Annual Review



Improving the mental health of communities through high-quality psychiatric care, education, leadership and advocacy







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Vision, values, purposes

Our vision

To improve the mental health of communities through high-quality psychiatric care, education, leadership and advocacy.

Our values

Collaboration Excellence Integrity Respect Compassion Innovation Sustainability

Our purposes

Advance the profession of psychiatry through the delivery of best-practice training, continuing professional development and high-quality psychiatric care.

Improve the mental health of communities by working with stakeholders to support high-quality psychiatric care.

Meet the needs and expectations of members to enhance the value of their membership whilst ensuring the sustainable growth of the College.

2021 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 31 other countries worldwide.

Membership numbers*

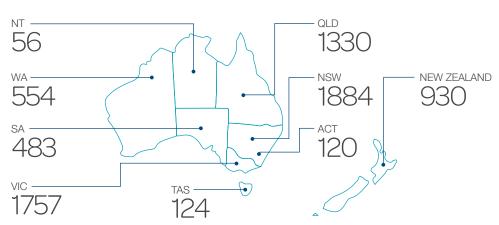
Member type	NSW	VIC	QLD	NZ	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Overseas	Total
Fellow**	1328	1298	938	454	427	370	93	84	26	154	5172
Associate (trainee)	553	447	389	240	125	113	29	36	30	5	1967
Affiliate	3	12	3	236	2	_	2	_	_	4	262
International Corresponding Member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Total	1884	1757	1330	930	554	483	124	120	56	175	7413

^{*} Figures as of 31 December 2021

Membership distribution

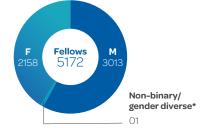
0VERSEAS 175 AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND 930

AUSTRALIA



Gender distribution of membership

* As currently recorded









^{**} Includes retired Fellows

Faculty membership



Addiction Psychiatry 1618

Adult Psychiatry 966

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

700

Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Forensic Psychiatry

Psychiatry of Old Age 1020

Psychotherapy

Section membership



Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry

1132

Early Career Psychiatrists 630

Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation

541

Philosophy and Humanities

Leadership and Management 590

Neuropsychiatry

504

Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry

Private Practice Psychiatry 357

Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Rural Psychiatry

Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry

Youth Mental Health

Network membership

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Mental Health

Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder

Family Violence Psychiatry

Military, Veterans' and Emergency Services Personnel Mental Health





4071 **M** 3341**F** 01 **NB/GD**

More male members of the College overall

new Fellows in 2021

Majority of Fellows are aged 54+

new trainees

enrolled in 2021

more female members than male members aged 39 or under



of the new Fellows in 2021 were male, 112 were female



Females make up 56% of new trainees



Males make up 57% of committee memberships*



63% of committee chairs are male**

Please find below the distribution of RANZCP training intake in 2021* by Fellowship Zone.

New trainee intake

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Cohort 2021	6	94	5	74	19	6	73	18	298	49	344

New trainee gender distribution

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Male	3	35	3	35	8	4	32	7	127	26	153
Female	3	59	2	39	11	2	41	11	168	23	191
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Overall
Male	50%	37%	60%	47%	42%	67%	44%	39%	43%	53%	44%
Female	50%	63%	40%	53%	58%	33%	56%	61%	57%	47%	56%

^{*} The 2021 training cohort is calculated annually from February 2021–February 2022.

^{*}This is based on 125 committees included in the data.

^{**}This data includes only formal committees and networks, and excludes working steering groups and some committees with ex-officio membership.

RANZCP awards and grants

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 through innovation, mentorship and improved patient care; to those undertaking ground-breaking research to transform mental healthcare; and to those in training showing incredible potential and positivity for the future of psychiatry. The following awards and grants were conferred in 2021.



The College Medal of Honour

Dr Maria Tomasic

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 RANZCP Fellow who has given a minimum of 10 years of active service in organisational and/or administrative areas of the College.

Dr Tomasic was bestowed the College Medal of Honour for her enormous contribution to the College and psychiatry more generally. Amongst her many interests and achievements, Dr Tomasic has broad experience in rural and remote psychiatry and in forensic psychiatry and has given active service to the College since 1996, including an extended term as President of the College from August 2010 until May 2013.

The Maddison Medallion

Dr Tomas MacPhail

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.

The College Citation

Dr Jimsie Cutbush Professor J. Richard Newton

Established in 1986, the College Citation honours special service to the RANZCP or psychiatry. A College Citation was awarded to two Fellows in 2021:

Dr Cutbush received the award for her significant contributions to psychiatry training, serving both trainees and the College.

Professor Newton was acknowledged for his significant contributions to various areas of psychiatry including adult, administrative, academic, eating disorders, cognitive behavioural therapy, and quality and safety in psychiatric services.

The Ian Simpson Award

Professor John Tiller

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 Tiller's outstanding leadership, passion for quality patient care, and focus on effective governance and strategy which have been instrumental in the growth of many community and mental health organisations made him a worthy recipient of the award.

RANZCP awards and grants

The Margaret Tobin Award

Dr Aaron Groves

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.

Dr Groves was awarded the 2021 Margaret Tobin Award for his compelling and extensive contributions at state and national levels over many years.

The Mark Sheldon Prize

Dr Allister Bush and Mr Wiremu NiaNia

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.

Dr Bush and Mr NiaNia, who have shared knowledge and worked in partnership for the past 16 years, were jointly awarded the 2021 Mark Sheldon Prize. Together, they have achieved unique outcomes for Māori tamariki, rangatahi and their whānau, by using a combination of Māori and non-Māori mental health treatment.

The Pirika Taonga

Dr Mark Lawrence

A new award, the Pirika Taonga is presented in memory of Poiti Aramakaraka Pirika, the RANZCP's Kaumātua from 2008 to 2017. 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 Aotearoa 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 Lawrence was a fitting recipient of the inaugural Pirika Taonga, given his work in the wider Bay of Plenty Region where Mr Pirika was from.

The RANZCP Senior Research Award

Professor Michael Berk

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 over the preceding five years.

Professor Berk was selected from a high-calibre field as the recipient of the 2021 RANZCP Senior Research Award for his prodigious research output and influence. This is the second time Professor Berk has received the award (2012).

The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award

Dr Dhamidhu Eratne

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 early career Fellow, Affiliate or trainee who has contributed the most significant paper published in the past two years.

Amongst a very competitive field, Dr Eratne was selected for the 2021 RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award for his original, well-written and interesting research which 'has the potential for considerable impact'.

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

Dr Catherine Torning

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 Torning received the award for her reflections on the meaning of recovery-oriented practice even for a person who had been in the mental health system for a very long time; and her intended focus on carers, acknowledging their importance and how they can be best supported in their caring role.

The Scholarly Project Award

Dr Adam De Chellis

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.

The Addiction Psychiatry Prize

Dr Sarah Reilly

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

Dr Reilly's project 'The treatment of codeine dependence with buprenorphine: findings from an Australian Alcohol and Drug Service' was a well-defined, well-written, comprehensive study with relevant and interesting findings.

RANZCP awards and grants

The Howard Cooper Travelling Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr Prerna Khar Dr Vinyas Nisarga

This Fellowship enables a psychiatry trainee or psychiatrist from the Asia–Pacific region to gain experience in child and adolescent psychiatry in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand. The Fellowship honours the life of Dr Howard Cooper, a former Chair of the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Two Howard Cooper Travelling Fellowships in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry were awarded in 2021:

Dr Khar and Dr Nisarga, both from India, had relevant connections to Australia, and were considered to benefit from the Fellowship, having not had prior psychiatry development opportunities in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Medlicott Award

Dr Lewis Walker

The Medlicott Award honours Emeritus Professor Reginald Medlicott, 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 forensic psychiatry research.

Dr Walker's project 'The use of the DUNDRUM-1 structured professional judgement tool to triage patients referred by courts to a Western Australian inpatient forensic mental health unit' was considered extremely relevant to all services in Australasia and was well written with clear and scientific methodology.

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age Basic Psychiatric Trainee Prize

Dr James Barton

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 Barton's paper had value for clinicians, and supported correlations between data relating to more general adult populations, and older people.

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

Dr Tali Elsayed

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 Elsayed's project 'Homicide and Dementia: A Systematic Review' was considered an interesting, creditable and high-quality piece of work.

The Trisno Family Research Grant in Old Age Psychiatry

Dr Malcolm Forbes

Supported by the RANZCP Foundation and generously funded by a donation from Dr Roth Trisno and family, the Trisno Family Research Grant aims to support research in the field of old age psychiatry to address the need for more research to optimise the prevention, diagnosis, management and continuing care strategies for older populations.

Dr Forbes received the grant for his project, 'The role of biomarkers in late-life depression: Data analysis of the Aspirin for

the Prevention of Depression in the Elderly (ASPREE) study' ('Understanding biological factors associated with depression in older Australians to help better diagnose depression and identify new treatments').

The Faculty of Psychotherapy Essay Prize

Dr William Lugg Dr Sara Temelkovski

The Faculty of Psychotherapy Essay Prize is given for the best essay submitted by a psychiatry trainee or recent Fellow on a psychotherapy topic. A Faculty of Psychotherapy Essay Prize was awarded to two members in 2021:

Dr Lugg's essay 'In defence of "she'll be right"' was 'articulate and erudite', 'interesting and clever'.

Dr Temelkovski's essay on 'multilingualism in psychotherapy' was 'engaging and human', and 'thoughtful and interesting to read'.

The RANZCP Psychotherapy Research Award

Dr Mandana Fazeli Kisomi

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

Dr Fazeli Kisomi's project 'Personal psychotherapy in psychiatry training, characteristic, barriers, role, and importance of personal therapy among Victorian RANZCP trainees' was considered of benefit to registrars now and in the future, to help decide whether personal psychotherapy has a protective role for those about to embark upon the arduous physical and emotional journey of being a registrar in psychiatry.

Throughout 2021, several members of the RANZCP were publicly honoured in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand for their achievements and contributions to psychiatry and mental health.

The RANZCP congratulates the following members.



Professor Emeritus Sir Mason Durie, KNZM (New Zealand)

Member of the Order of New Zealand (ONZ)

Sir Mason Durie was appointed to the Order of New Zealand for services to New Zealand. Sir Mason is from the Kauwhata and Rangitane tribes. His career in psychiatry began in 1964 when he was a house surgeon in the newly established psychiatric clinic at Palmerston North Hospital. He subsequently completed the four-year Diploma in Psychiatry at McGill University in Canada, returning to Aotearoa in 1970. He was a founding psychiatrist at Manawaroa, a general hospital psychiatric service. In 1972, he became a Member of the RANZCP and in 1979 a Fellow.

Sir Mason's career took a major change in 1986. As a Commissioner on the Royal Commission on Social Policy, he became aware of the wider parameters of health and wellbeing especially for Māori. His appointment as Professor in Māori Studies at Massey University in 1988 extended that pathway with a series of publications and participation in many government and Māori organisations. Among other achievements his leadership in a nation-wide Task Force on Whānau Centered Initiatives saw the establishment of Whānau Ora – a multi-sectoral and wellness focused service for Māori. In 2010, he was appointed to the government Mental Health Inquiry that was influential in reshaping approaches to mental health – greater emphasis on community leadership and community solutions.

His many other honours include a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit and a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit. He is New Zealand patron of the RANZCP Foundation.

For 57 years he has been married to Arohia. They have four children, twelve grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Dr Peter Gilchrist (South Australia)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Dr Peter Gilchrist was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in recognition of his significant service to medicine and psychiatry particularly to people with weight disorders.

Dr Gilchrist graduated in medicine from the University of Adelaide in 1973. He trained in psychiatry in Adelaide and became a MRANZCP in 1979 and a FRANZCP in 1985. He was involved with the Weight Disorders Unit at the Flinders Medical Centre from its establishment in 1977 by Professor Ross Kalucy. He was the Clinical Director of the Unit from 1989 until his retirement from hospital practice in 2013.

He has published around eating disorders as well as other areas of general medicine. He is a member of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Eating Disorders and was previously a member of the Australian Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition Society.

Dr Gilchrist was a member of the College's South Australian Branch Committee for several years. He was a member of the College Written Examinations Board from 1984 to 1987 as well as a local examiner for the College exams.

From 1980 to 2009, Dr Gilchrist provided a regular monthly psychiatric service to Kangaroo Island as part of the SA State Health Service. He continues to work part-time in private practice specialising in patients with eating disorders.



Dr Denise Guy (New Zealand)

Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM)

Dr Denise Guy was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to infant mental health. Dr Guy is a consultant child psychiatrist, and a pioneer in the field of infant mental health (IMH).

Her interest in the field began in Dunedin as a Child Psychiatry Fellow becoming involved with the pilot study of 'Watch, Wait and Wonder' with Elisabeth Muir and Angela Stupples. She moved to Sydney in 1987 to complete her training and later as Director of Redbank House, Westmead Hospital, established the 0-5 years – Early Intervention Unit in that service.

She is a founding member of the Australian (1987) and New Zealand (2006) Affiliates of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. As Vice President and President of the latter she developed two key initiatives, Facilitating Attuned Interactions (FAN) and Two Homes/Ngā Kainga e Rua. FAN is an internationally acclaimed model building relationships and reflective practice, now used by a variety of organisations. Two Homes/Ngā Kainga e Rua provides resources for practitioners and separated parents of babies and toddlers supporting optimal care of these young children.

