69%

On average annually, 69% of all new RANZCP trainees are past PIF members

Conferences and events



In-person events



Webinars

11

bi-national conferences held across nine cities

4,434

registrations across the year

27

online events and webinars

6,368

people tuned in live to watch

2

as hybrid events (Congress, NZ) with both in-person and virtual attendance

On-demand

content available to view post-event for four conferences (SEN, FOP, FPOA, SON)

13,168

members, trainees, PIF and/or medical professionals registered

32.5

hours of live virtual content available to watch live and 27.5 hours on-demand

265

presentations at the 2023 Congress in Perth

2,150

Highest number of delegates to ever attend a RANZCP Congress (1,718 in-person and 432 virtually)

1,560

questions asked



RANZCP Western Australia Branch opening



RANZCP members at the 2023 Congress Gala dinner

RANZCP Board 'selfie' at the 2023 RANZCP Congress



2023 Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy & Neurostimulation Conference, Darwin



RANZCP members at the 2023 Congress Gala dinner

RANZCP members at the 2023 Victorian Branch Conference



2023 RANZCP New Zealand Conference, Rotorua

Board Constituent Committee reports

Board members



Dr Elizabeth Moore, President



Dr Astha Tomar, President-Elect



Dr Ava Carter, Appointed Director, Trainee



Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman, Elected Director



Dr Mark Lawrence, Elected Director



Dr Nick O'Connor, Elected Director



Dr Sue Mackersey, Elected Director



A/Prof. Melanie Turner, Elected Director

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a constituent committee of the Board and its primary objective is to oversee and monitor the College's financial audit processes, including the College's internal control activities.

RSM Australia Partners conducted the external audit of the College annual financial report in accordance with the terms of engagement of the external auditors. The Audit Committee reviewed the audit strategy for the financial year which covered the approach to the annual financial audit including the scope, timelines, risk assessment, financial reporting matters and audit administration.

Each year, the audited financial report including the auditor's report are presented to College members at the Annual General Meeting. In 2023, the Annual General meeting was held in May in Perth.

The College is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) for charity tax concessions including income tax exemption. Each year, the College undertakes a self-review of our structure and operations as recommended by the ATO, and in 2023 concluded that we remain compliant with the ATO endorsement for charity tax concessions.

Cybersecurity continues to be a critical business risk. The Audit Committee is kept up to date by the College's Information Technology Department in relation to our IT security and cybersecurity risk management framework.

In 2024, a priority for the Audit Committee is to seek expressions of interest for the appointment of a new auditor to conduct the 2025 audit. The process for a change in auditors will be undertaken in 2024 in time for a proposed resolution at the AGM in 2025.



Chair
Dr Astha Tomar

Committee members

- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Jerome Nicholapillai
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » A/Prof. Melanie Turner



Chair
**Associate Professor
 Melanie Turner**

Committee members

- » Dr Wolé Akósilè
- » Dr Samuel Baxter
- » Dr Ava Carter
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Subhash Das
- » Dr Oliver Hansby
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » A/Prof. Melanie Turner

Corporate Governance and Risk Committee

The Corporate Governance and Risk Committee (CGRC) considered various initiatives in fulfillment of its ongoing commitment to supporting the College's governance processes and organisational effectiveness.

Key work of the CGRC included:

- » Updating the College's Undertaking in Relation to Confidential Information and Conflict of Interest Management (Undertaking), following concerns raised around the previous Deed of Undertaking creating barriers to disseminating information.
- » Commenced a review of the College's risk management framework.
- » Developed a Meeting Code of Conduct to promote meaningful and respectful discussion amongst Committee members.
- » Considered the results of the 2022 Trainee Exit Survey and recommendations to improve perceptions of trainee representation on College committees. The CGRC's recommendations were based on data indicating that trainees are represented on approximately 78% of College committees.
- » Developed committee meeting templates including agenda, minutes, conflict of interest register and action list templates to improve consistency and uniformity across College committees, and assist staff providing support.

The CGRC also continued its ordinary business such as:

- » Oversight of the Board's President-Elect election, Elected Director (Casual Vacancy) election, and committee elections.
- » Review of election documentation for the 2024 Elected Director election.
- » Preparation of a thematic review of all College Risk Registers which were reported to the Board.
- » Consideration of several policy and education-related documents before Board consideration.

- » Review of proposed updates to the College's governing documents to endorse for Board approval.

This work during 2023 has strengthened the CGRC's role in providing support to the College by:

- » providing clearer pathways for election and nomination to committees.
- » ensuring that committee members terms are staggered or managed to prevent loss of committee knowledge.
- » participating in the strategy for the RANZCP and oversight of how that will work within the governance of the College.
- » reviewing representation of trainees on committees as well as starting a new lived experience input through College governance.
- » ensuring a focus on gender equity and diversity in College committees and the Board.

In 2024, the CGRC's key business will include progression of the Faculty, Section and Network Review following the delivery of a final report, and the finalisation of the externally-facilitated Board evaluation being supported by the Board Evaluation Steering Group. Other key priorities include the refinement of the College's conflict of interest and risk management frameworks; consideration of options for constitutional change, including trainee voting rights; consideration of the governance outcomes from the Lived Experience and Trainee Engagement strategies, and cultural safety requirements; and addressing the AMC conditions related to governance.

The CGRC extends its gratitude to Dr Wolé Akósilè, who stepped down from the committee during the year, and to all members for their dedicated service on the CGRC during 2023. Many thanks also to Callie Kalimniou, Claire Bellett and the entire Governance team at the College for their support and management of our work.



Chair
Dr Nick O'Connor

Committee members

- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » Dr Daniel Brass
- » Dr Nicola Campbell
- » Dr Ava Carter
- » Dr Phyllis Chua
- » Dr Wayne de Beer
- » Dr David Furrows
- » Dr Nathan Gibson
- » Dr Pramudie Gunaratne
- » Prof. Richard Harvey
- » A/Prof. Brad Hayhow
- » Dr Bill Kingswell
- » Dr Raju Lakshmana
- » Dr Saretta Lee
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Gregory Spencer
- » A/Prof. Melanie Turner
- » Dr Choong-Siew Yong

Education Committee

Development commenced on a new program of assessment to assess clinical skills and move away from the single high-stakes examinations. With the aim to generate well-equipped psychiatrists servicing communities, the RANZCP has begun transitioning to a more holistic model of assessment in the workplace and implementation of a new assessment program from 2025.

Highlights of our work this year include:

- » Education projects to enhance curriculum, online resources delivery, CPD Home relevancy, training and assessment that align to community needs and contemporary medical education.
- » Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA) review to refine the purpose and number of EPAs feeding to the Assessment Framework.
- » Supervisor Project to develop supervisor handbook, guidelines, resources, and workshops to upskill and equip supervisors in the emerging education environment and enable better feedback and engagement.
- » InTrain work to improve automation of the SIMG and assessment applications, training processes, address CPD accreditation, AMC conditions, the Certificate of Postgraduate Training in Clinical Psychiatry, and online learning paths.
- » Continued focus on the 13 recommendations from the Medical Board of Australia's Medical Training Survey, with stakeholder consultation to facilitate implementation and quality improvement.
- » Completion of the Comparability Assessment Framework Tool review to assess overseas psychiatrists' comparability.
- » Review of FEC delivery consistency, content, equity, course access, governance oversight and trainee experience.
- » Curriculum Review of training elements such as Graduate Outcomes, and assessments (CEQ, MEQ) with recommendations from ACER on the assessment alternatives.
- » Numerous quality improvement and development initiatives against the AMC conditions (2022 AMC Report) on governance, policy, curriculum, cultural safety content and First Nations education, across training, SIMGE and assessment, communication, and trainee experience.
- » New CPD standards from January 2023 for the RANZCP, with CPD program improvements more relevant and accessible to members, and work undertaken to better communicate our CPD value proposition.
- » Successfully advocated for a high-level specialist requirement for psychiatrists, regardless of CPD Home, of a minimum 10 hours of Formal Peer Review to reassure the community of regular reviews of psychiatrists' practices.

This is just a snapshot of the enormous work being undertaken by the Education team to address AMC conditions, but more importantly to innovate and lead the continued development of our training and assessment programs.

None of this work would be possible without the many dedicated staff in the College's College Education and Training team – our thanks to Anna Lyubomirsky, Anita Hill, Jackie Mottica, David Beal, Ramanpreet Singh, Keisha Thavaseelan and the whole team who work tirelessly in supporting our committees and activities.



Chair
Dr Sue Mackersey

Committee members

- » A/Prof. John Allan
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Ankur Gupta
- » Dr Prasoon Gupte
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Dr Blair Leslie
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Julie Wehbe

Finance Committee

The primary objective of the Finance Committee is to act as an advisory body to the Board in relation to statutory and contractual compliance and financial strategy reporting.

The College reported an overall operating deficit of \$1,206,343 for the financial year. The operating deficit for 2023 reflects a planned investment in College resources to deliver the priority actions outlined in the Strategic Plan approved by the Board in December 2022.

This investment is providing additional resources in our Education portfolio to support the work already underway to address AMC conditions, develop a new program of assessment, improve cultural safety, elevate voices of lived experience and adopt a longer-term programmatic assessment methodology.

The Finance Committee undertook the following key responsibilities:

- » Monitored the College cash flows, operating results and financial position periodically throughout the year ensuring the College maintained a strong fiscal position and remained financially viable.
- » Endorsed the new training fees model from 2023 for Board approval.
- » Reviewed investments on a regular basis ensuring the external advisor JBWere managed the investment portfolio in accordance with the College Investments Policy. The Finance Committee has oversight of the College Investment Subcommittee comprising of three members from the committee.

- » Reviewed the mid-year operating results forecast for the 2023 financial year and the draft annual budgets for the 2024 financial year.
- » Endorsed the increases in membership fees and charges for 2024 for Board approval.
- » Served as an independent and objective party to review financial information including annual accounts and accounting policies and practices submitted by management to the Board for presentation to College members and regulatory authorities.
- » Provided oversight of College financial management and reviewing and considering various business cases for a range of initiatives.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Professor Neeraj Gill who chaired the Finance Committee until October 2023.

My sincere thanks also go to Heng Soong and Carmine Bellistri whose expert guidance to the Committee has helped us to maintain a strong fiscal position throughout the year, and also to Julia Clarke and the rest of the College's Finance team for their continued operational support.