Denise was Chair of the College's New Zealand Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Committee from 2000–2010.

Denise has supported the development of the IMH workforce across organisations including Naku Enei Tamariki, Whānau Āwhina Plunket, and, Perinatal and IMH services in district health boards.

She is founding Trustee of Incredible Families, which delivers programmes for parents and clinicians and continues to coordinate training in the Watch, Wait, and Wonder® Intervention addressing problematic infant–parent relationships.



Professor Nicholas Keks (Victoria)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Professor Nicholas Keks was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to tertiary education, to psychiatry, and to professional bodies.

Professor Keks is a member of the RANZCP's Faculty of Adult Psychiatry and of the Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry, Professor of Psychiatry at Monash University, Director of the Centre of Mental Health Education and Research at Delmont Private Hospital, Honorary Psychiatrist at Monash Health, Professorial Fellow at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, and Examiner with the Australian Medical Council.

Of Russian background, he was born in China and arrived in Australia at seven years of age as a refugee. After he was awarded medical qualifications from the University of Melbourne, Professor Keks trained at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and then in psychiatry at Prince Henry's Hospital. In 1987, he became a Fellow of the RANZCP and completed a Masters of Psychological Medicine and Doctor of Philosophy from Monash University (1992) for research in psychopharmacology and neuroendocrinology of psychoses. He continues teaching and research and has contributed over 230 publications, including a RANZCP online course in introductory psychopharmacology.

In 1992, Professor Keks was appointed Foundation Professor and Director of Psychiatry at Alfred Hospital, and in 1993 was appointed Chair of the Victorian Ministerial Advisory Committee on Mental Health until 1999, a period during which psychiatric services were mainstreamed in Victoria. Professor Keks served on the Victorian Branch Committee of the RANZCP during this period.



Dr Robert Llewellyn-Jones (New South Wales)

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

Dr Robert Llewellyn-Jones was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to psychiatry, and to children with developmental disabilities.

In 1994, he co-founded Giant Steps Sydney which provides school and post-school programs for autistic children and adults with significant developmental challenges. He was the Founding Chairman and a board director of Giant Steps Australia.

Dr Llewellyn-Jones specialises in general adult and old age psychiatry and is a member of the RANZCP's Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age and of the Faculty of Psychotherapy. Prior to his psychiatry training, he worked as a general practitioner in Australia, Nepal and the United Kingdom.

He was instrumental in setting up the Hornsby Ku-ringgai Aged Care Psychiatry Service for Northern Sydney Health and was Director of this Service until 2005. He was Senior Visiting Old Age Psychiatrist to regional New South Wales (NSW) hospitals and provided geriatric psychiatry outreach to rural and outback NSW.

Dr Llewellyn-Jones was a Conjoint Senior Lecturer at Sydney University and the University of Newcastle. His research on evaluating holistic approaches to managing depression and dementia in residential aged care was published in the The British Medical Journal and other international journals.

In 2016, he was awarded the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation Distinguished Contribution Award. He founded the Redress Today Campaign to establish the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

He is currently in private practice in Sydney and is involved in several projects to address the adverse impacts of climate change on mental health.



Professor Dan Lubman (Victoria)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Professor Dan Lubman was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to medical education, research, treatment and policy in the field of addiction.

Professor Lubman has worked across mental health and drug treatment settings in both the United Kingdom and Australia. He is Executive Clinical Director of Turning Point, Australia's leading national addiction treatment, research and education centre, inaugural Director of the Monash Addiction Research Centre, and Professor of Addiction Studies and Services at Monash University.

His research is wide-ranging and includes investigating: the harms associated with alcohol, drugs and gambling; the relationship between substance use, gambling and mental disorder; and the development of targeted telephone, online and face-to-face intervention programs across multiple settings. He has published over 500 major reports, peer-reviewed scientific papers and book chapters, and is regularly contacted for policy advice and community comment.

As Chair of the RANZCP Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry from 2006–2017, Professor Lubman led the College's education, policy and media responses to addiction issues, and oversaw the introduction of mandatory addiction competencies in basic training, as well as the Certificate of Advanced Training. He established the International Medicine in Addiction conferences, the largest addiction medical conference in the region.

Professor Lubman led the treatment program in the recent ground-breaking SBS documentary series Addicted Australia. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Senior Scientist Award from the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs, as well as the RANZCP Senior Research Award.



Dr Julie Stone (Victoria)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Dr Julie Stone was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to child mental health and psychiatry.

In her first consultant role, Dr Stone led the development of a mental health service for infants, toddlers and pre-school children, and learned about the tensions and struggles between management and service needs, with needs of the workforce for development and supervision and the clinical needs of families.

Dr Stone is grateful for the guidance and encouragement of many wise and gifted Australian and international colleagues. She travelled as a Churchill Fellow (2001), spending time at London's Tavistock Clinic and with the Child Trauma Research Program at the University of California in San Francisco. Many relationships were consolidated through her participation as a Fellow in the Zero To Three leadership development program (2003–2005) in the United States and through the networks of the Australian and World Associations for Infant Mental Health.

Her early experiences inspired and strengthened Dr Stone's commitment to support the work of all those involved in contributing to the early life experiences and emotional wellbeing of the world's youngest and most vulnerable citizens. Although now retired from her work in rural and urban public mental health services, Dr Stone continues to work in a variety of roles in government and non-government community services and organisations in Australia, South Africa and Bangladesh.

Dr Stone accepted the award as an unexpected recognition towards the end of a rich and rewarding professional life as an infant, child and family psychiatrist.

Congratulations to our 50 year Fellows

The revitalised 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, Associate Professor Vinay Lakra, accompanied by a commemorative RANZCP lapel pin for their anniversary tier. The 25, 40 and 50 year Fellows also receive a gift aligned with traditional anniversary themes of silver, ruby and gold.

We would like to congratulate and thank all recognised members for their milestone association with, and contribution to, the College and its values. 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 2021 and will be recognised in 2022.

50 years of Fellowship

- » Dr David Baron
- » Prof. The Hon. Dame Marie Bashir AD, CVO
- » Dr Peter Black
- » Dr Warwick Blakemore
- » Dr Timothy Blashki
- » Dr Paula Cameron
- » Dr Judith Cominos
- » Dr Kenneth Henson
- » Dr Bernard Hughson
- » A/Prof. Norman James OAM
- » Prof. Ross Kalucy (AM)

- » Dr James Mawdsley OAM
- » Dr Anthony McCallum
- » Dr Robin McMurdo
- » Dr J. Craig Powell
- » Dr John Slaughter» Dr Oscar Stanley
- » Dr Jennifer
- Thompson
- » Dr Harvey Williams
- » Dr Noel Wilton
- » Dr James Wood

President's report

As I look back over the 2021 year, I'm struck by the breadth of College activity, achievements and advocacy across all levels of government and the mental health sector.

Our reach and influence is made possible by the extraordinary contributions and dedicated volunteer work of our membership in capacities additional to their clinical roles, all to advance the impact of psychiatry.

The earlier part of the year kicked off with a culmination of several major inquiries and reports. The College finalised and submitted its response to the Australian Department of Health's consultation on the *Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Mental Health Final Report.* A College response was provided to the National Medical Workforce Strategy and via representation on the National Mental Health Workforce Strategy Taskforce.

Not long after, the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System was released as was the Final Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. We provided early feedback on the National Disability Insurance Agency's consultation on supporting young children and their families to reach their full potential and on their proposal for independent assessments.

In March, as part of Australia's COVID-19 health response, the Department of Health committed to a temporary three-month extension of the specialist telehealth items. This was to be the first of a many such announcements and sustained advocacy by myself and the College to secure more permanent arrangements for the benefit of all new and existing patients. At Congress, I presented an overview of the College's year-long advocacy to extend temporary COVID-19 MBS telehealth items, and shared thoughts on our role in delivering telehealth beyond 2021.

It was with great pleasure and sense of responsibility, that I took over the reins of College President at Congress in May. Dr Elizabeth Moore took up her elected position of President Elect and Dr Mark Lawrence his appointment to the RANZCP Board.

My sincerest thanks go to the immediate past President, Associate Professor John Allan, with whom I have been fortunate enough to work so closely. I would also like to acknowledge his excellent leadership of the College, especially through the initial challenges of the pandemic.

It was a challenging time for many psychiatrists and patients in Australia and in Aotearoa New Zealand with a range of medications in short supply internationally during the year. After engaging in targeted advocacy to raise concerns and outline the impact of medication shortages and substitutions, the Therapeutic Goods Administration set about the task of building a more robust medicine supply.

Working jointly with World Psychiatric Association (WPA), the College advanced our project on minimising coercion in mental health. I touched base with Dr Adrian James, President of Royal College of Psychiatrists.

I attended a virtual meeting of the WPA's Advisory Committee on Response to Emergencies which agreed to support colleagues in countries where the pandemic was having a significant impact, particularly across South-East Asia. In September, through our Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the College held the 2021 Pasifika Study Group over two days for 26 medical and mental health professionals from our region.

It was a busy year meeting with ministers to directly advocate on priority issues. The College met with the Hon David Coleman MP, Australia's Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, on numerous occasions. Amongst other matters, psychiatry training and initiatives to address workforce shortages were tackled.

I met the Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health and Ageing, to urge expansion of government support for psychiatry training positions and the integration of Commonwealth and state/territory investment in mental health and psychiatry.

Later in the year, I spoke with Ms Christine Morgan, Chief Executive Officer of the National Mental Health Commission and National Suicide Prevention Adviser to the Australian Prime Minister, in a special College webinar to explore the challenges and opportunities facing psychiatry and the mental health sector in a post-COVID recovery phase.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, the Tu Te Akaaka Roa held several hui (meetings) including one involving key committee Chairs, Board Director Dr Sue Mackersey and officials from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. The restructure of the health and disability system was the focus with the College advocating for well-resourced specialist mental health and addiction services within the future model.

With the disruptions and delays to face-to-face assessments and the Audio-visual Objective Structured Clinical Exams (AVOSCE) scheduled for November, it was a challenging year for many across the College. There was significant distress and hurt caused by the November cancellation with the impact particularly devastating for the trainees and specialist international medical graduates affected.

The College took steps to prioritise the welfare and wellbeing of members and undertook a considerable and expedited program of work, as a matter of urgency, to develop an Alternate Assessment Pathway to support the progression of the highest number of successful candidates to Fellowship.

I look to the new year to continue our efforts to deliver long term, sustainable benefits and support to our members, advance psychiatry and achieve the best mental health outcomes for the communities we support.

I would like to thank the Board, Chief Executive Officer and staff for all their professionalism and hard work, and for assisting me with the transition into the role of President during a challenging and busy year.



Associate Professor Vinay Lakra President

CEO's report

The year began with a great deal of hope and promise. The worst of the pandemic's impacts in Australia appeared to have passed, and we seemed on the cusp of a return to a more normal life. An ambitious schedule of work lay ahead for us.

With effective vaccines on the horizon, the College was successful in its advocacy to prioritise access for people with severe mental illness. We leveraged opportunities to reinforce and advocate for improved mental health systems and models of care across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

The College welcomed various funding announcements for psychiatry in response to a raft of pre-budget calls to action. Significantly, the Australian Government committed to an additional 30 new training posts within a \$2.3 billion package of mental health investment. This included \$1.1 million to promote psychiatry as a career pathway.

Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) therapy services were added to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) for patients with medication-resistant major depressive disorder. Through sustained advocacy by the New South Wales Branch, there was ground-breaking state investment in child and adolescent mental health services.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, the College continued to work and meet regularly with the Ministry of Health on key issues including the operationalisation of the *End of Life Choice Act 2019* and the implementation of the *Abortion Legislation Act 2020*. In April, the College again ramped up its concerns regarding the Australian Government's deportation policies and practices as an ongoing issue for the health and human rights of New Zealanders.

Major changes were announced to the New Zealand health system, including the creation of a Māori Health Authority to work alongside Health New Zealand to improve services and achieve equitable health outcomes for Māori. The College was delighted that New Zealand Fellow, Tā

Mason Durie had been appointed to lead a steering group in setting up the authority.

After the cancellation of most conferences in 2020, the College was very pleased to be able to host a COVID-safe Congress in Hobart in May. With over 880 delegates attending in person, and close to 500 delegates participating virtually, it was an extremely successful event. This was a culmination of good planning and the commitment and enthusiasm shown by organisers and attendees alike.

From midway through the year, the global spread of the more transmissible and lethal Delta variant of COVID-19 was impacting large parts of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. With this, our attention again turned to the mental health impacts of stringent public health restrictions, especially on children and young people. In both countries, the College affirmed its support for vaccination against COVID-19 and advocated for people living with mental health and addiction issues and those in other vulnerable populations.

These outbreaks again created challenges for the College and it became necessary to shift several conferences fully online at short notice. The 2021 New Zealand conference was held virtually over three days delivering a high-quality and stimulating program with over 390 delegates in attendance.

The College focused on delivering shorter online events and webinars including a highly successful series of Member Education E-Sessions, similar to those held in 2020. There was also a special webinar with Christine Morgan, CEO of the National Mental Health Commission and National Suicide Prevention Adviser to the Prime Minister of Australia.

A new podcast series for Australasian Psychiatry, The Thought Broadcast, produced by trainees for trainees, was also launched. The College's Psych Matters continued its success producing a further 25 well-received, educational podcasts. With the redevelopment of the RANZCP website slated for 2022, extensive member interviews and research took place to ensure that member needs and an improved user experience are central to the redesign work.