Chair
Dr Mark Lawrence

Committee members

- » Dr Francis Agnew
- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Andrew Amos
- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Prof. Steve Kisely
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr Prue McEvoy
- » Dr Edward Mullen
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Ramyadarshni Vadivel
- » Dr Elise Witter
- » Dr Afraz Zaman

Membership Engagement Committee

Connecting and listening to our members' needs are the primary functions of the Membership Engagement Committee (MEC).

We are actively addressing and improving cultures in psychiatry. We support a positive, inclusive and respectful environment for all within our College. Results from the Ahpra Medical Training Survey and the College's own Trainee Exit Survey illustrates more needs to be done. Trainees are our future workforce, and we are committed to fostering their successful futures.

Highlights for the MEC this year included:

- » supporting the *A Better Culture* project and events directed towards addressing bullying, discrimination, harassment, and racism, as well as promoting respectful behaviours in psychiatry.
- » launching two College-wide action plans designed to support *member wellbeing* and improve *gender equity* in psychiatry over a five-year period.
- » supporting our trainee representatives who designed a new two-year engagement strategy that will ensure trainees feel valued, seen and heard by the College.
- » implementing a more equitable training fee structure to support those working less than full time. 709 trainees accessed this in 2023.
- » launching the RANZCP Member Support Program, a free external psychological and counselling service available to all members including trainees and SIMGs.
- » publishing Position Statement 48 – *Safety and wellbeing of psychiatrists and those in psychiatry training*, underscoring the importance of this for competent and safe psychiatry practice.

- » granting 113 fee reductions and streamlining processes for the College to provide fee relief to members experiencing serious illness, financial hardship, or on parental leave.
- » establishing 104 mentoring partnerships through the RANZCP Mentoring Program.
- » acknowledging 251 Fellows who reached a milestone under our Member Recognition Program.
- » surveying members about their experiences and needs when it comes to transitioning to retirement.

In 2024, we look forward to continuing our focus on enhancing engagement, advancing equity and supporting member wellbeing. We will also be conducting a major membership survey that will help us to better understand current levels of engagement in the College, and how we can better meet members' needs.

Our thanks to Jon Cullum, Sam Dipnall, Bernadette Novembre, Tim Bell and the entire Membership team for their steadfast support during 2023.

Connect and share your ideas with us in person, online, or via board_mec@ranzcp.org.



Chair

Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman

Committee members

- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » Dr Siva Balaratnasingam
- » Dr Michael Daubney
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Prof. Richard Harvey
- » Dr Natalie Hunt
- » Dr Nick Judson
- » Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Lyndy Matthews
- » Dr Eileen Lavranos
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » A/Prof. Geoff Smith
- » A/Prof. Simon Stafrace
- » Dr Angelo Virgona
- » A/Prof. Nicola Warren

Practice, Policy and Partnerships Committee

The Practice, Policy and Partnerships Committee (PPPC) oversees six constituent committees alongside Steering and Working Groups. 105 Fellows, 20 trainees, and 22 community members have guided the PPPC via the Community Collaboration Committee; the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee; Te Kaunihera; the Committee for Professional Practice; the Committee for Evidence-Based Practice; and the Committee for Research.

In 2023, 110 submissions were developed at both bi-national and state and territory levels, and included topics such as:

- » Workforce e.g. pre-budget submissions.
- » Professional practice e.g. telehealth.
- » Clinical priorities e.g. psychedelic assisted therapy (PAT), medicinal cannabis, ADHD.

Over 20 policy documents were reviewed, including [Position Statement 103: The role of psychiatrists in working with Trans and Gender Diverse people](#).

We responded to the TGA announcement on the permitted use of psychedelics – with the PAT Steering Group developing a [suite of resources](#).

The final report of the Future Development of CPGs Steering Group informed the [Board's statement](#) regarding contemporary best practice resources.

Developing the Lived Experience Strategy was a priority, aligning with the RANZCP's Strategic Plan and AMC conditions. This guides the incorporation of lived experience expertise throughout the College.

The PPPC provided support to members with:

- » \$34,000 granted through the Beverley Raphael New Investigator Grant and the Early Research Career Grant to trainees and Fellows.
- » \$87,712 to support the training pathways of 13 trainees who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and 8 trainees who identify as Māori.

In 2024, we will:

- » progress the [Mood Disorders Steering Group's](#) review of mood disorders psychodynamic psychotherapy being undertaken by the Anna Freud Centre.
- » implement the Lived Experience Strategy and also the contemporary Best Practice Resources program.
- » deliver the next steps of the [Anti-Racism Public Statement](#) with the Racism Awareness Steering Group.

Our thanks to Nicola Wright and everyone in the College's Policy, Practice and Research department whose hard work throughout the year has enabled the PPPC to deliver on these major pieces of work.

Members' Advisory Council report



Chair
Dr Astha Tomar

Committee members

- » Dr Agnew Alexander
- » A/Prof. Shalini Arunogiri
- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » Dr Siva Balaratnasingam
- » Dr Justin Barry-Walsh
- » Dr Chad Bennett
- » Dr Paul Cammell
- » Dr Nicola Campbell
- » Dr Ava Carter
- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Patrick Clarke
- » A/Prof. Mat Coleman
- » Prof. Valsamma Eapen
- » Dr Ben Elijah
- » Prof. Brett Emmerson
- » Dr Paul Furst
- » Prof. Megan Galbally
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Rebecca Graham
- » Dr Pramudie Gunaratne
- » Dr Vinesh Gupta
- » A/Prof. Salam Hussain
- » Prof. Richard Kanaan
- » A/Prof. Robert Kaplan
- » Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Dr Eileen Lavranos
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr David Lie
- » Dr Fatma Lowden
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Edward Mullen
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » A/Prof. Robert Parker
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Dr Daniel Pellen
- » Dr Denise Riordan
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Carol Silberberg
- » Dr Yolisha Singh
- » A/Prof. Simon Stafrace
- » Dr Hiran Thabrew
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Jennifer Torr
- » A/Prof. Melanie Turner
- » Dr Michael Verheggen
- » Dr Angelo Virgona
- » Dr Darryl Watson
- » Dr Evan Wilson

The Members' Advisory Council (MAC) provides information and advice to the Board on a variety of matters and acts as a forum for the College's key groups to raise and discuss issues and provide feedback on College matters.

The MAC has representation from Faculties, Sections, all Australian Branch Committees, Tu Te Akaaka Roa – New Zealand National Committee, trainees, overseas-trained psychiatrists, the College's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee, Te Kaunihera, and Community Collaboration Committee. Meetings are also attended by Board Directors, the Chief Executive Officer and senior management team.

The MAC held two face-to-face meetings with discussions focused on projects and contemporary issues affecting the membership including:

- » Improving member engagement and communication
- » Clinical Competency Portfolio Review (CCPR)
- » Future development of Clinical Practice Guidelines
- » RANZCP Strategic Plan 2022–25
- » RANZCP Media and Advocacy Framework
- » Lived Experience Strategy
- » Gender Equity Action Plan
- » Continuous Professional Development: CPD Home
- » Assessments Strategy: Development of Program of Assessments
- » Commonalities in the issues raised around workforce and training across branches
- » Supporting improvements in how the Board and the College engages with the membership

The MAC's broad and diverse views were invaluable and supported College progression in these priorities.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the MAC members for their leadership and stewardship of the Branches, Faculties, Sections and representative groups, and for their contributions throughout the year in representing the views and interests of our varied membership. The MAC is an important forum and sounding board, and the expertise of the various representations only serves to enrich the delivery of our mission.

I would also like to thank Shin Yee Mok and Claire Bellett from the College for their exceptional assistance during the year, and for keeping everything running so smoothly.

Member Representative Committee reports



Chair
Dr Nicola Campbell

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Samuel Baxter
- » Dr Nicola Campbell
- » Dr Joshua Flavell
- » Dr Nicole Grant
- » Dr Catherine Hayter
- » Dr Lara Hughes
- » Dr Natalie Hunt
- » Dr Studi Jindal
- » Dr Stephen McManis
- » Dr Michael O'Rawe
- » Dr Jarrad Paul
- » Dr Manjuka Raj
- » Dr Georgia Ramsden
- » Dr Louise Randall
- » Dr Divya Sharma
- » Dr Brittany Stanley-Wishart
- » Dr Evan Wilson
- » Dr Elise Witter
- » Dr Amanda Young

Bi-national Committee for Trainees

During 2023, the Bi-national Committee for Trainees (BCT) and the Trainees' Advisory Council (TAC) worked on consolidating their structures, and ensuring meetings were effective and efficient in championing trainee views.

The BCT meets four times per year, with TAC meeting at least bi-annually to ensure that trainees from a range of College committees and Associations of Psychiatry Trainees can inform BCT advocacy and workplans.

The BCT would like to acknowledge the significant efforts of Trainee Appointed Board Director, Dr Ava Carter, who chaired the TAC this year and ensured trainee perspectives were considered and integrated.

The focus remained on ensuring that changes to training and assessments incorporate appropriate consultation and trainee engagement, and that transition plans were considered and communicated throughout the year. In 2024, the BCT looks forward to ongoing engagement in this process, and supporting the College as it develops its new assessment framework in line with AMC recommendations.

Other important work this year included supporting trainee wellbeing, trainee voting rights, supporting Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori trainees, and effect trainee engagement across all levels of the organisation.

The BCT has also been involved in various working groups and has been in frequent communication with committees regarding accreditation – both in trainee involvement in the process, and communication of the outcome.

The BCT Chair sincerely thanks the committee for their significant efforts this year, undertaken in addition to their clinical work and training requirements. The BCT looks forward to continuing this work in 2024. We also wish to thank the many College staff who are involved with the BCT's work, especially Ann-Maree Sigismondi for providing valued administrative assistance throughout the year.



Chair

Professor Saddichha Sahoo

Committee members

- » Dr Aniket Bansod
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Varuni De Silva
- » Dr Pravin Dullur
- » Dr Leonardo Fernandes
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Dr Samuele Manfrinati
- » Dr Lynne Oldman
- » Dr Sachin Rai
- » Dr Anil Reddy
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Anupama Sequeira
- » Dr Suman Sinha
- » Dr Ajay Vijaykrishnan

Overseas Trained Psychiatrists' Representative Committee

The Overseas Trained Psychiatrists' Representative Committee (OTPRC) has continued to champion the welfare and rights of overseas trained psychiatrists in Australia and New Zealand.

The committee has advocated for the removal of the 10-year moratorium in Australia, and a better understanding of how membership is critical to addressing workforce shortages while also contributing to the high standard of expertise in psychiatry in both countries. This has been achieved via contributions to various pre-budget submissions and representation on other committees throughout the College.