It was a tremendously difficult year for many involved in assessments and examinations, and especially for trainees and specialist international medical graduates (SIMGs) working their way towards RANZCP Fellowship. In November, the difficult decision was made to cancel the Audiovisual Objective Structured Clinical Exam (AV-OSCE) after significant technical failures were experienced during the delivery of the exam. This resulted in very real professional and personal impacts for many individuals working towards Fellowship, and their families. It also had reverberations across the College, setting in train an urgent program of work to implement alternative assessment pathways for candidates who had planned to sit the exam.

Through all the challenges and achievements alike, I would like to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of our members and their generous support of their communities and colleagues. I would also like to express my gratitude and appreciation to Associate Professor Vinay Lakra and the Board for their guidance and support, and acknowledge the leadership of Associate Professor John Allan who finished his presidential term in May 2021.

Of course, as always, I thank the wonderful College staff for their significant contributions in support of the College's work.



Mr Andrew C Peters Chief Executive Officer

Board report

The RANZCP Board of Directors led the College through another year of the pandemic that brought with it further challenges for our members and our communities. Ongoing uncertainty required the Board to rethink how the College, members and staff approached much of their core business and work in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

In May 2021, Associate Professor John Allan's presidential term came to an end. Associate Professor Vinay Lakra and Dr Elizabeth Moore were welcomed into the roles of President and President-Elect for 2021–23. The election of Dr Moore resulted in a casual vacancy on the Board. There was significant interest from the membership for this vacancy and Dr Mark Lawrence was appointed to the Board as Board Director (Casual Vacancy) for 2021–22.

The Board acknowledges and thanks A/Prof. Allan for his leadership, guidance and commitment to the College during his presidential term.

Once again, meetings of the Board continued to occur more frequently through the year – coming together for a total of 22 times. The Board was fortunate to meet in person once in Hobart during the 2021 Congress, with the remaining meetings held virtually. The Annual General Meeting also returned to its pre-pandemic format and was held in person during Congress.

The College continued to adapt its activities for the COVID-19 environment as appropriate. The Member Education E-Sessions delivered during 2020 were successfully extended into 2021.

From May, under the leadership of A/Prof. Lakra, discussions on the Board's shorter and immediate term priorities commenced. An externally facilitated strategic planning workshop was held in September to assist the Board in identifying these priorities and to inform the development of the College's next Strategic Plan for 2022 and beyond.

A suite of key pillars for delivering long-term and sustainable member value for community impact were identified; education and professional development; equality,

equity, and access; raising awareness of the profession; de-stigmatising psychiatry and psychiatrists; raising investment and funding; and workforce.

After an extensive search and selection process, the Board appointed Victorian Fellow, Professor Chris Davey, as the new Editor of the *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry (ANZJP)*. In a seamless transition, Professor Davey took over from Professor Gin Mahli from the June issue. The Board is deeply appreciative of Prof. Mahli's substantial contribution over the course of his editorship since 2011. The ANZJP has grown and developed significantly with its international standing increasing markedly.

There were many achievements including the Commonwealth Department of Health's funding allocation for a RANZCP Diploma of Psychiatry, which the College began work on in December. The release of the College's Rural Psychiatry Roadmap 2021–2023 was well received by members and across government and the mental health sector. The Board also finalised member resources for coping with patient suicide and supporting team members after the suicide of a patient.

The Board approved the decoupling of the Essay-style examination into two independent exams – the Modified Essay Questions (MEQ) exam and the Critical Essay Question (CEQ) exam. These were implemented later in the year. There were other initiatives such as Multi-site and Audio-visual OSCEs aimed at supporting eligible candidates in COVID-impacted areas to access the examination in difficult times.

There were successes with these initiatives, but also disappointment with the cancellation of the November OSCE and its devastating impact on affected candidates and their families. Seven meetings of the Board were urgently convened in November and December for priority discussions to devise a way forward and continue the throughput of graduates to Fellowship.

With strong trainee and specialist international medical graduate (SIMG) engagement, the Board endorsed an Alternate Assessment Pathway which was approved by the Australian Medical Council. The Board was pleased to welcome 228 trainees and SIMGs as Fellows of the College during 2021.

On other matters, the Board engaged external consultants to progress the Faculty, Section and Network review, and to conduct a review of the future development of Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG). In November, discussions were initiated on concerns raised by members regarding the psychodynamic psychotherapy content in the College's mood disorders clinical practice guideline.

Consideration on the importance of further enhancing Board diversity and the merits of appointing an Appointed Director under the RANZCP's Constitution progressed. Several key areas were identified that could enhance the Board's current diverse mix, including a trainee and/or affiliate member, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Māori, a community member, or a skills-based appointment.

Terms of Reference for both the Advancing the Profile of Clinical Academic Psychiatry Steering Group and the Electroconvulsive Therapy Advocacy Steering Group were approved by the Board. These groups will advocate respectively for the role of clinical academic psychiatry, and the importance of ECT as an effective treatment for severe depression and to minimise its stigma.

The Board led a program of targeted engagement with and advocacy to all governments on the COVID-19 response and recovery, as well as on vaccinations, telehealth, funding initiatives and workforce – to name just a few.

We continued our commitment to climate and sustainability measures, working with other organisations and medical leaders calling for action and continuing the gradual divestment from fossil fuels. The carbon footprint of our investment portfolio is the lowest it has been, as is our fossil fuel exposure at a mere 0.56%.



Associate Professor Vinay Lakra President

Board members



A/Prof. Vinay Lakra, President



Dr Elizabeth Moore, President-Elect



Prof. Neeraj Gill, Elected Director



A/Prof. Beth Kotzé, Elected Director



Dr Mark Lawrence, Elected Director



Dr Sue Mackersey, Elected Director



Dr Nick O'Connor, Elected Director

Audit Committee

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

The College has continued to engage RSM Australia Partners to conduct the external audit of the annual financial report. The Committee reviewed the audit strategy for the financial year which outlined the approach to the annual financial audit including the scope, risk assessment and financial reporting matters. The Committee is responsible for ensuring statutory reporting requirements are adopted by the College.



Chair,

Dr Elizabeth Moore

Committee members

- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » A/Prof. Beth Kotzé
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Jerome Nicholapillai

There are no new or revised Australian Accounting Standards which are applicable to the College during the reporting period. Each year the audited financial report including the auditor's report are presented to the College members at the Annual General Meeting. In 2021, the Annual General Meeting was held in May in Hobart.

The Committee also undertook a review of the engagement of external auditors and a comparison of audit fees. On the basis of the review, it was agreed that a 10-year term is reasonable for external auditors providing a satisfactory service. We are in our seventh year with our current auditors.

The College is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) for charity tax concessions including income tax exemption. The ATO recommends that a yearly self-review of status be undertaken by organisations endorsed for these purposes. The Committee conducted the annual self-review of College structure and operations during the year and concluded that the College remains compliant with the ATO endorsement for charity tax concessions. The Committee continues to review the College's information technology security and risk management framework.

The priorities for the Committee for 2022 include reviewing the outcome of the audit of the 2021 annual financial report and overseeing the audit process for the following year.



Chair,
Associate Professor
Beth Kotzé

Committee members

- » Dr Wolé Akósílè
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Arran Culver
- » Dr Subhash Das
- » Dr Kerri Eagle
- » Dr Nicholas Faint
- » Dr Oliver Hansby
- » A/Prof. Beth Kotzé
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » Dr Andrew Robinson
- » Dr Deepa Singhal

Corporate Governance and Risk Committee

The Corporate Governance and Risk Committee (CGRC) guides the College in achieving its strategic objectives through sound governance processes and organisational effectiveness.

Continuing its focus on the evaluation and enhancement of College governance processes, the CGRC provided oversight of, and advice to, the RANZCP Board on areas including, but not limited to:

- » the College's President-Elect election
- » review of election documentation ahead of the 2022 Elected Director election
- » the provision of options for diversity enhancement on the Board
- » a co-chair model for the Trainee Representative Committee
- » consideration of a query arising from the Annual General Meeting relating to transition to 2 x 3-year committee terms for a number of committees, and the streamlined committee reappointment processes, and whether this provided fewer opportunities for early career psychiatrists
- » committee election processes relating to 143 committees and 1162 positions
- » proposed amendments to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission governance standards and reporting requirements.

In addition, the CGRC received documents from a variety of College committees for its review prior to submission to the Board. These documents relate primarily to the areas of Practice, Policy and Partnerships, and to Education and Training.

A thematic review of all College Risk Registers was also discussed and reported to the Board.

In 2022, the CGRC's key work items will include:

- » oversight of the Elected Director election
- » progression of the Faculty, Section and Network review
- » communications concerning the Board election vote and count methodologies
- » oversight of committee elections
- » review of Regulations and Terms of Reference, including for Australian Branch/New Zealand National Committees
- » review of conflict of interest and risk management frameworks.



Chair, Dr Nick O'Connor

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » Dr Wayne de Beer
- » Dr David Furrows
- » Dr Nathan Gibson
- » A/Prof. Bradleigh Hayhow
- » Dr Bill Kingswell
- » A/Prof. Beth Kotzé
- » Dr Raju Lakshmana
- » Dr Saretta Lee
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Gregory Spencer
- » Dr Choong-Siew Yong

Education Committee

Education underwent significant challenges to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on training and assessment, and to support candidates to progress to Fellowship.

The Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE)

The disruptions caused by COVID-19 to the face-to-face OSCE led to an implementation of small-scale AV-OSCEs across multiple locations in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. In July, to maximise candidate numbers, the College developed and held Multi-Site OSCEs in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. New South Wales candidates were unable to sit these due to a lockdown.

To avoid further disruptions, options were considered to maximise candidate numbers to sit the OSCEs. The preferred option was a new large-scale audio-visual software platform.

Despite testing and significant efforts, the AV-OSCE, scheduled for November, was not delivered successfully. The College co-designed an Alternative Assessment Pathway for those impacted in partnership with key stakeholders. A phased approach to undertaking the alternative assessment commenced and oversight panels established to oversee the operationalisation of the alternative assessment.

ACER Review

Development work to implement and respond to the Australian Council for Education Research (ACER) report recommendations continued.

Several key implementation activities progressed:

- » decoupling of the Essay-style examination (August)
- » review of the Critical Essay Question (CEQ) exam
- » development of syllabus/knowledge hase
- » work on the assessment framework.

CPD, accreditation and reporting

Significant achievements include:

- the reaccreditation of 15 Formal Education Courses completed
- » development of virtual accreditation processes, with three training programs accredited
- » development of a series of four training modules for accreditation visitors
- » publication of the Accreditation and Removal of Accreditation policies
- » submission of Australian Medical Council progress reports during the pandemic
- » implementation of the Trainee Exit Survey (response rate over 50% maintained in 2021)
- » development of improved multi-source feedback resources

- » release of My CPD upgrade with improved functionality on mobile devices
- » practice Peer Review Pilot involving 93 participant psychiatrists and 24 psychiatrists as facilitators.

Digital education services

There was improved InTrain functionality and other features in development, including Site Coordinator of Training access to selected training records and transition to SIMG online. An audit of the existing eLearning resources catalogue commenced.

Forty episodes of the Psych Matters podcast have been produced to date, with a new episode released every two weeks or so. The podcast has attracted around 27,000 downloads.

Exam components were implemented in InTrain, including online application forms and supporting workflows for the CEQ and Modified Essay Question exams. This was followed by the release of the Multiple Choice Question exam application form.

Candidates are now able to submit applications online via InTrain and pay online to complete the College's application process.

Training and Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) Education

There was an increase in SIMG applications with 19 Partially Comparable and 33 Substantially Comparable candidates admitted to Fellowship. 108 Case-based Discussion assessments were completed via videoconference, and transition to 'online' interview assessment was implemented as a pandemic response.

Commencing the Fellowship program were 344 trainees with 228 Fellowships awarded (170 trainees and 58 SIMGs) and 77 Certificates of Advanced Training also awarded. Work started on the revision of core SIMG Education policies and procedures, and the implementation of a new SIMG application process aligned to newly introduced Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency requirements. Finalisation of a Certificate of Advanced Training Regulation is pending.

2022 will see further development in the examinations to continue support to candidates and accommodate assessment activities in the COVID-19 environment.



Chair, **Professor Neeraj Gill**

Committee members

- » A/Prof. John Allan
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Ankur Gupta
- » Dr Prasoon Gupte
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Dr Blair Leslie
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » A/Prof. Steven Moylan
- » Dr Tarun Sehgal
- » Dr Julie Wehbe

Finance Committee

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

The College reported an overall operating surplus of \$1.21 million for the financial year. The favourable outcome reflects lower than budgeted operating expenses from the pandemic continuing restrictions which more than offset lower than expected income from College operations and activities.

The Committee undertook the following key responsibilities in 2021:

- » 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.
- Reviewed investments on a regular basis ensuring the external advisor, JBWere, managed the investment portfolio in accordance with the College Investments Policy. Ongoing review of the College Investments Policy took place during the year. During the year, the College investment portfolio achieved complete divestment from fossil fuels. The College has a AAA ESG rating based on the JBWere analysis of the portfolio carbon footprint and rated the lowest of JBWere clients ever examined. The Committee has oversight of the College Investment Subcommittee comprising of three members from the committee.

- » Reviewed the midyear operating results forecast for the 2021 financial year and the draft annual budget for the 2022 financial year.
- » Served as an independent and objective party to review financial information including annual accounts and accounting policies and practices presented by management to the Board for presentation to College members and regulatory authorities.
- » Provided oversight of College financial management. The Committee reviewed and considered various business cases for a range of initiatives. The proposals endorsed by the Committee and approved by the Board included the development of a new dashboard for Site Coordinators of Training within InTrain and the Western Australia Branch Office renovations.



Chair, **Dr Mark Lawrence**

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Amos
- » Dr Gopika Asokan
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Dr Ashar Khan
- » Prof. Steve Kisely
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr Prue McEvoy
- » Dr Eddie Mullen
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Dr Kerryn Rubin
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Ahmad Torshizi
- » Dr Afraz Zaman

Membership Engagement Committee

The Membership Engagement Committee (MEC) listens to members' feedback and gives advice on how the College can best meet their needs and expectations now, and in the future.

The dislocating effect of the coronavirus pandemic coupled with jurisdictional public health measures meant we needed to be flexible in what we did to support the membership this year. Having said that, the opportunity for many Australian members to come together at the Hobart Congress underscored just how important it is to have spaces to share our stories, experiences and reflections.

The MEC built on many of its recent initiatives, with member wellbeing continuing to be a touchstone of our work. In 2021 we:

- » published the results and analysis of our large-scale member wellbeing survey, and commenced member consultation to design an effective College wellbeing plan with concrete actions
- » produced a new discussion paper and data snapshot examining gender equity in psychiatry, to inform ongoing work across the College
- » formed a new working group to investigate ways to better support members approaching retirement
- » supported the planning and delivery of member webinars and online events, including the Member Education E-Sessions series

- » continued our bi-national RANZCP Mentoring Program with over 180 participants
- » hosted video conference-based open forums for Australian and New Zealand members to come together virtually
- » extensively promoted our online Member Wellbeing Support Hub that helps members find what support is right for them
- » continued to provide membership subscription fee relief for members, expanded access and eligibility and increased payment flexibility to those in need of support.

The MEC is also committed to further work which will foster a supportive and inclusive College for all, following the cancellation of the AV-OSCE assessment this year. He waka eke noa (we are all in this together) as we all know that supporting future generations of psychiatrists is essential to being part of our professional whānau (family).

All queries, feedback and ideas from every member is always welcomed by the MEC. Please connect with us in person, online, or via board_mec@ranzcp.org.



Chair, **Dr Sue Mackersey**

Committee members

- » Dr Kieran Allan
- » Dr Siva Balaratnasingam
- » Dr Michael Daubney
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Dilini Hemachandra
- » Dr Nick Judson
- » Dr Eileen Lavranos
- » Dr Lyndy Matthews
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Ms Louise Salmon
- » Prof. Dan Siskind
- » A/Prof. Geoff Smith
- » A/Prof. Simon Stafrace

Practice, Policy and Partnerships Committee

The Practice, Policy and Partnerships Committee (PPPC) comprises six committees which focus on community and lived experience collaboration; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' mental health; Maori mental health (Te Kaunihera); Professional Practice; Evidence-Based Practice; and Research.

A priority for PPPC in 2021 was support for members in responding to changes in practice because of COVID. This work included updating the COVID Information Hub and a comprehensive review of telehealth guidelines for Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. There was substantial other work that continued during COVID lockdowns with the publication of 23 new and updated bi-national College policies and practice guidance. A selection is listed below:

- » Coping with a patient suicide resources for those in psychiatry training, for psychiatry supervisors and for health services
- » Cultural safety
- » Diagnostic manuals
- » Family violence and mental health
- » Guidance on the delivery of Medicarefunded rTMS services in hospitals
- » Information sharing with families/ whānau/carers
- » Minimising and, where possible, eliminating the use of seclusion and restraint in people with mental illness

- » Partnering with people with lived experience (consumers and carers) in mental healthcare
- » Perinatal mental health services
- » Principles for mental health systems
- » Psychotherapy conducted by psychiatrists
- » Recognising and addressing the mental health needs of the LGBTIQ+ population
- » Recognising and addressing the mental health needs of people experiencing Gender Dysphoria/Gender Incongruence
- » Telehealth in psychiatry
- » Therapeutic use of medicinal cannabis
- » The mental health impacts of climate change
- The mental health needs of children in care or at risk of entering care
- » Whānau Ora

Policy and advocacy work resulted in 135 submissions to consultations at national and state and territory levels. These included the Australian Treasury prebudget consultation, Select Committee on Mental Health and Suicide, the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health and the Review of the National Disability Insurance Scheme Act, and in Aotearoa New Zealand responding to the Health and Disability Systems Review.

PPPC has provided direct support for members:

- » awarding \$30,649 in research grants to trainees and Fellows
- » providing \$31,583 to 11 trainees who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and 6 trainees who identify as Māori - to support their training pathway.

All PPPC meetings were online. While many members noted the change in quality of experience compared to in-person meetings, 66 Fellows, 7 trainees and 23

community members directly participated on the PPPC, its constituent committees and working groups. Hundreds more members contributed to submissions, policies and guidelines.

The priority works for PPPC for 2022 include: developing a contemporary process for the development of policy and clinical guidance; establishing a new online consultation hub to support the Committees' work; and updating member resources for the COVID-19 information hub and resources for private psychiatry practice.

All members and the community benefit from the work of PPPC. Acknowledgement and appreciation are extended to all members of the PPPC and the constituent committees and working groups, and to staff for their excellent support.

Members' Advisory Council report



Chair, **Dr Elizabeth Moore**

Committee members

- » Dr Agnew Alexander
- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Shalini Arunogiri
- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr SivaBalaratnasingam
- » Dr Justin Barry-Walsh
- » Dr Chad Bennett
- » Dr Paul Cammell
- » Dr David Chapman
- » A/Prof. Mathew Coleman
- » Prof. Valsa Eapen
- » Dr Ben Elijah
- » Prof. Brett Emmerson
- » A/Prof. Susanna Every-Palmer
- » Dr Paul Furst
- » Prof. Megan Galbally
- » Prof. Neeraj Gill
- » Dr Salam Hussain
- » Prof. Richard Kanaan
- » A/Prof. Robert Kaplan

- » A/Prof. Beth Kotzé
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Ms Eileen Lavranos
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr David Lie
- » Dr Fatma Lowden
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Edward Mullen
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » A/Prof. Robert Parker
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Dr Daniel Pellen
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Ms Louise Salmon
- » Dr Carol Silverberg
- » Dr Yolisha Singh
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Alisha Vara
- » Dr Angelo Virgona
- » Dr Darryl Watson

The Members' Advisory Council (MAC) provides information and advice to the RANZCP Board on a variety of issues 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 all Australian Branch Committees, Tu Te Akaaka Roa – New Zealand National Committee, Faculties, Sections, trainees, and overseas-trained psychiatrists, the College's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee, Te Kaunihera, and members of the community. Board Directors also attend the MAC, along with the Chief Executive Officer and senior management team.

While the MAC was unable to meet face to face in 2021, the MAC met twice virtually and discussions were wide-ranging and stimulating. The key topics included:

- » recommendations and outcomes of the 2020 Member Wellbeing Survey
- » consideration of the Royal in RANZCP
- the Specialist Training Program Rural Psychiatry Training Pathway
- » the November 2021 AV-OSCE failure and way forward
- » Gender Equity project due for consultation in 2022
- » The Faculty, Section and Network review
- » key priorities of committees from member representatives on the MAC.

The Australian Branch and New Zealand National Committee (Tu Te Akaaka Roa) Chairs Forum met, as did the Forum of Faculty and Section bi-national committee Chairs, providing useful shared learning and positive reinforcement of priorities.

The key discussion points from meetings were tabled at subsequent Board meetings. They informed the progression of these matters throughout the year.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge the important role played by the MAC in 2021 in supporting the College in its response to the continued COVID-19 environment, providing advice to the Board, and representing the views and interests of our varied membership.

Member Representative Committee reports



Chair, **Dr Alan Altham**

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Gopika Asokan
- » Dr Rvan Barber
- » Dr Nicholas Faint
- » Dr Dilini Hemachandra
- » Dr Stephen McManis
- » Dr Alisha Vara
- » Dr Ashlea White

Trainee Representative Committee

It is clear to all that COVID-19 has significantly impacted on trainees' ability to complete assessments – with increased service demand, reduced access to face-to-face support and supervision.

This was compounded with the failure of the November 2021 AV-OSCE. Despite these challenges, we welcome increasing transparency from the College around information pertaining to exams. This includes the increase in webinars, forums and podcasts. The Committee also looks forward to working with the College to collaboratively find more suitable exam solutions for the future.

Trainees have given feedback for many years now about the high number of centrally administered assessments for a competency-based fellowship program, especially compared to other colleges. The high number of assessments impact on the ability of trainees to engage fully in both generalist and advanced certificate training. Furthermore, there are ongoing concerns that formal education courses and workplace experiences do not entirely reflect what is assessed. The actioning of the ACER Review into assessment is a high priority, and we look forward to working with the College around its implementation.

The Committee welcomes the College's ongoing commitment to dealing with gender equity and discrimination and commends the creation of a gender diversity and working group, as well as the creation of its detailed action plan.

We will continue to encourage trainees to join and engage with the various College committees as these provide excellent leadership opportunities and shape the future of psychiatry training.

Member Representative Committee reports



Chair,
Professor Saddichha Sahoo

Committee members

- » Dr Aniket Bansod
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Leonardo Sauaia Romero Fernandes
- » Dr Anupama Zeena Segueira
- » Dr Varuni De Silva
- » Dr Suman Sinha
- » Dr Ajay Vijayakrishnan

Overseas Trained Psychiatrists' Representative Committee

Following the November 2021 AV-OSCE cancellation, many member responses were received to an invitation to contact the Committee's jurisdictional representatives. The Committee took action to ensure that Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) candidates were afforded the same concessions given to other trainees.

The Committee discussed the need for recognition of the extra stress on SIMGs/ overseas trained psychiatrists (OTPs) brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure fairness. As temporary residents, many have not been able to visit family abroad for an extended period of time. Some SIMGs had family members pass away during this period, and the restrictions affected their ability to attend funerals and mourn. These factors affected SIMGs disproportionately. The Committee is advocating for due allowance to be made in the form of both more time to complete the pathway and further exam attempts.

In early 2021, the Committee raised concerns regarding the stigma attached to the term 'overseas trained'. It was felt the name did not properly acknowledge the qualifications and ability to practice in more than one country. Nonetheless, the RANZCP Board did not endorse the proposal for a change of name for overseas trained psychiatrists to 'international psychiatry specialists'. It decided it was a risk for the College to call a group by a different name than used externally (internationally and within Australia). This matter is being further debated by the Committee.

An International Talent Award is under consideration to recognise an international medical graduate who has contributed significantly to the promotion of the role, standing, influence and welfare of overseas trained psychiatrists working in Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand. The Award would be made available to a College member who is an overseas trained psychiatrist and had worked as a psychiatrist in Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand over the preceding five years.

RANZCP Foundation Committee report



Chair,
Professor Malcolm Hopwood

Committee members

- » A/Prof. John Allan
- » Prof. Gerard Byrne
- » Prof. Hinemoa Elder MNZM
- » Prof. Malcolm Hopwood
- » Dr Nick Kowalenko
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Prof. Gin Malhi
- » Prof. Helen Milroy
- » Prof. Dan Siskind
- » A/Prof. Shuichi Suetani



Transforming mental health care, creating a world of potential

The RANZCP Foundation is the College charity that raises funds and provides grants for College members to break new ground in mental health research.

2021 was a landmark year for the Foundation. We raised over \$100,000 in new donations, more than doubling the amount raised in the previous year. This is a testament to the significant commitment made by College members who are making the choice to invest in the future of psychiatric research endeavour.

The Foundation Committee wishes to express our deepest thanks to all donors for offering their support to the talented researchers within the College, and by extension, the mental health and wellbeing of Australians, New Zealanders, and our near neighbouring nations.

Highlights for the Foundation included:

- » supporting nine new researchers through our grant and awards programs
- » launching the inaugural Catalyst Grants, designed to seed fund innovative new research projects
- » hosting a new series of virtual events, together with our first interactive masterclass
- » working with our major donors to develop new grant opportunities for College members

- » publishing an expanded edition of our Annual Review that reports back to our donors and supporters on our progress
- » an overall increase in the number and value of donations received from College members.

These achievements were made possible thanks to our generous donors, together with the guidance and leadership of the Committee members and the RANZCP Board.

Throughout the pandemic, the mental health of our communities has, and will continue to be, a pressing area of public health need. The Foundation will continue to facilitate and support College members to undertake the important research that elevates and transforms the way we approach and treat mental illness now and in the future.