From a training perspective, the committee is continuing to advocate for greater fairness in the examination processes for all Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs), in both the Partial and Substantial Comparability pathways. The committee has raised awareness of the distress this is causing SIMGs.

The committee is in the final stages of introducing an award which will be presented to an international medical graduate making an outstanding contribution to psychiatry across Australia and Aotearoa.

RANZCP Foundation Committee report



**RANZCP
Foundation**

Transforming mental health care,
creating a world of potential



Chair
**Associate Professor
John Allan**

Committee members

- » A/Prof. John Allan
- » Prof. Gerard Byrne
- » Prof. Hinemoa Elder MNZM
- » Dr Nick Kowalenko
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Prof. Gin Malhi
- » Prof. Helen Milroy
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » A/Prof. Louise Nash
- » A/Prof. Shuichi Suetani
- » A/Prof. Nicola Warren

The RANZCP Foundation is the College charity that raises funds to support world-class research and the next generation of psychiatrists.

Interest in the Foundation has continued to grow as we support a growing group of young researchers and contribute to the broader development of our profession. To help us with this work, we welcomed Fiona Elliott and Sanele Ngubane to the new RANZCP Foundation team. They will be focusing on attracting new supporters to increase our impact in the years to come.

We are inspired by the generosity and vision of our supporters. Our sincere thanks to Fellows who donated and supported our work, including Dr Alagappa Arumugam AM, Dr Bryanne Barnett AM, the Peter and Elizabeth Moore Foundation, and Dr Roth Trisno and family.

This year, we received an exceptional field of grant applications and awarded \$275,000 in funding (to be paid over the next few years) to 12 exciting new projects.

We were delighted to launch the Barnett Early Parenting Research and Collaboration Grant which was awarded to Dr Izaak Lim for his project, 'The role of fathers in the development of childhood anxiety'.

The Foundation ran a highly successful masterclass on anxiety disorders, which was a major fundraiser for us in 2023. We sincerely thank Professor Vlasios Brakoulias, Professor Caroline Hunt, Professor Vladan Starcevic and Professor David Castle for generously sharing their expertise.

The Foundation already supports a range of initiatives aimed at enhancing research and training opportunities for First Nations psychiatrists and trainees. We recognise that these may take time to develop their full potential but are important for health equity and the future of our profession.

It has been a remarkable year, yet there is still much to be done. We want to be able to support more of our early and mid-career researchers. We have an exciting calendar of new activities in 2024 to increase the visibility and impact of our work – and grow fundraising. I would encourage Fellows like me, who are now life members, to consider supporting the Foundation as a way of giving back.

If you would like to know more about our work, please get in touch at foundation@ranzcp.org.

New Zealand National Committee Report



Chair
Dr Hiran Thabrew

Committee members

- » Mr Ronald Baker MNZM
- » Dr David Codyre MNZM
- » Dr Arran Culver
- » Prof. Susanna Every-Palmer
- » Dr Alan Faulkner
- » Dr Oliver Hansby
- » Dr Marcel Hediger
- » Dr Matthew Jenkins
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Alison Masters
- » Dr Sam McBride
- » Ms Moe Milne ONZM
- » Dr Michael O'Rawe
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Dr Georgia Ramsden
- » Dr Suman Sinha
- » Ms Caro Swanson
- » Dr Hiran Thabrew

Tu Te Akaaka Roa – New Zealand National Committee

Committee members have worked hard to further Tu Te Akaaka Roa's workplan during the year, with its key streams of activity being workforce, cultural competence and safety, Affiliate member engagement, primary care, the Mental Health Act, communications, and addressing the abuse at Lake Alice Hospital.

Workforce is of significant concern and in this workstream we have begun a deep dive into the state of Aotearoa's psychiatry workforce. This data will support conversations with Te Whatu Ora and Manatū Hauora (Ministry of Health) about immediate psychiatry training needs and longer-term workforce development.

Members of Tu Te Akaaka Roa and College staff completed the Takarangi Framework training in September. The Committee has confirmed further training sessions will be organised for trainees and overseas-trained psychiatrists during 2024.

We also began work to identify the needs of our Affiliate members. A survey of Affiliates told us we need improved information about the College and the pathway to Fellowship for new overseas trained psychiatrists, and to consider granting Fellowship to some Affiliates after a set number of years.

The New Zealand General Election was held on 14 October and with the support of the College's media team we ran a highly successful campaign including an online community forum featuring the opposing health spokespeople the Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall from Labour and Matt Doocey from the Nationals. This activity led to a commitment from the incoming coalition government to addressing the mental health workforce shortage.

We intend to hold this government to their promise of increasing psychiatry trainee positions and will work closely with the new Mental Health Minister, Matt Doocey, to achieve equity and excellence in the provision of mental healthcare.

Our mahi this year would not have been possible without our New Zealand National Office staff, led by Katherine Minett, our policy duo of Regina Hegemann and Bronte Jeffries, as well as Monique Devereux and many others from the College's bi-national team.

Chairs of the New Zealand-based Faculty and Section Subcommittees

- » Dr David Bathgate: Section of Intellectual and Development Disabilities
- » Dr Bronwyn Copeland: Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Psychiatry
- » Dr Chris Gale: Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation
- » Dr James Gardiner: Section of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry
- » Dr John Gregson: Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- » Dr Shailesh Kumar: Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry
- » Dr Jeremy McMinn: Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry
- » Dr Adam Sims: Faculty of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Australian Branch Committee reports

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Branch continues to advocate to improve mental healthcare in the territory and this year its focus has been to develop its relationship with the ACT Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, the Hon Emma Davidson MLA. Dr Ava Carter took the lead on briefing the Minister on the ACT Training program and found it to be a constructive meeting.

The Branch advocacy activities included highlighting the need for improved funding for perinatal mental health, and we were pleased to see the ACT Government subsequently increase funding in this area. The Branch made several submissions, including to the Inquiry into Voluntary Assisted Dying and the ACT's Mental Health Workforce Strategy.

Events during 2023 included hosting Dr Louise Brightman, who presented on the Canberra Obesity Management Service and Travelling Scholar, and Associate Professor Paul Cammell, who presented 'Contemporary models of psychotherapy in psychiatric training and clinical work' and 'What does 'borderline' mean? Borderline Personality Disorder and challenges for contemporary psychiatry'. Both sessions were well attended, and members found them stimulating and of significant help in terms of clinical practice.

The Branch's annual dinner and ACT Branch Awards were again highly successful with more than 40 members present. Highlights included the presentation of the ACT Branch Meritorious Service Award to Dr Priyani Ratnayake, and the Teresa Foce Award to Dr Dilini Hemachandra. Colleagues from both the public and private sector were in attendance, providing an excellent opportunity for networking.

Our Branch Coordinator, Lisa Meredith, has provided invaluable assistance during another busy year.



Chair
**Denise
Riordan**

Committee members

- » Dr Anthony Barker
- » Dr Rodney Blanch
- » Dr Ava Carter
- » Dr Catherine Hayter
- » Dr Arjun Khaira
- » Dr May Matias
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » A/Prof. Denise Riordan
- » Dr Azra Sabir
- » Dr Florian Wertenaue

New South Wales

The year began on a high with members welcomed back to the newly renovated Branch Office, Maddison House. The fully accessible premises boasts significantly improved amenity for members and staff, including first-class meeting rooms and state-of-the-art videoconferencing. From all reports, it was worth the wait! Our thanks to Ken Branighan, Branch Manager for his diligent stewardship of the renovation project.

We saw NSW go to the polls this year to elect a new Government and we tackled this with an advocacy campaign in partnership with other organisations, collectively known as the 'Mental Health Alliance'.

The campaign's key construct was 'The New South Wales mental health system on the brink - Evidence from the frontline' report. This characterised the dire state of mental health services in the state and called for a gap analysis to facilitate meaningful reform. With the support of Lex Guider from the College media team, the campaign gained significant coverage and led to an election commitment from the incoming new Government to fund a comprehensive analysis in 2024.

The NSW Rural Psychiatry Project held a weekend Rural Trainee Forum in May. The 17 trainees who attended enjoyed a mix of in-depth academic presentations, roundtable-type discussions, networking,

and a wellness and resilience workshop. The Project also funded in-person attendance for first year rurally based trainees at the College Trainee Orientation Day.

In November, 107 members attended the inaugural NSW Branch Conference at Rydges Resort in the Hunter Valley. The conference offered a great balance of member engagement and education – from the welcome soiree, to the jam-packed, quality scientific program and the enjoyable Saturday night dinner, where we celebrated the Meritorious Service Award recipient and recognised new RANZCP Fellows.



Chair
Dr Angelo Virgona

Committee members

- » Dr Alexandria Campbell
- » Dr Kathryn Drew
- » Dr Alice Dwyer
- » Dr Pramudie Gunaratne
- » Dr Ralf Ilchef
- » Dr Saretta Lee
- » A/Prof. Loyola McLean
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Dr Michael Paton
- » Dr Maryssa Portelli
- » Dr Louise Randall
- » Ms Catriona Tonacia
- » Dr Angelo Virgona
- » Dr Karen Williams
- » Dr Choon-Siew Yong

Northern Territory

Following a Cabinet reshuffle, the Hon Kate Worden MLA became the new Territory Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, replacing the Hon Lauren Moss. We look forward to developing a relationship with the new Minister to discuss how we can improve the Northern Territory's (NT) health system and support the delivery of the government's mental health commitments.

Positive changes for the NT Branch have included a slight increase in local membership, counterbalanced by difficulties in attracting trainees, but with a vigorous PIF membership.

The new Youth Detention Centre in Holtze is scheduled for completion in 2024 and there are signs of a comprehensive forensic management approach.

The Branch is pleased to soon welcome a lived experience community representative to the Branch Committee. We recognise that it is so important to incorporate the lived experiences of people with mental illness into the development of Branch policy priorities and submissions to government.

Key events this year included three movie nights, which are always insightful and well attended, and three networking nights on

topics of Perinatal Mental Health, Mental Health in the Emergency Department and Workforce Development.

Our successful partnership event with NT Primary Health Network featured Travelling Scholar, Dr David Cunnington, who spoke on all things sleep. Development of this partnership is planned for the coming year.

We will start 2024 by planning our advocacy work around the robust 2024–25 pre-budget submission, supported by Branch Committee members, which will outline our priorities to the NT Government.