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

New Zealand National Committee Report





Chair,
Associate Professor
Susanna Every-Palmer

Tu Te Akakka Roa – New Zealand National Committee members

- » Dr Francis Agnew
- » Dr David Codyre
- » A/Prof. Susanna Every-Palmer
- » Dr Alan Faulkner
- » Dr Marcel Hediger
- » Dr Matthew Jenkins
- » Dr Alice Law
- » Dr Mark Lawrence
- » Dr Jackie Liggins
- » Dr Sue Mackersey
- » Dr Sam McBride
- » Ms Moe Milne
- » Dr Claire Paterson
- » Prof. Sarah Romans
- » Dr Leonardo Sauaia
- » Dr Suman Sinha
- » Ms Caro Swanson
- » Dr Hiran Thabrew
- » Dr Alisha Vara
- » Dr Greg Young

Tu Te Akaaka Roa – New Zealand National Committee

Ma whero, ma pango ka oti ai te mahi With red and black the work will be complete

Tu Te Akaaka Roa, working with the other New Zealand-based committees, engaged with numerous stakeholders in 2021 including the Minister of Health, Associate Minister of Health and Minister of Corrections. The transformation of the health and disability sector has been an area of focus with a successful hui with officials from the Transition Unit, and a submission made on the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Bill. The committees worked closely with the Ministry of Health in implementing the *End of Life Choice Act* 2019.

The committee successfully advocated for people with mental health and addiction to be identified as a priority for COVID-19 vaccinations. Unfortunately, pandemic-related restrictions resulted in the New Zealand Conference being moved online, but a record number of delegates attended.

In addition, the committees have:

» written 63 submissions and advocacy letters, including responding to the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill and Smokefree Actearoa 2025 Action Plan

- » held 37 advocacy hui (meetings), including the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission, Oranga Tamariki, Accident Compensation Corporation and the Principal Judge of the Youth Court
- » developed (with Te Kaunihera) *Position* statement 104: Whānau Ora.

Tu Te Akaaka Roa continues to focus on six priorities: supporting specialist services, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, alcohol reform, developing a sustainable workforce, the interface with primary care and looking at accommodation options for service users.

We conducted a national survey of members' perspectives on the current status of mental health and addiction systems in Aotearoa – achieving a response rate of >60%. The survey findings will inform the committees' advocacy in 2022.

Responding to the implementation of health reforms and new mental health legislation will be key areas of work for the committees in the upcoming year.

Chairs of the New Zealand-based Faculty and Section Subcommittees

- » A/Prof. Giles Newton-Howes, Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry
- » Dr Tanya Wright, Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- » Dr Adam Sims, Faculty of Consultation–Liaison Psychiatry
- » Dr Shailesh Kumar, Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry
- » Dr Bronwyn Copeland, Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age
- » Dr James Gardiner, Section of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry
- » Dr Tibi Csizmadia, Section Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation
- » Dr David Bathgate, Section of Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Australian Branch Committee reports

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Branch Committee has worked towards raising greater awareness around mental health. COVID-19 resulted in an estimated 30% increase in mental health presentations in the territory. This increase, combined with already under-staffed services due to isolation and illness, has caused an urgency in improving a struggling system.

Whilst the announcement of extra funding is a start, much more needs to be done to address workforce shortages. The ACT's COVID-19 mental health support package was insufficient. The announced bed package numbers are somewhat misleading, not available until 2023, and well below the number of beds required. The Branch is exploring the potential for

collaboration between private psychiatrists and the public sector to meet growing demand. A wider campaign for funding is planned for next year.

We were pleased that our submission to raise the ACT's minimum age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 was supported. Our recommendations were referred and included in relevant ACT government reports.

Events undertaken:

Travelling Scholar program with Professor Gerard Byrne who presented 'Let's not forget about dementia: Assessment and management of mild cognitive impairment and dementia' and 'Why worry about anxiety? Assessment and management of anxiety in older people'.

- » Annual Dinner with special guest Minister of Mental Health, the Hon Emma Davidson MLA.
- » Networking event with Associate Professor Rhea Liang whose speech focused on disrespectful behaviour at work.
- » Webinar with Associate Professor Frances Dark who presented 'Being Positive About Negative Symptoms'.



Chair, **Dr Fatma Lowden**

ACT Branch Committee members

- » Dr Rodney Blanch
- » Dr Rhonda Dotson
- » Dr Catherine Egan
- » Dr Dharshanie Gunaratne
- » Dr Dilini Hemachandra
- » Dr Saba Javed
- » Dr Phil Keightley
- » Dr Fatma Lowden
- » Dr May Matias
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr Alfiya Mutlu
- » Dr Matthias Regner
- » Dr Matthew Ryan
- » Dr Florian Wertenauer

New South Wales

A collaboration with the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry culminated in funding of \$109.5 million for 25 multidisciplinary child and adolescent rapid response teams, branded 'Safeguards.'

In response to acute mental health needs of youth in the pandemic, the Branch advocated to turbocharge headspace, resulting in funding of \$20 million. An 'untapped' workforce of masters and doctorate students in psychology, social work and occupational therapy, supervised by clinical educators, will be placed at 40 headspace centres in New South Wales (NSW). They will provide up to 55,000 additional services.

In a novel alliance, the Branch joined the Illawarra Women's Health Centre, Medecins Sans Frontières Australia, and University of Sydney for a family and domestic violence campaign, followed by a call to action signed by 200+ prominent Australians.

We teamed up with peak medical bodies for a statement urging the NSW Government to act on the recommendations of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice' and made submissions to parliamentary inquiries on coronial jurisdiction and the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill.

With a \$200,000 NSW Health grant, we are reinvigorating the rural psychiatry project to better connect country psychiatrists,

enhance training opportunities, and address barriers to attracting and retaining psychiatrists in rural areas.

After years of advocating, Local Health District by-laws were amended making mental health medical staff councils mandatory. To support the implementation, the Branch facilitated two member workshops.

The College and NSW Health trialled a joint interview process for entry to Fellowship training and employment.



Chair, **Dr Angelo Virgona**

NSW Branch Committee members

- » Dr Prachi Brahmbhatt
- » Dr Ralf Ilchef
- » A/Prof. Beth Kotzé
- » Dr Saretta Lee
- » A/Prof. Loyola McLean
- » Dr Nick O'Connor
- » Dr Michael Paton
- » Ms Louise Salmon
- » Dr Angelo Virgona
- » Dr Tess Wilkinson
- » Dr Choong-Siew Yong
- » Dr Anupama Zeena

Northern Territory

The Northern Territory (NT) Branch Committee continued to campaign to improve funding for mental health services and secured an additional \$30 million federal funding for new wards in the budget.

We welcomed the Minister of Health alongside special guests from Darwin Head to Health adult mental health centre and other non-government organisations at our mental health week networking event to maintain this momentum.

The Branch argued in support of Danila Dilba and their important role in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health in the NT. There has been a small increase in funding and services have resumed without having to turn away vulnerable patients.

An increase in presentations arising from the pandemic has exacerbated overcapacity in all mental health wards and added stress for staff across the hospital. Band-aid remedies have helped, but not resolved the underlying problems. Our current situation reflects decades of neglect of mental health services – emergency departments built with no adequate facilities for mental health or substance-affected clients and inadequate community services.

The Top End Mental Health Service has seen new developments such as a Perinatal Team and Consultant presence at Palmerston Hospital for 2022, an impressive growth in the Quality and Safety team, and growth in the Forensic and Child and Adolescent teams.

The strong CPD program was highlighted by our successful movie nights and our Travelling Scholar, Professor Ernest Hunter, who presented 'Horticulture and Health in Indigenous Settings'.



Chair, **Dr David Chapman**

NT Committee members

- Dr Reema Achal
- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Mary Frost
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Dr NimaleeKanakkahewa
- » Dr Usman Khalid
- » Dr Tamoor Mirza
- » A/Prof. David Mitchell
- » Dr Femi Ogeleye
- » A/Prof. Robert Parker

Queensland

The Queensland Branch has highlighted the historic and chronic underfunding of state mental health services and the massive impact of COVID-19 on mental health services in Queensland and been calling for an in-depth review.

The Branch welcomes the parliamentary review by the Mental Health Select Committee and hopes a comprehensive systemic review of the state mental health system will identify service gaps, determine exactly where the state and Commonwealth funding shortfalls exist, and come up with innovative new ways to bridge these gaps.

Our CME/Queensland Branch Conference was held the weekend of 9–11 July at Palm Cove. The weekend event featured a strong mix of clinical and health policy topics, and the key theme was the importance of optimising health and function as the foundation for social participation, connection and belonging to society. The conference also discussed the value of lived experience workers in the mental health system.

Ms Angela Davies was appointed as community member to the Branch Committee, for a term of three years.

In November, the Branch hosted the annual 'Alice and John Bostock Oration' to welcome our newest Fellows of the College and to also recognise those achieving milestones in Fellowship.

We congratulate award recipients
Associate Professor Satish Karunakaran,
Dr Vaidyanathan Kalyanasundaram and
Associate Professor Ivan Frkovic, this
year's recipients of the Joan Lawrence
Queensland Meritorious Service Award for
significant and sustained contribution to
the practice of psychiatry in a clinical,
academic or administrative capacity.



Chair,
Professor Brett
Emmerson, AM

QLD Branch Committee members

- » Ms Angela Davies
- » Prof. Brett Emmerson, AM
- » Dr Hitesh Joshi
- » Dr Kirsten McMahon
- » A/Prof. Balaji Motamarri
- » Dr Vikas Moudgil
- » A/Prof. Stephen Parker
- » A/Prof. Gail Robinson
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo
- » Dr Joe Varghese
- » Dr Nicola Warren
- » Dr Ashlea White

South Australia

The South Australian (SA) Training Committee continues to deliver high standards of training and provides excellent support to local trainees, despite the significant stress arising from problems with the College exams. The Branch would like to recognise the tireless work of our local Training Representative Committee member, Dr Stepen McManis, and President of ANZAPT SA, Dr Annan Lloyd, in supporting and advocating for local trainees.

The Branch Committee strengthened relationships with other medical colleges and increased its media profile to drive public mental health policy via the Minister's Mental Health meeting, the opposition's Ramping Crisis Roundtable and associated meetings with key stakeholders and policy makers.

In addition, we launched our first bi-annual SA Branch Conference at the Novotel Barossa and took the public Barton Pope Lecture to the bush, where Dr Ken Fielke OAM presented the lecture on rural psychiatry and the importance of place.

We concluded the year with another fabulous Gala Dinner at the National Wine Centre where we welcomed our new 2022 trainees, congratulated new Fellows and honoured Fellows who have gone above and beyond their duty – the Anne E Loughlin Prize was awarded to Dr Neeraj Gupta and the SA Meritorious Service Award was bestowed on Dr Will Goh.

I would like to add my personal thanks to our Committee who has been highly engaged all year and for the dedication of our staff, Trudy Lisk and Matt Hee.



Chair, **Dr Paul Furst**

SA Branch Committee members

- Dr Andrea Baas
- » Dr Antoinette Bearman
- » Dr Patrick Clarke
- » Dr Susan Cosoff
- » Dr Paul Furst
- » Dr James Hundertmark
- » Dr David Kutlaca
- » Prof Sharon Lawn
- » Dr Cheryl Lee
- » Dr Annan Lloyd
- » Dr Stephen McManis
- Dr Hannah Myles
- » Dr Tom Paterson
- » Dr Varuni de Silva

Tasmania

The 2021 Congress held in Hobart was a huge success with over 880 delegates attending in-person and 500 delegates participating virtually. The theme, 'Influencing and being influenced by the world around us' was a unique opportunity to showcase psychiatry in Tasmania (TAS) and the beauty of the surrounds.

Representatives from TAS Branch Committee met with Minister Rockliff in August and presented our pre-budget submission informing the government of the Branch's priorities. The TAS Government announced \$108 million in funding for mental health which will be a much-needed boost to the state's mental health system. Several changes to the Tasmanian Psychiatry Training Program policies and program delivery across the state have been made by the Director of Training, Dr Robert Bell, in conjunction with the Chair of the Branch Training Committee, Dr Honor Pennington. These changes give everyone involved in training a clear path forward.

With the support of local Fellows and peers, some trainees have had successful outcomes via an Alternate Assessment Pathway following the information technology failures of the November OSCEs. The ongoing financial support from the STP TAS Project enabled an enriched training program during the year.

The Branch Committee, with the support of our Policy Team, was able to make statements on a number of policy matters including raising the age of criminal responsibility in TAS and Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture in the *A mental health system for all of Tasmania – pre budget submission 2021–2022* document.

The new staff capacity has allowed more opportunities to liaise with Department of Health and key stakeholders about important mental health issues in Tasmania.



Chair, **Dr Ben Elijah**

TAS Branch Committee members

- » Dr Joanna Bakas
- » Dr Nicky Beamish
- » Dr Ben Elijah
- » Dr Lev Fridgant
- » Dr Katja Lindemann
- » Dr Stephanie Lorimer
- » Dr Sadhana Pande
- » Dr Honor Pennington
- » Dr Jo Topp
- » Dr Anil Reddy
- » Dr Lennie Woo

Victoria

Three key focus areas for the Victorian Branch were the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System (RCVMHS), workforce capacity and wellbeing, and the mental health impacts of COVID-19. The Branch is appreciative of all members who provided their time and expertise for consultation and support. The consultation with our membership continues to demonstrate psychiatrists' commitment to the delivery of evidence-based therapeutic care.

The RCVMHS moved into its implementation phase with the Branch contributing significant time and numerous pieces of work to the important foundation

consultations. These were welcomed and discussed over several advocacy meetings with the Minister for Mental Health, the Hon James Merlino MP, and with the Deputy Secretary and Executive Directors within the Mental Health and Wellbeing Division.

Psychiatrists across the Branch expressed deep concern for the negative impacts of the pandemic on the mental health of the Victorian community. The COVID-19 Member Support Grants (Workforce Wellbeing Project) totalling \$47,800 were distributed. Following consultation with the membership, the Branch developed and presented a COVID-19 mental health and wellbeing recovery plan to the Minister for

Mental Health. At the request of the Minister, this will be followed up with the Deputy Secretary, Mental Health and Wellbeing Division.

The new Mental Health Ministerial Advisory Committee (MHMAC) will commence in 2022 and the Branch Committee Chair was appointed by the Minister for Mental Health. The MHMAC will provide strategic guidance to the Victorian Government on the mental health reform agenda and advocate for system transformation, service improvement and better consumer outcomes.



Chair, **Dr Astha Tomar**

VIC Branch Committee members

- » Dr Lee Allen
- » Dr Jenny Babb
- » Dr Dominka Baetens
- » Dr Subhash Das
- » Dr Ganesan Duraiswamy
- » A/Prof. Vinay Lakra
- » Dr Raju Lakshmana
- » Dr Francesca
- Valmorbida McSteen
- » Dr Jerome Nicholapillai
- » Mrs Ingrid Ozols
- » Dr Kerryn Rubin
- » Dr Tom Sellitto
- » Dr Ajit Selvendra
- » Dr Astha Tomar
- » Dr Ajay Vijayakrishnan

Western Australia

A key project for the Western Australian (WA) Branch has been planning for the new office which will open early in 2022. Over the year, we met with local Elders to find ways to make the building feel welcoming to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members and visitors, and to respectfully acknowledge Noongar culture and land.

The Elders held a Smoking Ceremony on site in November, to ward off bad spirits, acknowledge ancestors and pay respects to the land and sea of country. This was a significant milestone and was one of the highlights of our year.

The Branch continued to advocate for improvements to the psychiatry workforce and training pipeline and for increases in community based clinical mental health services. Representatives of our committee met regularly with key stakeholders including the Minister for Health, Mental Health Commissioner and key leaders at the Department of Health.

The Branch made a range of submissions, including to the Ministerial Taskforce into public mental health services for infants, children and adolescents. We were also involved in several consultations, such as the proposed Roadmap for Community Mental Health Treatment Services.

In July, the Branch offered a psychiatry stream at the MedCon21 conference for medical practitioners on the theme. It was very well received and planning is now underway for our first WA Branch Conference. Our monthly CPD program continued with few interruptions, and Dr Annette Mackereth provided the John Penman lecture. Unfortunately, the Travelling Scholar event was cancelled due to pandemic restrictions.



Chair,
Professor
Megan Galbally

WA Branch Committee members

- » A/Prof. Mat Coleman
- » Dr Emma Crampin
- » Dr Nick Faint
- » Prof. Megan Galbally
- » Dr Kyle Hoath
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » Dr Anne O'Sullivan
- » Dr Gordon Shymko
- » Dr Daniela Vecchio
- » Dr Ajay Velayudhan
- » Dr Mike Verheggen
- » Dr Shannan Woods

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Dr Shalini Arunogiri**

Committee members

- » Dr Shalini Arunogiri
- » Dr Robert Bell
- » A/Prof. Mark Daglish
- » Dr Basanth Kenchajah
- » Dr Sam McBride
- » Dr Carmen Nayer
- » A/Prof. Giles Newton-Howes
- » Dr Vicky Phan
- » Dr Kelly Ridley

Faculty of Addiction Psychiatry

In May, the Therapeutic Goods Administration published the new standard which regulates registered nicotine products in Australia, and in October the new standard regulating nicotine vaporiser products came into effect.

To assist health practitioners understand the upcoming changes, the College partnered with the Department of Health to create a range of learning resources to help support people living with mental health conditions with smoking cessation and reducing tobacco-related harm. The Faculty led the development of a range of resources including Clinical Guidance for Mental Health Practitioners, as well as podcast episodes (Smoking Cessation, Smoking Cessation & E-Cigarettes), and e-learning modules.

A clinical update and symposium session is scheduled for Congress 2022, and we will also be attending other Faculty and Section conferences to provide opportunities for members to discuss supporting people living with mental health conditions with smoking cessation.

The Faculty, along with the Subcommittee for Advanced Training in Addiction Psychiatry, have been working to support current trainees and new subspecialist Fellows. A key recent activity has been recommencement of an Australian national formal education program for addiction

psychiatry trainees, delivered online and run by Victorian subcommittee representative Dr Vicky Phan, with financial support from the Committee.

Addiction psychiatry remains an area of workforce shortage across most jurisdictions. The Faculty has been active in advocating for increased funding and resourcing of the speciality within the public sector to support a growth pathway and retain new Fellows within the public system. Activities have included prebudget submissions and advocacy at a state level.

Position statement 45: Problem Gambling was published in September 2017 and is due for review. The Royal Australasian College of Physicians has contacted the College and is interested in working collaboratively on a joint position statement. This is anticipated to commence in early 2022.

The College remains a partner organisation in the national Rethink Addiction Campaign focused on combating stigma, and establishing addiction as a national health priority.

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Dr Agnew Alexander**

Committee members

- » Dr Agnew Alexander
- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr Suneel Chamoli
- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan
- » A/Prof. Balaji Motamarri
- » Prof. Nagesh Pai
- » A/Prof. Stephen Parker
- » A/Prof. Shuichi Suetani
- » Dr Deborah Wearne
- » Dr Georgina Weir

Faculty of Adult Psychiatry

A key priority for the Faculty is to improve local member engagement by establishing the Jurisdictional Faculty Subcommittees. In 2021, the New South Wales, Queensland and South Australian Faculty subcommittees were formed, commencing their meetings and local activities.

The Faculty supported the increased intake and improvement of training experience for the Advanced Certificate in Adult Psychiatry, incorporating trauma-informed care. Support and input was provided for the proposed Adult Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) and Military, Veterans' and Emergency Services Personnel EPAs.

Advocacy focused on prevailing issues with mental health services and the current crisis in all states and territories in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. *Position statement 37: Principles for mental health system has been reviewed.*

The Faculty has an ongoing interest in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and its impact on psychiatrists and patients, and has provided input into the NDIS Independent Assessments final report which will feed into related College advocacy.

The Faculty continues its engagement with the Royal College of Psychiatrists - Faculty of General Adult Psychiatry and liaison with other international organisations. A

reciprocal agreement on the training program and rotations and its impact on trainees is in consideration. I had the opportunity to represent our Faculty at their annual Faculty conference to highlight the developments and share priorities.

The Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Network continues its robust activities, including the monthly ADHD Network Grand Round Case Presentations and involvement in the Australian ADHD Professionals Association Guideline for the new national multidisciplinary clinical practice for ADHD. There are more than 900 Network members.

In August, the Committee appointed Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan as the new Chair of the ADHD Network. The Faculty would like to acknowledge Dr Peter Heffernan's vital work as Network Chair and look forward to his continued involvement with the Network Committee.

The Faculty conference initially planned for October in the Gold Coast was postponed to 14–16 October 2022.

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Network Committee members

- » Dr Edward Ko Ko Aung
- » Dr David Chapman
- » Dr Nabil Chherawala
- » Dr Rosie Edwards
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Dr Sharon Foley
- » Dr Lev Fridgant
- » Dr Peter Heffernan

- » Dr Karuppiah Jagadheesan
- » Dr Gordana Jovanova
- » Dr Ashar Khan
- » Dr Teslin Mathew
- » Dr Roger Paterson
- » Prof. Sarah Romans
- » Dr Matthew Sellen

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Professor Valsamma Eapen**

Committee members

- » Prof. Valsa Eapen
- » Dr Tatjana Ewais
- » Dr Gagan Garg
- » Dr Francis Goodstadt
- » Dr John Gregson
- » Dr Ken Hooper
- » Dr Lynn Jones
- » Dr Nick Kowalenko
- » Dr Katie Niven
- » Dr Liam O'Connor
- » Dr Sally Tregenza
- » Dr Afraz Zaman

Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

The Faculty would like to acknowledge and thank Dr Paul Robertson for his excellent service for two terms as the Chair, expanding Faculty involvements and establishing collaboratively new directions and trusts.

The Faculty has been active in supporting the development of the 2022–23 Prebudget submission to include child and adolescent psychiatry workforce and models of care as key items, with a holistic approach based on complexity and continuum of care, as previously detailed in the College's Productivity Commission response, *Child and adolescent psychiatry: meeting future workforce needs* discussion paper and infographic.

A priority is to develop up-to-date resources on child and adolescent mental health service models of care. This work will assist in providing clear advocacy messages in submissions and responses to government on the specific needs of the acute workforce.

The building mental health for infants and children in Australia and New Zealand Prevention and Early Intervention Project report will cover the prevention of mental illness and early intervention for social-emotional and behavioural problems in children. The overall aim of this report is to promote the mental health of infants and young children in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, as a foundation for lifelong mental health.

The Faculty continues its regional engagement in Asia and the Pacific led by Dr Nick Kowalenko. Volunteer projects including the Pasifika Study Group and Online Pacific Health Exchange (OPHELIA) program in Pacific Island nations as well as training and mentoring in Cambodia and Iraq have expanded.

The 2021 Faculty conference to be held in Melbourne was postponed to 14–17 September 2022. The Conference Organising Committee opted to postpone the conference rather than move it to a virtual event as the program would have had to be significantly reduced to suit an online delivery. The Faculty thanks the conference convenors Dr Liam O'Connor and the Conference Organising Committee.

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Dr Carol Silberberg**

Committee members

- » Dr Sara Ghaly
- » Dr Dan Hubik
- » Dr Catherine Mason
- » Dr John O'Callaghan
- » Dr Carol Silberberg
- » Dr Adam Sims
- » Dr Mike Verheggen
- » Dr Andreja Vuchkov

Faculty of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

The 2021 Faculty conference made a successful shift from the originally planned face-to-face event in Adelaide to a virtual conference.

The extensive two-day program featured an international keynote speaker Professor Jon Stone, a dinner in Adelaide, and an online virtual wine tasting hosted by the National Wine Centre. The conference made a profit and attracted nearly 250 delegates.

NSW launched a series of Consultation—Liaison (C–L) Psychiatry Grand Rounds evening education meetings. Those meetings were held virtually and available to all Faculty members bi-nationally. Furthermore, NSW and Victoria embarked on a joint CL-AT training webinar series fortnightly, with these sessions also available more broadly for trainees in need of a formal education course.

Access to training positions remains precarious in some jurisdictions. In some areas, there is a lack of stage 2 positions, and in others, it is a lack of stage 3 positions – this has resulted in a bottleneck of trainees in some jurisdictions.

In 2020, the Committee identified concerns regarding the requirement for C–L psychiatrists to provide additional services to child and adolescent services. A draft letter was commenced. Similar issues were raised in 2020 by the NSW Branch. In 2021, the NSW subcommittee further reviewed the letter with the College also liaising with Education and Training to ensure consistent wording regarding areas of practice.

The Chair attended the Cancer Australia Intercollegiate Advisory Group in November. Items of relevance to psychiatry included the review of the Australian Cancer Plan (which specifically includes access to psychosocial care), Victoria's SafeScript program being rolled out throughout Australia, and a position paper on the need to strengthen the Australian Governments' stance against e-cigarettes containing nicotine.

Next year, the Faculty plans to hold the annual conference in Aotearoa New Zealand. Consultation–Liaison psychiatry will also be a clinical update topic area at Congress 2022 in Sydney.

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Dr Justin Barry-Walsh**

Committee members

- » Dr Anthony Barker
- » Dr Justin Barry-Walsh
- » Dr Fiona Best
- » Dr William Brereton
- » A/Prof. Andrew Carroll
- » Dr Mrigendra Das
- » Dr Andrew Ellis
- » Dr Vinesh Gupta
- » Dr James Knight
- » Dr Shailesh Kumar
- » Dr Christina Matthews
- » Dr Ness McVie
- » Dr Edward Petch
- » Dr Andrew Robinson
- Dr Peter Wynn Owen

Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry

The restrictions on travel impacted the functioning of the bi-national Committee with a feeling of dislocation and a sense of little achieved. Notwithstanding, 2021 was an active year for the Faculty, with advocacy and involvement at a jurisdictional level.

Some of this was the bearing of fruit of activity in 2020 with both the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety Final Report and Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System Report released in March 2021. It was pleasing to see the attention paid to those vulnerable people with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system in these reports.

In NSW, the Faculty was actively involved in challenging the ongoing use of enforced treatment in custody. The opportunity to address this arose out of the state's Select Committee inquiry into deaths of First Nations people in custody. This has led to a positive response with the planned cessation of enforced treatment in custody in the coming years.

The Professional Practice Guideline for medico-legal reports was finalised and approved; an important and complex document which had required a great amount of thought, discussion and work. Focus now goes onto other policy development including around firearms and the role of psychiatry.

Inevitably the bi-national conference was postponed. This is now scheduled for March 2022 although the uncertainty from the ongoing pandemic still threatens this activity. Despite this, smaller scale educational sessions were funded and run through the Faculty utilising virtual platforms.

Looking forward, the Faculty continues to be concerned about the lack of forensic resources including inpatient beds within Australasia. Opportunities to advocate for improvement in what is often a parlous situation have arisen and we hope to further this next year. The problems with stalking legislation, and its implementation, is another area where we hope to make gains in 2022.