Chair
Dr David Chapman

Committee members

- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Mary Frost
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Dr Natalie Hunt
- » Dr Nimalee Kanakkahewa
- » Dr Usman Khalid
- » Dr Diana McKay
- » Dr Tamoor Mirza
- » Prof. David Mitchell
- » A/Prof. Robert Parker

Queensland

Two big ticket items have shaped the Branch policy priorities this year: workforce and medicinal cannabis misuse.

In September, we met with the Hon Shannon Fentiman MP, Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services to discuss new medical graduates undertaking a mandatory psychiatry term in the two years after graduating.

Queensland Health has also committed to work with the College in developing a package aimed at retaining as many registrars as possible in the public mental health sector.

In the last year, members reported concerns of medicinal cannabis misuse. We surveyed members to help us understand the extent of the problem. Over 60% of survey respondents reported seeing people with schizophrenia and similar disorders and anxiety and insomnia being prescribed medicinal cannabis containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), when the patients had not been adequately assessed and trialled on therapies like Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. GPs were identified as the most common prescriber of medicinal cannabis.

We discussed the issue of medicinal cannabis misuse when we met with the

Health Ombudsman, Dr Lynne Coulson Barr OAM, the Medical Board (Ahpra), the Australian Medical Association Queensland and the Minister. The Minister agreed to explore for what purposes products containing THC are being prescribed, and to investigate whether medicinal cannabis could be placed on *QScript*.

The Branch hosted several events including the Annual Dinner in March, CME weekend in July and Bostock Oration in November.

Vicki Willis, Sarah Kereama and Nada Martinovic have been instrumental in the success of the Branch's work and we sincerely thank them all.



Chair
Professor Brett Emmerson AM

Committee members

- » Dr Agnew Alexander
- » Prof. Brett Emmerson AM
- » Dr Hitesh Joshi
- » Dr Kirsten McMahon
- » Dr Vikas Moudgil
- » A/Prof. Stephen Parker
- » A/Prof. Gail Robinson
- » A/Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Joe Varghese
- » A/Prof. Nicola Warren
- » Dr Elise Witter

South Australia

We began 2023 in great shape thanks to the legacy left by the previous Branch Committee. Its advocacy secured record commitments in the state budget, including \$182 million for mental health beds, 100 extra doctors, and \$400,000 to develop a long-term psychiatry workforce plan. Branch consultation was also pivotal in the review of the Mental Health Act.

In March, the Branch Committee ran a highly successful scientific conference in Hahndorf. The conference supplements our CPD program, Travelling Scholar, and annual Barton Pope public lecture which this year featured Professor Russell Roberts. Professor Roberts spoke

compellingly about the impact of mental illness and system governance upon physical health.

We also focused on budget priorities, with workforce development primary, followed by greater equity for rural people following the review into Rural Mental Health Services. Key stakeholder engagement included meetings with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Clinical Directors of Local Health Networks, SA Association of Psychiatrists in Training, and the SA Psychiatry Branch Training Committee.

Finally, our annual Gala Dinner at the Adelaide Town Hall welcomed 17 new Fellows, and honoured Dr Fiona Hawker, the SA Meritorious Service Award recipient; Dr Tanya Soetratma, the Anne E Loughlin Prize recipient; and Dr Rosie Williams, the Medicott Award recipient.

We thank Dr Paul Furst who stepped down this year after serving on this Branch Committee for 12 years; three as Chair.

As always, we greatly appreciate the support of our Branch staff, Trudy Lisk and Matt Hee.



Chair
Dr Patrick Clarke

Committee members

- » Dr Patrick Clarke
- » Dr Susan Cosoff
- » Dr Varuni De Silva
- » Dr Callum Deakin
- » Dr Andrew Giam
- » Dr Adele Jackson
- » Dr Vineet Juneja
- » Prof. Sharon Lawn
- » Dr Devon Marshman
- » Dr Stephen McManis
- » Dr Michael Nance
- » Dr Thomas Paterson
- » Dr Cian Tuohy
- » A/Prof. Melanie Turner
- » Dr Marshall Watson

Tasmania

The Tasmanian Branch 2024–25 pre-budget submission has been submitted to the Tasmanian Government with the mental health workforce identified as the focus for this year’s submission. Key recommendations are on recruitment, retention, and rural and remote servicing.

We have been actively consulting on local policy issues including the Tasmanian Drug Strategy 2022–2027, changes to the Tasmanian Poisons Act 1971 and prescribing of S8 stimulants, and the new rules introduced by the TGA regarding MDMA and psilocybin.

The Branch ran several events for members. The Travelling Scholar program in June was highly successful and saw Scientia Professor Perminder Sachdev visit Hobart, Launceston and Burnie. In October, Dr P Ken Gillman from Queensland presented in Hobart. The Branch was delighted to present Dr Martin Morrissey with the inaugural Branch Meritorious Service Award, and we held a successful celebration event for supervisors and trainees.

The Branch is continuing to build its profile, with the establishment of the Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry Subcommittee: the first Faculty subcommittee in Tasmania.

Although the physical office in Hobart has closed, we have redirected the funds towards member activities, and will be working closely with the Centre for Mental Health Service Innovation in 2024 to deliver regular high value educational events for members. Our 2024 Branch Conference will be held in Launceston in November, with a distinguished list of interstate and local speakers scheduled to take part.

None of our work in 2023 would have been possible without the assistance of Jennifer Wehnert, our Branch Coordinator.



Chair
Dr Ben Elijah

Committee members

- » Dr Sonny Atherton
- » Dr Joanna Bakas
- » Dr Samuel Baxter
- » Prof. David Castle
- » Dr Ben Elijah
- » Dr Lev Fridgant
- » Dr Katja Lindemann
- » Dr Stephanie Lorimer
- » Dr Sadhana Pande
- » Dr Honor Pennington
- » Dr Josephine Topp
- » Dr Anil Reddy
- » Dr Lennie Woo

Victoria

Important strides have been made since the Royal Commission completed its work, however reform brings both opportunities and risks. The Branch has continued to contribute to the shaping of the new system through consultations and policy submissions; and by building key stakeholder relationships with peak organisations and government.

Major advocacy issues raised by the Victorian Branch concern the psychiatrist workforce, improved opportunities for registrar training, and support for implementation of the new *Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022*; and system improvement shaped by clinical strategy, better integration of primary, private

specialist, local and area mental health and wellbeing services, and better support of patients with long term care needs, including housing.

The numbers of trainees, Specialist International Medical Graduates and Fellows undertaking training are the highest they’ve ever been across Victoria at 670, and includes 115 first year psychiatrists in training. Interest in our specialty is growing, with more than 50 qualified applicants unable to secure a position due to placement competition. Advanced training is also growing, with Directors of Advanced Training supporting between 7 and 53 trainees and Fellows enrolled in their programs.

Another successful annual Branch conference rounded out the year in picturesque Marysville. The diverse program focused on how psychiatrists in both public and private settings achieve deeper connection with patients and families, with different elements of the system and with each other. A curated conference such as this offers valuable opportunities for connection, which was mirrored in the rich conversations that took place throughout the sessions.

We have been greatly assisted by Joanne Balmforth in all of our policy work, and look forward to working with our new Branch Coordinator Juliet Brereton after farewelling Jen Darman from the office last year.



Chair
Associate Professor Simon Stafrace

Committee members

- » Dr Lee Allen
- » Dr Jennifer Babb
- » Dr Dominika Baetens
- » Ms Katrina Clarke
- » Dr Subhash Das
- » Dr Ganesan Duraiswamy
- » Dr Nardine Elzahaby
- » Dr Raju Lakshmana
- » Dr Jerome Nicholapillai
- » Dr Thomas Sellitto
- » Dr Ajit Selvendra
- » A/Prof. Simon Stafrace
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Mx Emily Unity
- » Dr Francesca Valmorbida McSteen
- » Dr Ajay Vijaykrishnan
- » Dr Amanda Young

Western Australia

It has been a year of consolidation for the Western Australian Branch Committee as the approach to meaningful and targeted advocacy was strengthened.

For years, the Committee has been advocating for a state-wide approach to workforce management, and this is finally being led by WA Health and the Minister for Health and Mental Health, who is now in the middle of hosting several forums into various aspects of workforce development. The Branch Committee's advocacy has built strong relationships with government and other important stakeholders, especially the Mental Health Commission, who have been actively seeking collaboration.

Congress was hosted in Perth in 2023, and officially attracted the highest number of onsite delegates ever, with 1786 onsite registrations – the next closest was the 2022 Congress in Sydney which attracted 1715 onsite registrations (and narrowly beat WA for virtual registrations). During Congress, the WA Branch office was a hub for several meetings, including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee, Te Kaunihera, the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry dinner and the Mental Health Educational Leaders of Australia and New Zealand meeting.

The Branch Committee has been focused on member engagement. The Branch's relationships within the College have been

strengthened by establishing better feedback between the Branch and Faculties which has seen more activity within the Faculties. The Branch also hosted some new social events including a Welcome Sundowner in February. This was a popular gathering, with 70 members including trainees, early career psychiatrists and senior leaders all enjoying the collegial and social atmosphere.

None of the above would have been possible without the assistance and commitment of the WA Branch team including Angie Padoan and Gillie Anderson.



Chair
Dr Mike Verheggen

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » A/Prof. Mathew Coleman
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » A/Prof. Yulia Furlong
- » Dr Chinar Goel
- » Dr Kyle Hoath
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Rebecca Ng
- » Dr Muruges Nidyananda
- » Dr Jarrad Paul
- » Dr Natalie Shulman
- » Dr Gordon Shymko
- » Dr Benjamin Sketcher
- » Ms Sharon Taylor
- » Dr David Townsend
- » Dr Daniela Vecchio
- » Dr Ajay Velayudhan
- » Dr Mike Verheggen

Faculty highlights

Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry

The Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry recorded its highest ever number of addiction psychiatry trainees across Australia and New Zealand, with over 150 trainees enrolled in addiction certificate training during 2023.

The Faculty convened a successful International Medicine in Addiction conference in February in Melbourne, in partnership with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) and the Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners (RACGP).

Associate Professor Arunogiri presented at the Australian Senate *'Inquiry into online gambling and its impacts on those experiencing gambling harm'*, alongside

Professor John Saunders from the RACP. The Faculty advocated for a stronger public health approach, regulating advertising, and enhancing access to evidence-based treatment. The subsequent joint RANZCP-RACP position statement will be released in 2024.

The Faculty welcomes contributions from all members to our work on alcohol and mental health harms, with webinars and factsheets launching in 2024.

A big thanks to all of our members for their engagement and expertise.



Chair
**Associate
Professor
Shalini
Arunogiri**

Committee members

- » A/Prof. Shalini Arunogiri
- » Dr Robert Bell
- » A/Prof. Mark Daglish
- » Dr Basanth Kenchaiah
- » Dr Robert Lundin
- » Dr Robert May
- » Dr Sam McBride
- » Dr Jeremy McMinn
- » Dr Vicky Phan
- » Dr David Plevin
- » Dr Kelly Ridley

Faculty of Adult Psychiatry

In the last 12 months, the Faculty of Adult Psychiatry grew from 1719 to 1874 members.

The Faculty's annual face-to-face conference was held at Doubletree by Hilton Esplanade in Darwin from 13–15 October 2023 and was a tremendous success, attracting a gathering of over 90 psychiatrists from across Australia and New Zealand. The conference was also attended by trainees and PIF members. Our next conference, which will be a joint conference with the Section of Private Practice Psychiatry, will be held in August 2024 in Sydney.

The Faculty has been supporting the ADHD Network in advocacy and education activities with a proposal to hold the first conference next year.

An advanced training 'endorsement' model plan is underway within the College, where alternative advanced training models will be explored once an overarching project plan is complete. The College will collaborate with the Subcommittee for Advanced Training in Adult Psychiatry to develop the concept further in due course.



Chair
Dr Agnew Alexander

Committee members

- » Dr Agnew Alexander
- » Dr Muthur Anand
- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr Suneel Chamoli
- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Bianca Dinu
- » Dr Peter Heffernan
- » Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan
- » A/Prof. Balaji Motamarri
- » Prof. Nagesh Pai
- » Dr Stephen Parker
- » Dr Suman Sinha
- » A/Prof. Shuichi Suetani
- » Dr Deborah Wearne
- » Dr Georgina Weir

Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

The Online Pacific Health Exchange – Fundamentals for 2023 was successfully completed with the support of the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry covering 12 weeks from March–June 2023 with 117 people attending various sessions.

Three advanced workshops have, so far, been scheduled to take place by the end of 2024.

The Pasifika Study Group, in conjunction with the Pasifika Medical Association (PMA), took place in September in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Doctors and mental health professionals from the Pacific joined members for a one-day workshop to explore the themes of:

- » Functional neurodevelopmental problems
- » Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- » Dementia

This conference was visited by the Australian High Commissioner to the Cook Islands and highlights included a mention of the Faculty's program in the PMA conference opening address.

In 2024, the Faculty intends to highlight workforce planning, including developing a national roadmap for child and adolescent psychiatric services from primary to specialist care, and developing capacity building resources to support GPs and paediatricians.



Chair
Professor Valsamma Eapen

Committee members

- » Dr Narmali Bandaranayake
- » Prof. Valsa Eapen
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Dr Timothy Ghan
- » Dr Francis Goodstadt
- » Dr John Gregson
- » Dr Ken Hooper
- » Dr Nick Kowalenko
- » Dr Liam O'Connor
- » Dr Yolisha Singh
- » Dr Sally Tregenza
- » Dr Afraz Zaman

Faculty of Consultation–Liaison Psychiatry

The Faculty held a successful and well-attended conference in Queenstown, New Zealand with a well-received academic program in a stunning location.

It was also pleasing to note many families in attendance. The next Faculty of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Conference is to be held in Noosa in winter 2025 with an anticipated theme around functional disorders.

The committee is now progressing the renaming of the Faculty’s annual trainee award to honor the work of Professor Graeme Smith.

In the October face to face meeting in Sydney, our work plan was reviewed and will be updated, and once finalised will align with the College’s Strategic Plan and the aims of the Faculty.



Chair
Dr Carol Silberberg

Committee members

- » Prof. Rebecca Anglin
- » Dr Sara Ghaly
- » Dr Dan Hubik
- » Dr Bill Lu
- » Dr Catherine Mason
- » Dr John O’Callaghan
- » Dr Carol Silberberg
- » Dr Adam Sims
- » Dr Paul Vroegop
- » Dr Andreja Vuchkov

Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry

The Chair would like to thank previous Faculty Chair, Dr Justin Barry-Walsh, for his invaluable leadership. We have benefitted greatly from his experience, knowledge, and calm, witty manner over the past decade.

The Faculty has taken an active role in addressing the issue of involuntary treatment of mentally unwell patients in custodial settings. We have been in touch with the NSW Minister for Mental Health, and the Mental Health Review Tribunal, highlighting the concerns.

Workforce issues in mental health continue to be of significant concern across Australia and New Zealand, especially in forensic psychiatry. This is being actively discussed and the Faculty is looking at ways to attract trainees with future workforce sustainability in mind.

Our first face to face conference since the pandemic is being planned for October 2024 on the Gold Coast, and we hope to attract a wide array of national and international speakers and delegates.



Chair
Vinesh Gupta

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Bailey
- » Dr Anthony Barker
- » Dr Justin Barry-Walsh
- » Dr William Brereton
- » Dr Adam Brett
- » A/Prof. Andrew Carroll
- » Dr Mrigendra Das
- » A/Prof. Andrew Ellis
- » Dr Vinesh Gupta
- » Dr Owen Haeney
- » A/Prof. Scott Harden
- » Dr Shailesh Kumar
- » Dr Trevor Ma
- » Dr Christina Matthews
- » Dr Elizabeth (Ness) McVie
- » Dr Edward Petch
- » Dr Natalie Puchalski
- » Dr Jacqueline Rakov
- » Dr Yolisha Singh
- » Dr Calum Smith

Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age

The number of Australians and New Zealanders aged 65+ has increased from 12% to 16% of the population over the past 25 years, and the most frequent concerns raised by members now relate to insufficient access to high quality specialist and subspecialist mental health care.

Access issues were highlighted during Australia's Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety and in the 2023 New Zealand Psychiatry of Old Age Services and Workforce survey. Lack of skillsets in this area is a critical risk for public mental health services taking the risk of running 'ageless' service models.

The workforce pipeline includes 84 Stage 3 trainees in Australia and five in New Zealand, as well as 52 Stage 3 Fellows in Australia and six in New Zealand. The Faculty itself has 496 active members.

This year saw successful annual scientific meetings in Brisbane and Melbourne, each with 150+ attendees. The Faculty's 2024 event will be in Christchurch, New Zealand.



Chair
Dr David Lie

Committee members

- » Dr Sarah Beaney
- » A/Prof. Gary Cheung
- » Dr Noel Collins
- » Dr Bronwyn Copeland
- » Dr Matthew Fasnacht
- » Dr Zain Hindawi
- » Dr David Lie
- » Dr Samantha Loi
- » A/Prof. Steve Macfarlane
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » Dr Rosalind Mulholland
- » Dr Anneliese Sayes

Faculty of Psychotherapy

This year marked the return of a face-to-face conference with the theme of 'The high road and the low road - what happens after the trip. Is there a role for psychedelics in psychotherapy?' The conference was well received, both from the presentations and the opportunity to meet colleagues in person.

Presentations focused on psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy and briefer forms of psychodynamic psychotherapy as a method of increasing the availability of psychotherapy, given the current shortage of practitioners. One of the highlights of the conference was the lived experience panel.

It is hoped that future Faculty of Psychotherapy conferences will be conducted in a hybrid format to allow equity and access for those members unable to attend in person. The Faculty warmly thanks the conference convenors. Special thanks must go to the supportive College staff especially our Conference Coordinator, Katrina Huntington.

The bi-national committee would like to offer our thanks to Ms De Backman-Hoyle, the Faculty's community member who has stood down after five years of enthusiastic contributions.



Chair
Dr Andrew Christensen

Committee members

- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » A/Prof. Paul Cammell
- » Dr Andrew Christensen
- » Dr Tanya Devadason
- » Dr Christopher Garvie
- » Dr David Graham
- » A/Prof. Anthony Korner
- » Dr Catherine Ludbrook
- » A/Prof. Loyola McLean
- » Dr John Robertson

Section highlights

Section of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry

Growing, developing, and maintaining the Section's identity and role amidst multiple national and global crises has been the focus in 2023.

The Section now celebrates the fruits of these endeavours - particularly tangible in the ever-increasing membership, with almost 400 enthusiastic, energetic and passionate individuals on board.

Our exceptional conference, 'Tales from the Edge', was held in Hobart and it was a delight to see so many attend. The Section looks forward to connecting and learning together with members at the 2024 conference.

The Section's role as ardent advocates has continued in relation to raising the age of criminal responsibility, which prompted some heartening state responses in Australia, and in relation to the Ram Raid Bill in New Zealand.

Collaboration on workforce-focused pre-budget submissions was a priority, especially given the burgeoning number of trainees undertaking the dual certification required in becoming a child and adolescent forensic psychiatrist.



Chair
Dr Yolisha Singh

Committee members

- » Dr Richard Baker
- » Dr James Belshaw
- » Dr Brendan Daugherty
- » Dr Adam Deacon
- » Dr Enys Delmage
- » Dr Yumna Dhansay
- » Dr Teresa Flower
- » Dr James Gardiner
- » A/Prof. Scott Harden
- » A/Prof. John Kasinathan
- » Dr Joey Le
- » Dr Katinka Morton
- » Dr Annie Parsons
- » Dr Yolisha Singh
- » Dr Marshall Watson

Section of Early Career Psychiatrists

The Section's focus has been on the transition to Fellowship, and in particular, the areas of private practice and leadership opportunities for early career psychiatrists. We have engaged with the Section for Private Practice to create some resources specific to entering private practice, which will come to fruition in 2024.

The Section's successful Leadership in Psychiatry event featured early career psychiatrists working in a variety of settings, and our annual Welcome Aboard event, hosted at College Congress, was much enjoyed.

The Section has a unique dual role as recent trainees and new supervisors. In 2024, the Section will focus on education and plans to advocate further for early career psychiatrists' views on the new assessment processes within the College. Also planned is a Transition to Fellowship webinar, and more engagement with private practice colleagues.

The Section committee farewelled Dr Eddie Mullen, who stepped down as Chair, and we thank him for his invaluable contributions.



Chair
Dr Rebecca Graham

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Killian Ashe
- » Dr Aniket Bansod
- » Dr Vijay Danivas
- » Dr Rebecca Graham
- » Dr Edward Mullen
- » Dr Korinne Northwood
- » Dr David O'Mahony
- » Dr Jacqueline Rakov
- » Dr Melissa Renzenbrink
- » Dr Ramyadarshni Vadivel

Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation

The focus of our committee this year has been to improve service accessibility, affordability, quality and standards of training across Australia and New Zealand.