Faculty highlights



Chair, **Dr David Lie**

Committee members

- » Dr Sarah Beaney
- » Dr Gary Cheung
- » Dr Bronwyn Copeland
- » Dr Brett Coulson
- » Dr Rebecca Graham
- » Dr Zain Hindawi
- » Dr Matthew Kang
- » Dr David Lie
- » A/Prof. Steve Macfarlane
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » Dr Duncan McKellar
- » Dr Rosalind Mulholland
- » Dr Maria Tsanglis

Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age

Our Annual Scientific Meeting went online this year thanks to the persistence, flexibility and resilience of Dr Padmini Howpage and her New South Wales colleagues. A traditional conference is booked for Brisbane in early November 2022.

The 'how' of CPD will be a practice change for many psychiatrists and trainees over the next few years. The 'what' may need to change as well – the role of psychiatry in dementia varies across the two countries and within different jurisdictions.

If major changes are implemented in aged care in Australia, increased educational resources will be required both for geriatric and many general psychiatrists.

Notwithstanding, the prevalence of dementia itself increases relentlessly.

The Sax Institute was contracted to deliver an evidence review on mental health delivery models in older people in residential aged care and hospital settings. There is good evidence for effectiveness of services in community settings. This is the first major review internationally in 20 years and the final product was presented to the College for endorsement in December.

The recommendations from the Australian Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety remain a major focus for the Faculty moving into 2022. Ongoing issues include:

- » an expected increased demand for review of psychotropics
- » impact of COVID-19 infection control measures on mental health of people in aged care facilities
- » lack of action on recommendations to increase access to mental health services
- » how to overcome the mental health skills gap of all disciplines involved in aged care even if greater resources are provided.

Finally, we look forward to the benefits of increased knowledge and skills in telepsychiatry. Many people assume that older adults are reluctant to engage but the bigger barrier can often be the resistance of their health professionals.

Faculty highlights



Chair,
Associate Professor
Paul Cammell

Committee members

- » Dr James Baee
- » A/Prof. Paul Cammell
- » Ms De Backman-Hoyle
- » Dr Andrew Christensen
- » Dr Tanya Devadason» Dr Anthony Korner
- » Dr Cathy Ludbrook
- » A/Prof. Loyola McLean
- » Dr Claire Pattison
- » Dr John Robertson

Faculty of Psychotherapy

The Faculty thanks Dr Michael Daubney for his immense efforts over two terms as Chair, participating in a range of working groups and committees. In addition to the Chair role, he is a strong advocate of psychotherapy within the college. A special thank you also to Associate Professor Loyola McLean and Dr Tanya Devadason for taking over newsletter editorship after years of contribution by Dr Jenny Randles.

A virtual conference themed 'Psychotherapy at the Coalface' was held in November. Presentations focused on the application of Psychodynamic Interpersonal Therapy in different mental health settings, with interactive skills workshops facilitated by senior Faculty members. It was a popular and well-received conference with sessions available to watch on the College website. The Faculty warmly thanks the conference convenors, Associate Professor Loyola McLean, Dr Tanya Devadason and Dr Andrew Christensen, as well as the supportive College staff.

The Faculty updated *Position statement* 54: Psychotherapy conducted by psychiatrists to provide evidence of the value of psychotherapy in psychiatric practice, including longer-term psychotherapy. This statement reaffirms the College's commitment to training psychiatrists in psychotherapy and supporting

psychiatrists to use various psychotherapeutic treatment modalities in their practice. The statement is a major milestone for the Faculty given the previous version was last published in 2004. It was approved by the RANZCP Board in May 2021.

The Faculty liaised with the President and Board to address concerns and criticisms regarding the Clinical Practice Guideline for Mood Disorders (2020) by the Faculty and broader College members, as well as other groups around Australia and internationally. The main issues are that the guideline includes inaccuracies about the evidence base of psychodynamic psychotherapy as well as biases in the broader commentary on issues related to psychotherapy.

The Faculty also liaised and engaged with a range of other committees, and the Board to advocate for the role of psychotherapy across the College's activities and member practices.

Section highlights

Section of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry



The passion, wisdom and energy of the membership has been instrumental in supporting the unprecedented number of trainees interested in the specialty.

In March, our conference themed 'Arrested development: who are we locking up?' became a successful virtual event recording our highest conference attendance. We hope for even greater participation at the 2022 Conference in Sydney. The Section also held an educational and entertaining podcast led by Dr James Gardiner and learned Committee members.

As always, the Section has proactively led and been involved in a range of policy and advocacy initiatives. Our quarterly newsletter, The TAG, details this work. The conduct disorder practice guideline has progressed along with advocacy for raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

Our members have agreed to focus on the following areas of advocacy for the next two years: racism in practice; delays in family court expert assessments; and raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

The Section intends to commence work on bi-national guidelines for child and adolescent forensic services to address the disparity of service provision across both countries.



Chair,
Dr Yolisha
Singh

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

Section of Early Career Psychiatrists



The Section welcomed its Committee members and a new Chair with a continued commitment to engaging our membership, advocating strongly on relevant issues and fostering opportunities in volunteering and research.

We increased communication through a new quarterly newsletter, use of social media platforms and direct contact with local branches and other Faculties and Sections. The Section delivered early career-specific content including a well-attended symposium at Congress and three online symposia focusing on the transition to Fellowship, financial planning and leadership that are available online.

The Section has strongly advocated on two important issues of particular concern for early career psychiatrists: addressing workforce shortages across the public sector and the recent AV-OSCE cancellation.

We look forward to advancing our agenda in 2022 with more virtual and in-person events, a jam-packed Congress program of symposia and invited speakers, and by improving access to research and volunteering networks. Our online presence through the RANZCP website will also be enhanced.



Chair, **Dr Edward Mullen**

Committee members

- » Dr Alan Altham
- » Dr Killian Ashe
- » Dr Aniket Bansod
- » Dr Vijay Danivas
- » Dr Rebecca Graham
- » Dr Edward Mullen
- » Dr David O'Mahony
- » Dr Jackie Rakov
- » Dr Melissa Renzenbrink

Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation



The Section of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation (SEN) engaged in a range of College and other initiatives:

- » The development of criteria for rTMS MBS items and a clinicians' credentialing matrix for the Department of Health.
- » Addressing the gaps in publications to stipulate rTMS effectiveness in the treatment of depression through participation in activities including a Psych Matters podcast episode, publications and media releases.
- » Actively advocating to the RANZCP Board, Members' Advisory Council, and Education Committee for approval of

the Advanced Certificate in Electroconvulsive Therapy and Neurostimulation.

» Convening the SEN Biennial Conference, which took place in December at The Peppers Resort in Noosa after two rescheduled attempts due to the pandemic. The conference included excellent virtual and face-toface presentations. An on-demand version has been made available for all delegates.

The Section awaits the outcome of the College's third submission to the MBS Taskforce about ECT Scheduled fees.



Chair, **Dr Salam Hussain**

- » Dr Suneel Chamoli
- » Dr Tibor Csizmadia
- » Dr Carol Dean
- » Dr Matthew Fasnacht
- » Prof. Paul Fitzgerald
- » Dr David Garside
- » Dr Shane Gill
- » Dr Salam Hussain
- » Dr Binu Jayawardena
- » Prof. Colleen Loo
- » Dr Subramanian Purushothaman
- » Dr Shanthi Sarma
- » Dr Brett Simpson
- » Dr Alan Weiss

Section of Philosophy and Humanities



The major development this year has been successful lobbying to change our name and mandate to the Section of Philosophy and Humanities (SOPH) in recognition of the growing need to include the humanities in the medical and mainstream sectors. This is an important step forward in the promotion of our identity both within and beyond the College.

Our Section speakers had good attendance for their talks at Congress in Hobart. Another highlight was the online symposium held in Wellington in November which featured a sparkling program for which the organisers deserve congratulations. We look forward to the next meeting.

An encouraging step has been the invitation from Dr Ralf Ilchef to contribute to the 2022 Congress committee, and the invitation of historian of psychiatry Professor Hans Pols to deliver a special symposium.

We are looking forward to expanding our work next year with further involvement in teaching, seminars and publications.



Chair, Associate Professor Robert Kaplan

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Howie
- » Dr Neil Jeyasingam
- » A/Prof. Robert Kaplan
- » Dr Izaak Lim
- » Dr Susan Lutton
- » Prof. Saddichha Shoo

Dr Steven
 Stankevicius

Section of Leadership and Management



The Section of Leadership and Management made a significant contribution to the very successful RANZCP Congress in Hobart with two lively debates on clinical practice guidelines and suicide prevention.

The Section is examining developing some entrustable professional activities to

develop accredited training terms where trainees could get a formal experience in administrative psychiatry.

The mentoring program for junior consultants interested in administrative psychiatry is progressing well. My thanks again to all Section members for their ongoing participation and enthusiasm.



Chair,
Associate
Professor
Robert Parker

- » Dr Binu Jayawardena
- » Dr Mark McAndrew
- » Dr Helen McGowan
- » A/Prof. Balaji Motamarri
- » Dr Nick O'Connor» A/Prof. Robert Parker
- » Prof. Alan Rosen, AO
- » Prof. Saddichha Sahoo

Section of Neuropsychiatry



The Section of Neuropsychiatry 2021 Conference was held in a virtual format hosted by the College in partnership with the Neuropsychiatric Institute at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney. It was co-convened by Scientia Professor Perminder Sachdev and Dr Adith Mohan.

The event took place over two half days in November with sessions exploring the theme 'New neuropsychiatric paradigms in a post-pandemic world'.

The keynote addresses on the 'Neuropsychiatry of immune mediated

encephalitides' by Professor Josep Dalmau and the 'Neuropsychiatry of COVID-19' by Professor Gabriel De Erausquin were notable highlights, as were the contemporary symposia on functional neurological disorder and psychedelics in psychiatry. The conference was attended by over 200 delegates and was enthusiastically received.



Chair, Professor Richard Kanaan

Committee members

- » Dr Gregory Finucane
- » Dr Joshua Flavell
- » A/Prof. Brad Hayhow
- » Prof. Richard Kanaan
- » A/Prof. Jeffrey Looi
- » Dr Bill Mantzioris
- » Prof. Harry McConnell
- » Dr Adith Mohan
- » Prof. Dennis Velaklouis

Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry



The Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry has finalised the new updated Position statement 57: Perinatal mental health services which is now available on the College website. This has been the result of considerable work in completely revising and updating the statement to reflect contemporary practice, recommendations and drawing on national and international guidelines and standards.

The Committee had previously completed an application for advanced training submitted in late 2020. However, review of this is currently on hold.

The Committee has provided information for inclusion in several College submissions to governments as well as letters of concern about Commonwealth projects and areas of expertise within the exams process. We have continued to advocate on the viability of funding for Australian public mental health mother–baby unit services with the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority.

Perinatal and infant mental health services continue to see an increase in demand due to the pandemic. We are planning our first Section event for 2022.



Chair,
Professor
Megan Galbally

- » Dr Gaynor Blankley
- » Dr Elizabeth Coventry
- » Dr Ilona DiBella
- » Prof. Megan Galbally
- » Dr Brendan Jansen
- » Dr Nimalee Kanakkahewa
- » Dr Edna Lekgabe
- » Dr Sylvia Lim-Gibson
- » Dr Elizabeth MacDonald
- » Dr Kristine Mercuri
- » Dr Chandni Prakash
- » Dr Susan Roberts

Section of Private Practice Psychiatry



The Section kept its members up to date with how to continue providing private psychiatric care in a COVID-19 environment. It developed practical online resources and ensured members were abreast of the ever-changing Medicare Benefits Schedule regulations.

Other areas of work included developing a College response to Honeysuckle Health's application at the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, which the Section considers a threat to medical autonomy and the thin end of the wedge of managed care in Australia.

The Section was involved in developing resources for trainees, supervisors and services around coping with a patient suicide – one of the more stressful experiences psychiatrists and trainees must manage.

Later in the year, the ethics of seeing unvaccinated patients or not, became a topic of concern. The loss of certain telehealth item numbers from 1 January will be an area for strong advocacy. 2022 will also be a year to focus on private practice opportunities in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Chair, **Dr Michelle Atchison**

Committee members

- » Dr Michelle Atchison
- » Dr George Blair-West
- » Dr Gary Galambos
- » Dr Christopher Garvie
- » Dr Ashar Khan
- » Prof. Jeffrey Looi
- » Dr Renate Mundl
- » Dr William Pring
- » Dr Joe Varghese
- » Dr Emma Wills

Section of Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



The Section continues to develop position papers on psychiatric issues in both intellectual disability and autism to identify major issues and inform contributions to policy and advocacy.

It developed a syllabus for advanced training in this field which has been submitted to the Education Committee.

The Section has contributed to a range of policy documents and inquiries including the National Guidelines for the Assessment and Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Australia and the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.

The Section is continuing to plan for a one-day conference within the next two years.

The Section explored the option of developing an online grand round but there was insufficient interest to pursue this. However, a podcast on issues related to the assessment of people with intellectual disability has been recorded and will be available on Psych Matters in the new year.



Chair, **Dr Chad Bennett**

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

Section of Rural Psychiatry



The Section of Rural Psychiatry has had a busy year in preparing and delivering the *Rural Psychiatry Roadmap 2021–31,* which was launched at the 2021 Congress in Hobart.

There has been immense interest across jurisdictions in the development of rural training programs and the Commonwealth has supported the initiative by delivering a further round of clinical placement funding and initiatives.