With great support from the College's Events team and Conference Coordinator Aleisha O'Connor, the Section convened a fantastic conference in Darwin with more than 130 attendees. The theme 'New Insights: Ancient Wisdom' was not only linked to the conference location but also highlighted the growing challenges facing practitioners in delivering neurostimulation therapies to rural and remote populations and to First Nations peoples.

Highlights of the Section's work this year include the implementation of the Advanced Certificate in ECT and Neurostimulation, which has long been a priority, and the update of the repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) professional practice guideline, which now awaits approval.

Additionally, the rTMS Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) item numbers have been reviewed through extensive work with the Department of Health, and it is noted that the MBS schedule fee increases for ECT take effect from 1 March 2024.



Chair
Associate Professor Salam Hussain

Committee members

- » Dr Suneel Chamoli
- » Prof. Paul Fitzgerald
- » Dr Christopher Gale
- » Dr Ashu Gandhi
- » Dr Deepak Garg
- » Dr Shane Gill
- » A/Prof. Salam Hussain
- » Dr Binu Jayawardena
- » Prof. Colleen Loo
- » Dr Subramanian Purushothaman
- » Dr Shanthi Sarma
- » Dr Brett Simpson
- » Dr Jeremy Smith
- » Dr Alan Weiss

Section of Leadership and Management

The Section made a successful contribution to the RANZCP Congress in Perth, with Jo Wailing giving a well informed and popular session on restorative justice. Jo's presentation was based on her 20 years' experience in clinical, professional, and government advisory roles.

Congress attendees also heard from Professor Brett Emmerson, who led an informative session on updates in administrative psychiatry.

The Section is currently developing several podcasts with eminent psychiatrists in the field of administrative psychiatry to inform and encourage early career psychiatrists who may have an interest in this area.



Chair
**Associate
Professor
Robert Parker**

Committee members

- » Dr Pramudie Gunaratne
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Dr Mark McAndrew
- » A/Prof. Balaji Motamarri
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » A/Prof. Robert Parker
- » Prof. Alan Rosen
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Raamvive Vivekanandam
- » Dr James Zurek

Section of Neuropsychiatry

The Section of Neuropsychiatry held its 12th annual conference in November, a highly successful event with a focus on biomarkers, machine learning and psychedelics, and featuring plenary speakers, Professor John McGrath and Professor Glenda Halliday.

An attached symposium on functional neurological disorders was hugely oversubscribed. Next year the Section has agreed to host the International Neuropsychiatry Association's Congress as a joint event in Melbourne.

During 2023 the Section also approved a new neuropsychiatry prize, which it hopes to name in honour of pioneering Victorian neuropsychiatrist, Dr John Lloyd.

The Section continues to work towards approval of an Advanced Certificate in Neuropsychiatry.



Chair
**Professor
Richard
Kanaan**

Committee members

- » Dr Gregory Finucane
- » Dr Joshua Flavell
- » A/Prof. Bradleigh Hayhow
- » Prof. Richard Kanaan
- » Dr Basil Vasilis Mantzioris
- » Prof. Harry McConnell
- » Dr Adith Mohan
- » Prof. Dennis Velakoulis

Section of Philosophy and Humanities

The Section of Philosophy and Humanities continued its advocacy priorities with a focus on gaining more access to College journals, promoting its activities to students, trainees, and members, and seeking more opportunities for keynote speakers at conferences.

We also look forward to the opportunity to organise pre-conference workshops during 2024.

The Section wishes to extend congratulations to Dr Sue Lutton for organising a well-attended dinner and for

speaking at the Perth Congress. The Section also commends her efforts to date in organising an exciting pre-conference workshop at the upcoming Canberra Congress.

The Section aims to publicise its activities in various College newsletters in the coming year, as members are very enthusiastic about increasing the Section's profile. We are also keen to better understand the important role of philosophy and humanities in the discipline of psychiatry and look forward to a productive 2024.



Chair
**Associate
Professor
Robert Kaplan**

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Howie
- » A/Prof. Neil Jeyasingam
- » A/Prof. Robert Kaplan
- » Dr Izaak Lim
- » Dr Susan Lutton
- » Dr Lieu Chi Nguyen
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Steven Stankevicius

Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry

The Section remains committed to two ongoing priorities for perinatal and infant psychiatry: the development and provision of advanced training pathways and developing an education program for members.

In advocating for an Advanced Training Certificate for Perinatal Psychiatry, the Section submitted an application in 2019, and this was resubmitted in 2022. The Section looks forward to hearing about the consideration and progress of their application in 2024. This reflects the sustained advocacy and work by the Section.

For our second priority, a webinar on understanding birth trauma in clinical care was held and again this was well attended. As a result of this, we have now confirmed our first Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry Conference in June 2024.

In ensuring visibility and advocacy for the Section, work has continued by members of the committee, including the Section's ongoing advocacy with the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority for funding Australian public mental health Mother Baby Unit services, and representation in the Centre of Perinatal Excellence.



Chair
**Professor
Megan Galbally**

Committee members

- » Dr Liz Coventry
- » Dr Ilona DiBella
- » Prof. Megan Galbally
- » Dr Emma Gray
- » Dr Brendan Jansen
- » Dr Nimalee Kanakkahewa
- » Dr Sylvia Lim-Gibson
- » Dr Elizabeth MacDonald
- » Dr Kristine Mercuri
- » Dr Susan Roberts
- » Ms Genevieve Whitlam

Section of Private Practice Psychiatry

The Section of Private Practice has been able to shift focus away from the chaos and hard work that the COVID-19 pandemic brought. COVID taught us that communicating with private psychiatrists should be a central focus of the Section and that having different ways of messaging are important. The rise of WhatsApp groups has been a boon by giving members a way of bringing concerns to the Section and College's attention.

Telehealth, difficulty accessing psychiatrists, and rising concerns about the closure of inpatient private psychiatric units have been key topics during 2023.

The Section has been able to grow its New Zealand committee members and will be looking at developing private practice resources in New Zealand during 2024.

The Section was very pleased to have dedicated positions on the Climate and Sustainability and Psychedelic Steering Groups, and feels the voice of private psychiatry within the College is growing.

The Section looks forward to holding its first conference in August 2024 in Sydney.



Chair
Dr Michelle Atchison

Committee members

- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr George Blair-West
- » Dr Campbell Emmerton
- » Dr Gary Galambos
- » Dr Deepak Garg
- » Dr Christopher Garvie
- » Dr Padmini Howpage
- » Dr Ashar Khan
- » Dr Renate Mundl
- » Dr Ananya Nayak
- » Dr William Pring
- » Prof. Sarah Romans
- » Dr Joe Varghese
- » Dr Emma Wills

Section of Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The Section's committee worked hard during 2023 to provide a voice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including using the pre-budget government submission to call for protected funding for services.

In early 2024, the committee will contribute to the College response to the recommendations of the Australian Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.

Additionally, the education and training of the bi-national psychiatric workforce will remain a priority, along with seeking approval for an advanced certificate.

The Section will also work with College staff to develop, collate and centralise training tools including webinars, modules and podcasts, and seek to develop a CPD learning pathway.

The Section also intends to lobby for the inclusion of core competencies in general training.

Finally, the committee looks forward to establishing a relationship with the Australian Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health.



Chair
Dr Jennifer Torr

Committee members

- » Dr David Bathgate
- » Dr Chad Bennett
- » Dr Gail Fleming
- » Dr Catherine Franklin
- » Dr Jennifer Harrison
- » Dr Melanie Johnston
- » Dr Matthew Sellen
- » Dr Sergio Starkstein
- » Dr Jennifer Torr
- » Prof. Julian Trollor

Section of Rural Psychiatry

The Section of Rural Psychiatry comprises a committed group of Fellows and trainees from across regional, rural and remote Australia and New Zealand.

The focus for the Section was in supporting the continued momentum of rolling out the RANZCP Rural Roadmap to enhance and improve sustainable Rural Psychiatry Training Pathways (RPTPs) in both countries. This included multiple education and training projects – completion of remote supervision, developing alternative rural pathways for the Stage 2 mandatory consultation-liaison psychiatry rotations, and commencing child and adolescent psychiatry rotations.

The Section has also been developing branding and establishing a monitoring, evaluation and learning framework for RPTPs through external consultants.

The Section recognises the dedication and efforts of the RPTP College team: Megan Barrett, Tracey Isidori, and Lisa Crouch. With the successes achieved to date in the Australian rural context, 2024 sees the Section turn its attention to circumstances and contexts of regional Aotearoa.



Chair
**Associate
Professor
Mat Coleman**

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Amos
- » Dr Anna Boggis
- » Dr Ryan Barber
- » A/Prof. Mat Coleman
- » A/Prof. Ravi Bhat
- » Dr Noel Collins
- » Dr Rodney Blanch
- » Dr Therese Grotowski
- » Dr Skye Kinder
- » Dr Melissa Renzenbrink
- » Dr Kelly Ridley
- » Dr Daniel Wood

Section of Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry

The Section is very proud that the Advanced Skills Training in rehabilitation psychiatry has commenced this year.

This is an innovative program which will lead the way in further training for College members. The first group of members completing the training have given positive and helpful feedback which will contribute to the improvement of the program. The Section anticipates that up to 100 members will complete the training over the next two years. The Chair wishes to take this opportunity to thank the committed team of Section members who have worked tirelessly with College staff to make this happen.

Planning for the Section's 2024 conference is well underway and will be held in Leura in New South Wales' beautiful Blue Mountains region, in early March 2024.

The Section welcomes all registrations and looks forward to delivering a stimulating program.



Chair
**Dr Daryl
Watson**

Committee members

- » Dr Tanveer Ahmed
- » Dr Sebastian Grandi
- » Dr Andrea Baas
- » Prof. Carol Harvey
- » Dr Lauren Barnett
- » Ms Manjit Kaur
- » Dr Nicholas Burns
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Catherine Chesterman
- » Dr Rohini Sonnaikanahallithimmaiah
- » Dr Bharat Visa
- » Dr Darryl Watson

Section of Youth Mental Health

The bi-national Section committee had another productive year and now has members from all jurisdictions in Australia and New Zealand, a registrar and a community representative. The committee meets monthly via teleconference and published two newsletters, one each in May and November.

Section members were pleased to see the new Certificate of Advanced Training (CAT) in Youth Psychiatry approved by the College Board, and it is expected that the first intake will occur in February 2025. The Professional Certificate in Youth Psychiatry itself has now completed three intakes, and transitions into the Formal Education Course for the new CAT.

The Section presented a symposium at both the Congress in Perth and at the New Zealand National Conference, and in 2024 will feature its own conference on the Gold Coast as well as contribute to the Congress in Canberra.

The Section's two webinars for the year, 'The complexities of managing Borderline Personality Disorder in youth' and 'Optimal management of early psychosis', rounded out a positive year's effort.



Chair
Dr Daniel Pellen

Committee members

- » Dr Angelene Chester
- » Ms Casey Davis
- » Dr Sharon Foley
- » Dr Gary Galambos
- » Dr David Hartman
- » Dr Lisa Juckes
- » Dr Ana Lusicic
- » Dr Iain Macmillan
- » Dr Karen Miller
- » Dr Tamoor Mirza
- » Dr Donovan Moncur
- » Dr Jarrad Paul
- » Dr Daniel Pellen
- » Dr Leo Sauaia Romero Fernandes
- » Dr Matthew Sellen

Network highlights

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Mental Health Network

The Network met twice this year to discuss important issues regarding asylum seekers and refugees. Changes in legislation and the political landscape have presented additional challenges, and we are dedicated to pursuing opportunities to advocate for positive change, through improving the mental health and wellbeing of the community.

Priorities for 2024 include advocating for citizenship test exemptions where medically necessary, addressing community discrimination towards detainees, and developing educational resources to empower trainees and Fellows when working with asylum seekers and refugees.

The Network plans to host a cross-disciplinary webinar with the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in the new year.



Chair
Dr Kym Jenkins

Committee members

- » Dr Luisa Butler
- » Dr Kym Jenkins
- » Dr Jonathan Jureidini
- » Dr Susan Lutton
- » Dr Trushna Murgahayah
- » Prof. Louise Newman
- » Dr Beth O'Connor
- » Dr Konya Roy
- » Dr Tejpal Singh
- » Dr Peter Young

RANZCP ADHD Network Committee

This has been a productive year for the Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Network with the release of the College’s Position Statement 55 on ADHD across the lifespan, and contribution to the Senate Inquiry into ADHD care.

The Network has grown to include more than 1700 members and it is facilitating monthly Grand Rounds which are regularly attended by 70–80 members.

Two ADHD EPAs, one for assessment and another for management, have been developed and are awaiting final College approval. The Network’s committee is in

touch with the RANZCP Committee for Training to update the curriculum to include ADHD-related content, and is also working to update content available through the College website.

The Faculty of Adult Psychiatry has approved the Network’s request to host a one-day ADHD conference, which will coincide with the Faculty of Adult Psychiatry conference.



Chair
Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan

Committee members

- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Angelene Chester
- » Dr Rosie Edwards
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Dr Peter Heffernan
- » Dr Victoria Jackson
- » Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan
- » Dr Gordana Jovanova
- » Dr Ashar Khan
- » Dr Edward Ko Ko Aung
- » Dr Elizabeth Lun
- » Dr Teslin Mathew
- » Dr Roger Paterson
- » Prof. Sarah Romans
- » Dr Matthew Sellen

Family Violence Psychiatry Network

The Family Violence Psychiatry Network continues to raise awareness of family violence to trainees and psychiatrists.

As a result of strong advocacy work, the College has made a recommendation of four hours’ minimum training in family violence over every two-year period for psychiatrists.

Some educational activities from the year included a podcast on coercive control (available on *Learnit*) and a webinar titled ‘A Duty to Care’. This was hosted live in partnership with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the University of Melbourne, a lived experience expert, and a final year medical student.

The membership survey on knowledge and education on family violence is being rerun in early 2024 to measure changes since the last survey conducted in 2016.



Chair
Professor Manjula O’Connor

Committee members

- » Dr Vibha Bhullar
- » Dr Soumitra Das
- » Prof. Maurice Eisenbruch
- » Dr Hannah Galloway
- » Dr Karen Gaunson
- » Dr Olivia Harley
- » Dr Samir Ibrahim
- » Dr Aparna Laddipeerla
- » Dr Vikas Moudgil
- » Dr Jai Nathani
- » Prof. Manjula O’Connor
- » Dr Jacqueline Short
- » Dr Meredith Whiting
- » Dr Karen Williams

Military, Veterans' and Emergency Services Personnel Network

The Network continues to work with key stakeholders and constitutional bodies to advocate for optimised quality of life and the wellbeing of military, veterans, and emergency services personnel and their families. Membership increased by 29% over the past year and will continue along this trajectory with the planned development of educational resources to upskill the general psychiatric workforce.

The Network delivered three symposia at Congress and met face-to-face for the first time in September. The Network contributed to multiple state and federal inquiries, College position statements, and was actively engaged with the ongoing Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, including two funded research projects.

The Network looks forward to continuing its work in 2024.



Chair
Dr Jon Lane

Committee members

- » Dr Nick Ford
- » Dr Mary Frost
- » Dr Megan Gilbert
- » Prof. Ed Heffernan
- » Dr Carolyn Jones
- » Dr Andrew Khoo
- » Dr Jon Lane
- » A/Prof. Alex Lim
- » Dr Diana McKay
- » Prof. Nagesh Pai
- » Dr Andrew Ramage
- » Dr Duncan Roy
- » Dr Daniel Short
- » Dr Duncan Wallace

The RANZCP's Faculties, Sections and Networks wish to acknowledge the dedication and support of the College's Bi-national Offices and Partnerships team – Melanie Jarrett, Dianne Gregson, Ann-Maree Sigismondi, Adriana Restrepo, Lizzie Gaffney and Amanda Macdonald.

New Fellows

During 2023, 274 candidates were admitted to Fellowship of the RANZCP.

Australia

Australian Capital Territory

Dr Matthew Brazel
Dr Dilini Hemachandra
Dr Lai-Ling Lee
Dr Sharna Naughton

New South Wales

Dr Anju Abujam
Dr David Alchin
Dr Husayn Aly
Dr James Baée
Dr Srilaxmi Balachandran
Dr Shoba Balaji
Dr David Binetter
Dr Robert Boyd
Dr In Ho Choi
Dr Patrick Chung
Dr Michelle Corke
Dr James Crawford
Dr Matthew Cubin
Dr Eleanor Curtin
Dr Marc Day
Dr Chandani De Silva
Dr Kelsey Denny
Dr Manpreet Dhawan

Dr Erin Dougherty
Dr Ty Drake
Dr Shyamasree Dutta
Dr Julijana Eftimovska-Tashkovska
Dr Matthew Elton
Dr Anna Ferdman
Dr Harriet Findlay
Dr Chenyan Gao
Dr Ayaz Ghani
Dr David Graham
Dr Jonathan Hardy
Dr Morteza Hayati
Dr Ronald Ho
Dr Tomilola Imarah
Dr Preeti Jacob
Dr Sean Jacobs
Dr Deepak Jayarajan
Dr Sandy Jusuf
Dr Sharmin Kazi
Dr Arjun Khaira
Dr Young Kim
Dr Jessica Kinder
Dr Amy Kitajima
Dr James Lawler
Dr Kelvin Chit Yuen Leung
Dr Wan Ling Lim

Dr Junjie Ling
Dr Sean Mahon-Daly
Dr Yiannis Makryllos
Dr Phillip Marinucci
Dr Robby Mathunni
Dr Bernard Myers
Dr Andrew Ntsowe
Dr Stefanie Orlik
Dr Shama Parveen
Dr Maryssa Portelli
Dr Tacita Powell
Dr Lisa Pryor
Dr Doaa Radwan
Dr Shammi Rajapakse
Dr Priyadarshini Rajendran
Dr Dori Rakusin
Dr Amirsalar Rashidianfar
Dr Paboda Thamarasi Ratnayake Mudiyansele
Dr Gopi Ravindran
Dr Miriam Saffron
Dr Adam Sauverain
Dr Trent Sawyer
Dr Bikash Shrestha
Dr Dinesh Sinnaduray
Dr Daniel Smoothy
Dr Bianca Swainston

Dr Jamie Tan
Dr Bonnie Tse
Dr Paul Tyrrell
Dr James Ulrick
Dr Melanie Willetts
Dr Benjamin Williams
Dr Rong Wu
Dr Mimi Xu
Dr Faisal Yaseen

Northern Territory

Dr Nicholas Ferguson
Dr Briony Willcocks

Queensland

Dr Abiodun Jackson Agara
Dr Ilina Agarwal
Dr Muhammad Akhtar
Dr Himaja Aravind
Dr The The Aung
Dr James Barton
Dr Mansur Basharat
Dr Pratichi Belbase
Dr Susannah Bond
Dr Samuel Bryson
Dr Dwain BurrIDGE
Dr Ching Cheung
Dr Melany Christofidis





Dr John Cross
 Dr Andrew Daltry
 Dr David De Luchi
 Dr Stephen Elliott
 Dr Shaileigh Gordon
 Dr Rashmi Gururajan
 Dr Magdalena Hagn
 Dr Fawaz Halabia
 Dr Rajesh Harjai
 Dr Beau Harman
 Dr Isabelle Horgan
 Dr Chia Jie Hsu
 Dr Jade Hughes
 Dr Aimee Hunter
 Dr Muhammad Jamaludin
 Dr Naomi Jess
 Dr Susannah Johnson
 Dr Bridget Johnson
 Dr Sally Jones
 Dr Shridhar Kamath
 Dr Nirvana Karan
 Dr Amuthanila Kasianandan
 Dr Muhammad Kashif Khan
 Dr Sathishka Wajantha Kotalawala
 Dr Jonathan Linacre
 Dr Parisa Loxham
 Dr Dylan Lu

Dr Evelyn Ma
 Dr Eesharnan Mahendran
 Dr Justin McMahon
 Dr Laura Nation
 Dr Angelina Neale
 Dr Lieu Chi Nguyen
 Dr Venura Palihawadana
 Dr Graham Pasternak
 Dr Maxwell Qu
 Dr Muhammad Bilal Raza
 Dr Vignesh Sakthivel
 Dr Steven Sin
 Dr Ching Shen Tham
 Dr Charanya Thanikachalam
 Dr Ehya Uddin
 Dr Elizabeth Wasowicz
 Dr Shengxin Xu

South Australia

Dr Jonathan Brailey
 Dr Björn Cartledge
 Dr Maddison Cavaiuolo
 Dr Amir Jamalulhak
 Dr Mohammad Khan
 Dr Annan Lloyd
 Dr Jessica Lowe
 Dr Alexandra Lynch
 Dr Jessica Matthews

Dr Willie Oe
 Dr Manoj Padhiar
 Dr Tasnia Disha Papavasiliou
 Dr David Plevin
 Dr Chaminda Mahesh Rajasuriya
 Dr Lauren Schild
 Dr Sumana Thomson
 Dr Michael Thorpe
 Dr Allison Werner
 Dr Samantha Yeap

Tasmania

Dr Vinod Kumar
 Dr Anna Norris

Victoria

Dr Siamak Abolhassani
 Dr Michelle Adams
 Dr Anju Agarwal
 Dr Preeti Agarwal
 Dr Muhammad Shahzad Ashraf
 Dr Shashank Ballur
 Dr Michael Batt
 Dr Elena Bhattacharya
 Dr Helen Branson
 Dr Marina Caulfield
 Dr Ruzhe Chew
 Dr Laura Dalzell

Dr Rebecca Dang
 Dr Raj Kumar Dangi
 Dr Aprajita Dharni
 Dr Edward Fearon
 Dr Leah George
 Dr Sara George Eraly
 Dr Robert Gillies
 Dr Cay Laurene Goh
 Dr Sivaguru Gurunathan Mani
 Dr Emily Hayes
 Dr Roua Jabir
 Dr Matthew Kang
 Dr Michael Keem
 Dr Maleeka Khullar
 Dr Prabhath Kodancha
 Dr Mithilesh Kumar
 Dr Shakira Kumar
 Dr Lok Yan Bonnie Law
 Dr Hamish Lewis
 Dr David Lien
 Dr Grace Lim
 Dr Kazem Madani
 Dr Selvaraj Madhivanan
 Dr Arun Madhumal Palayat
 Dr Shayanth Manche Gowda
 Dr Behrooz Maylie
 Dr Katharine McAlpine
 Dr David McKernon





Dr Daniel Mirmilstein
 Dr Lewys Morgan
 Dr Htike Nandi Oo
 Dr Vidya Narayan
 Dr Janardhanan Narayanaswamy
 Dr Ajay Prakash
 Dr Prashanth Puspanathan
 Dr Rani Raghavanandam
 Dr Mohsen Rahimnia
 Dr Cara Raisin
 Dr Dhanya Raveendranathan
 Dr Shyam Ravilla Padmanabhan Sudha
 Dr Gregory Roebuck
 Dr Sinjoni Roy
 Dr Michael Ryde
 Dr Minju Sajith
 Dr Carlin Saldanha
 Dr Bharathram Sathur Raghuraman
 Dr Raymond Scanlon
 Dr Neena Sharma
 Dr Suhas Simhan
 Dr Jennifer Smith
 Dr Hettiwattage Somaratne
 Dr Jon Stefansson
 Dr Santhosh Thamaraiselvan
 Dr Evan Thomas Johnson
 Dr Abu Varghese
 Dr Avinash Waghmare

Dr Hewa Liyana Wanigasekera
 Dr Dean Whitty
 Dr Pierre Wibawa
 Dr Vashti Wilman
 Dr Ramina Yadgar-Yalda
 Dr Thomas Yeatman
 Dr Tamara Yuen

Western Australia

Dr Alan Altham
 Dr Richard Clarke
 Dr Bryn Elphick
 Dr Donald Hulme
 Dr Vinayak Hutchinson
 Dr Radhakrishnan Koloth
 Dr Ali Morshed Aski
 Dr Kalpana Nagappan
 Dr Katie Niven
 Dr Hitesh Prajapati
 Dr Panduranga Rapuri
 Dr Alana Rowick
 Dr Daniela Sabbioni

Aotearoa New Zealand

Dr Balbir Arora
 Dr Chiranth Bhagavan
 Professor Marie Bismark
 Dr Gawen Carr
 Dr Matthew Chamberlain
 Dr James Cooney
 Dr Laura Hammersley
 Dr Amber Hendry
 Dr Silvanya Hulme
 Dr Zoe Kristensen
 Dr Clianna Lavelle
 Dr Mathew Lees
 Dr Lawrence Leung
 Dr Peter MacSorley
 Dr Elizabeth Pollock
 Dr John Ryan
 Dr Fady Saeed
 Dr Rachael Stevenson
 Dr Matthew Tennant
 Dr Tessa Van Der Kleij
 Dr Alisha Vara
 Dr Amber Wakefield



Certificates of Advanced Training

During 2023, 144 Fellows were awarded RANZCP Certificates of Advanced Training.

Addiction Psychiatry

Dr Hitta Garg
Dr Amuthanila Kasianandan
Dr Hayley Maher
Dr Lachlan McPhail
Dr Belinda Oddy
Dr David Plevin
Dr Maxwell Qu
Dr Varun Sharma
Dr Nicola Wallace
Dr Ashlea White

Adult Psychiatry

Dr Ravindra Bhagat
Dr Nabil Chherawala
Dr Dilini Hemachandra
Dr Gamladdalage Karunaratne
Dr Arjun Khaira
Dr Radhakrishnan Koloth
Dr Susan Lane
Dr Katherine Tan
Dr Angeline Thiagarajah
Dr Sumana Thomson
Dr Ashlea White

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr Michelle Adams
Dr Renato Assini
Dr Srilaxmi Balachandran
Dr Maddison Cavaiuolo
Dr Melany Christofidis
Dr Richard Clarke
Dr James Crawford
Dr Anitha Dani
Dr David De Luchi
Dr Iman Eftekhazadeh Mashhadi
Dr Erin Gallagher
Dr Robert Gillies
Dr Shaileigh Gordon
Dr Ronald Ho
Dr Chia Jie Hsu

Dr Marc Jurblum
Dr Sandy Jusuf
Dr Sharmila Kalluri Ramachandruni
Dr Zoe Kristensen
Dr Sarah-Chana Latowicz
Dr Wan Ling Lim
Dr Parisa Loxham
Dr Sean Mahon-Daly
Dr Sarah Mathews
Dr Daniel Mirmilstein
Dr Katherine Monahan
Dr Rosemary Neild
Dr Kevin Nguyen
Dr Katie Niven
Dr Stefanie Orlik
Dr Pooja Panchal
Dr Tacita Powell
Dr Laura Robertson
Dr Reem Mohamed Abdel Shafi
Dr Rachael Stevenson
Dr Briony Willcocks
Dr Mimi Xu
Dr Samantha Yeap

Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Dr David Alchin
Dr Susannah Bates
Dr Michael Batt
Dr Chiranth Bhagavan
Dr April Clugston
Dr Eleanor Curtin
Dr Rebecca Dang
Dr Ty Drake
Dr Matthew Elton
Dr Vanessa Grote
Dr Catherine Hercus
Dr Isabelle Horgan
Dr Philip Jaksa
Dr Jessica Kinder
Dr Junjie Ling

Dr David McKernon
Dr Bernard Myers
Dr Kalpana Nagappan
Dr Sheikh Naveed
Dr Faith Ng
Dr Rebecca Ng
Dr Rajapaksha Rajapaksha
Dr Gopi Ravindran
Dr Caitlin White
Dr Benjamin Williams
Dr Ramina Yadgar-Yalda
Dr Tamara Yuen

Forensic Psychiatry

Dr Renato Assini
Dr James Baée
Dr David Binetter
Dr Laura Dalzell
Dr Praveen Das Mullapuzha Devadas
Dr Leah George
Dr Ramu Gopal Tulasi
Dr Donal Hanratty
Dr Nicholas Ho
Dr Kailash Kedia
Dr Annan Lloyd
Dr Jessica Lowe
Dr Karen McDonnell
Dr Alana Rowick
Dr Miriam Saffron
Dr David Trainor
Dr Dulip Wettasinghe
Dr Shelley Xia

Psychiatry of Old Age

Dr Sodabeh Abazari
Dr Ilina Agarwal
Dr Meenal Aggarwal
Dr Mohammed Allam
Dr Dhaval Barot
Dr James Barton
Dr Patrick Beverley
Dr Matthew Brazel
Dr Matthew Chamberlain
Dr Jeffrey Chau
Dr Andrew Daltry
Dr Erin Dougherty
Dr Angelo Ferraro
Dr Paul Frederick
Dr Cay Laurene Goh
Dr Vanessa Grote
Dr Magdalena Hagn
Dr Katherine Hughes
Dr Muhammad Jamaludin
Dr Matthew Kang
Dr Karina Karel
Dr Evelyn Ma
Dr Kieran Owens
Dr Antonia Planinic
Dr Stephanie Roland

The Psychotherapies

Dr Farideh Absalan
Dr Ilona DiBella
Dr Eugene D'Souza
Dr Tonya Dudson
Dr Simone Garrett-Walcott
Dr Matthew Holt
Dr Savannah Hoopmann
Dr Aparna Laddipeerla
Dr Alexander Nash
Dr Karin Obrecht
Dr Michael Scott
Dr Jon Paul Teo
Dr Ahmed Zakareia
Dr Narcisa Zemek

The RANZCP pays tribute to the members who passed away during 2023:

Dr Robert Annen	Dr Henry Kristall	Dr Tundra Pasqualon
Dr Shea Cox-Livingstone	Dr Geoff Layton	Dr Norman Shum
Dr James Dang	Dr Ross Manners	Dr Keren Skegg
Dr Pauline Dunn	Dr Ian McDougall	Prof. Graeme Smith
Dr Alan Frazer	Dr Despina Mouratides	A/Prof. Marina Vamos
Dr Bertie Glass	Dr Mandakini Narielvala	Dr Christina Van Der Veen
A/Prof. Edwin Harari	Dr Eleni Nikolau	Dr Anthony Williams
Dr Bernard Hughson	Prof. Barry Nurcombe AM	Dr James Wood
Dr Aileen Jones	Dr Viktor Obiri-Boateng	Prof. Neil Yorkston
Dr Ivor Jones	Dr Peter Papay	

The RANZCP was informed in 2023 that the following members had passed away in a previous year:

Dr Clyde Cumming
Dr Nicholas Destro
Dr Lalani Weerasinghe
Dr John Westernik

Contact us

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Tuesday, 9 am–12.30 pm
Wednesday–Thursday, 9 am–5 pm

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Office hours

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RANZCP Board

Dr Elizabeth Moore
President

Dr Astha Tomar
President-Elect

Dr Ava Carter
Appointed Director, Trainee

Dr Warren Kealy-Bateman
Director (Casual Vacancy)

Dr Mark Lawrence
Elected Director

Dr Nick O'Connor
Elected Director

Dr Sue Mackersey
Elected Director

A/Prof. Melanie Turner
Elected Director

Chief Executive Officer

Sharon McGowan AM



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Australian &
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Psychiatrists