The roadmap has received much attention at a Commonwealth level in Australia and is also being keenly observed in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Section continues to support and advocate for rural trainees and Fellows on a range of topics including telepsychiatry, Medicare Benefits Schedule items, supports for trainees and as an advocacy group for generalism in psychiatry.



Chair,
Associate
Professor
Mat Coleman

Committee members

- » Dr Andrew Amos
- » A/Prof. Ravi Bhat
- » Dr Rodney Blanch
- » A/Prof. Mat Coleman
- » Dr Noel Collins
- » Dr Sarah France
- » Dr Therese Grotowski
- » Dr Skye Kinder
- » Dr Kelly Ridley
- » Dr Daniel Wood

Section of Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry



The Section stayed busy and constructive during a difficult year. Highlights included two well-received symposia presented at Congress. Members with ideas for future presentations are welcome to contact the Section for assistance putting symposia together.

The 2021 conference that was planned for Cape Schanck in Victoria was again deferred due to the pandemic. The Section remains hopeful the meeting will proceed in 2022 in conjunction with the Family Violence Psychiatry Network. Sports psychiatry, a relatively new area to the Section, will also be showcased.

Progress on training and support for rehabilitation psychiatry has been adversely affected by the pandemic response. Enthusiastic Section members have worked hard on a curriculum and education model along with the Education and Training department. I am hopeful to deliver this work by mid-2022.

The Committee has been active reviewing policy documents and now has regular attendance from a member of the College's policy team at each meeting.

I would like to thank the Committee members for their service, especially those who will be retiring. We have again been ably supported by Ms Manjit Kaur as our consumer and carer representative.



Chair,
Dr Daryl
Watson

- » Dr Tanveer Ahmed
- » Dr Nicholas Burns
- » Dr Catherine Chesterman
- » Prof. Carol Harvey
- » Ms Manjit Kaur
- » Dr Elizabeth Moore
- » Dr John Perica
- » Dr Rohini Thimmaiah
- » Dr Bharat Visa
- » Dr Darryl Watson

Section of Youth Mental Health



The bi-national committee is very active, and now has members from all jurisdictions except Tasmania. Three newsletters are published annually. Committee members contribute to the review of many policy documents and are involved in other working groups.

The Committee has been busy on the climate change front. A proposal for the formation of a Climate Change Network has been warmly endorsed by the College but remains on hold due to a review of the Faculty, Section and Network structure. A group of dedicated members worked with College staff to produce *Position statement 106: The mental health impacts of climate change.*

The Professional Certificate in Youth Psychiatry, developed in close consultation with ORYGEN, was attended by 40 psychiatry trainees. The plan is for this to remain available and become part of the Formal Education Component of a Certificate of Advanced Training (CAT) in Youth Psychiatry.

Our 2021 conference was postponed and will now take place in July in Alice Springs. Given the success of the webinar presented by Dr Iain McMillan on the Treatment of Depression in Young People, regular webinars are planned for 2022.



Chair,
Dr Daniel
Pellen

- » Dr Terri Chaitow
- » Dr Angelene Chester
- » Dr Sharon Foley
- » Dr Gary Galambos
- » Dr Lisa Juckes
- » Dr Iain Macmillan
- » Dr Tamoor Mirza
- » Dr Donovan Moncur
- » Dr Hugh Morgan
- » Dr Hannah Myles
- » Dr Daniel Pellen
- » Dr Aswin Ratheesh
- » Dr Leo Sauaia
- » Prof. James Scott
- » Dr Matthew Sellen

Network highlights

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Mental Health Network



The Network continues to contribute to the development of resources to assist and support psychiatrists working with asylum seekers and refugees.

At its April meeting, Dr Michael Dudley introduced the paper 'Health professionals confront the intentional harms of indefinite immigration detention: an Australian overview, evaluation of alternative responses and proposed strategy'. A draft strategy to address the continuing problem of indefinite detention was presented at a Network meeting. It was agreed that the key purpose was to move the responsibility of health of those detained within immigration detention to the Department of Health within the Australian Government.

The podcast Philosophical and Ethical Issues of Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees was released in August.

The Network released a media statement through the College and wrote a letter to the federal minister highlighting our concerns regarding Afghan asylum seekers. The Network also raised concerns regarding the Park Hotel in Melbourne and the number of refugees testing positive to COVID-19.

The Network has commenced the review on two key documents including *Position statement 46: The provision of mental health services for asylum seekers and refugees* (2017) and *Professional Practice Guideline 12: Guidance for psychiatrists working in Australian immigration detention centres* (2016).



Chair,
Dr Kym
Jenkins

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

Family Violence Psychiatry Network



The Network has continued its bi-national commitment to educating and raising awareness of family violence through activities for learning, advocacy and by building relationships across the sector.

In February, a submission was made to the New South Wales Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control as well as evidence given before the parliamentary inquiry.

In October, Chair of the Network Associate Professor Manjula O'Connor gave the Keynote Address 'Coercive Control and its implications for mental health' for the Faculty of Adult Psychiatry. There were podcasts created including 'Coercive control: An Improved understanding of family violence and its impact on mental health' and 'Coercive control – case studies'. A submission was made in December to the Attorney-General's Department on improving the competency and accountability of family report writers.

The Network continues to build on its strong and fruitful relationship with the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health in the United States.

Early next year, together with the Section for Social, Cultural and Rehabilitation Psychiatry, we look forward to holding a combined conference 'Our Society, Our Mental Health-2022 Perspective'.



Chair,
Associate
Professor
Manjula
O'Connor

Committee members

- » Prof. Maurice Eisenbruch
- » Dr Hannah Galloway
- » Dr Samir Ibrahim
- » Dr Skye Kinder
- » Dr Prue McEvoy
- » Dr Vikas Moudgil
- » Dr Jai Nathani
- » A/Prof. Manjula O'Connor
- » Dr Jacqueline Short
- » Dr Meredith Whiting
- » Dr Karen Williams

Military, Veterans' and Emergency Services Personnel Mental Health Network



The bi-national Network was originally formed in 2018 to cater to those members with an interest in psychopathology resulting from military service or first responder occupations. Our membership as of November stood at 445 (including 68 psychiatrists in training).

On top of the demands of an ongoing pandemic, for those colleagues working in the military or veteran space, the year brought a range of issues generated by the consecutive challenges of the Brereton Report, prominent national coverage of the court case involving Australia's most decorated soldier and the announcement and commencement of the Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide.

The Network Committee contributed significantly to College positions and media activity and releases on each of these issues.

In 2021, the Committee:

- » successfully advocated for increased Department of Veterans' Affairs funded training positions in military and veteran psychiatry and continued to develop summative assessments in this space
- » provided its members access to academic papers, podcasts and clinical resources
- » contributed to state and federal government inquiries, reviews and policy positions
- » was involved in research and the production of academic papers.



Chair, **Dr Andrew Khoo**

- » Dr Nick Ford
- » Dr Mary Frost
- » Prof. Ed Heffernan
- » Dr Andrew Khoo
- » Dr Jonathan Lane
- » Dr Diana McKay
- » Prof. Nagesh Pai
- » Dr Duncan Roy
- » Dr Thomas Turvey
- » Dr Duncan Wallace

New Fellows

During 2021, 228 candidates were admitted to Fellowship of the RANZCP.

Australia

Australian Capital Territory

Dr Sunita D'Souza Dr Perrin Kwek

New South Wales

Dr Jawad Adil

Dr Stuart Allison

Dr Adeel Arshad

Dr Ramprasad Attur

Dr Aaron Berger

Dr Charles Betts

Dr Emma Bowes

Dr Kylie Cheng

Dr Vanessa Crawford

Dr Tessa Daws

Dr Sarinda De Silva

Dr Rila Deen

Dr Yi Ding

Dr Preeya Elangovan

Dr Tali Elsayed

Dr Sachie Fernando

Dr Suzanna Goodison

Dr Athuraliye Gunatilaka

Dr Ching Ho

Dr Lara Howard

Dr Elizabeth Jackson

Dr Michael Lau

Dr Andrew Le

Dr Kiran Lele

Dr Yichao Liang

Dr Mark Lin

Dr Billy Lugg

Dr Nargess Mazloumi

Dr Catherine McHugh

Dr Peita Melville

Dr Laurel Morrissey

Dr Xavier Mulenga

Dr Vijaya Murali

Dr Ana Musarevski

Dr Kiran Nair

Dr Tshepo Ntokwane

Dr Cathal O'Cionnaith

Dr Doyin Olutayo

Dr Melissa Renzenbrink

Dr Sadia Saeed

Dr Adrian Sandhu

Dr Domagoj Saric

Dr Namrata Shetty

Dr Joel Singer

Dr Paul Stewart

Dr Christopher Sulaksono

Dr Sathish Thangapandian

Dr Anjana Thazhissery

Dr Lucy Thurman Bornefeldt

Dr Linda Tran

Dr Sarah Vanniasingham

Dr Adrian Vasko

Dr Caitlin White

Dr Melody Nga Ting Wong

Northern Territory

Dr Louise Brightman

Dr Sarah Dorrington

Dr Kane Vellar

Queensland

Dr Deepti Abraham

Dr Sarah Aga

Dr Gaynor Andresen

Dr Chey Bhutia

Dr Melanie Blenkin

Dr Katie Boles

Dr Melinda Boyd

Dr Kripa Chakravarthy

Dr John Chazhoor

Dr Renee Chen

Dr Belinda Clark

Dr Kaveh Darabian

Dr Charu Dasgupta

Dr Vidanelage Demel

Dr Yenal Dundar

Dr Cameron Edwards

Dr Julia Farrington

A/Prof. Dylan Flaws

Dr Eliot Frickey

Dr Nadia Friend

Dr Charuni Gamage

Dr Richard Goodwin

Dr Heshan Nivanthaka

Gunawardena

Dr Samuel Hickey

Dr Thet Htay

Dr Charana Ingiriya Arachchige

Dr Muhammad Khan

Dr Claire King

Dr Zelpha Kittler

Dr Paul Lanning

Dr Michael Lee

Dr Jovita Lewis

Dr Ajay Macharouthu

Dr Hayley Maher

Dr Meetiksha Malhotra

Dr Emily Martin

Dr Omer Shareef Mohamed Ali

Dr Hannli Nel

Dr Paxie Olm

Dr Nurudeen Omotoso

Dr Swapnil Palod

Dr Monika Raju

Dr Dhananjayan Ravichandran

Dr Heidi Reichhold

Dr Sarah Reilly

Dr Essam Sarhan

Dr Aly Soliman

Dr Navan Soni

Dr Catriona Soutar

Dr Catherine Stoyanov

Dr Sumeet Sudarshan Singh

Dr Ramya Thanigaivel

Dr Erich Ting

Dr Jacinda White

Dr Shanek Wickramasinghe

South Australia

Dr Reece Bretag-Norris

Dr James Capps

Dr Jacqueline Condon

Dr Andrew Giam

Dr Kimberley Juers

Dr Devinda Lecamwasam

Dr Joel Pannell

Dr Evan Papavasiliou

Dr Marco Tiscione

Tasmania

Dr Raymond Ali

Dr Alvin Loh

Victoria

Dr Akhil Abhijnhan

Dr Emma Accadia

Dr Silvia Andrada Baumann

Dr Raghavendar Baburaj

Dr Michelle Baek

Dr Virupakshappa Bagewadi

Dr Abhilash Balakrishnan

Dr Natalie Barry

Dr Abidemi Bello

Dr Ritesh Bhandarkar

Dr Ilyas Bharuchi

Dr David Botros

Dr Emily Brennan

Dr Nicholas Burgess Dr Lior Chait Dr Alyssa Chan Dr Grace Chan Dr Edith Chau Dr Sharon Chua Dr Elena Cocolas Dr Grace Cowderoy Dr Conor Daly Dr Rajan Darjee Dr Soumitra Das Dr Rekha De Silva Dr Nardine Elzahaby Dr Cindy Fan Dr Malcolm Forbes Dr Deepti George Dr Michael Gibbons Dr Meredith Gray Dr Hamish Gunn Dr Ricky Hang Dr Anthony Hew Dr Walter Hipgrave

Dr Jessica Ho

Dr Andrew Hui

Dr Katherine Hughes

Dr Doris Ip Hee Wai

Dr Sriharsha Kadiveti

Dr Vennela Kalluru

Dr Udai Kandalama

Dr Karishma Kulkarni

Dr Nermin Kedis

Dr Johan Khor

Dr Ajit Kumar

Dr Kylie Lloyd

Dr Michael Lloyd

Dr Dan Mihaesi

Dr Rohan Mendonsa

Dr Srikanth Miriyala

Dr Brian Leung

Dr Anish Modak Dr Abhinav Nahar Dr Van Nguyen Dr Laura Pejnovic Dr Dhara Perera Dr Thinzar Phyo Dr Ranjini Rao Dr Ravindra Reddy Dr Subbu Saravanan Dr Sangamesh Sasalu Dr Vathsala Seneviratne Dr Parramajaypal Singh Dr Karuna Taluja Dr Emjay Tan Dr Katherine Tan Dr Georgina Tuck Dr Murray Tucker Dr Ashwin Varghese Dr Suresh Yadav

Aotearoa New Zealand

Dr Patrick Beverley
Dr Nurrul Binti Johari
Dr Elena Bratu
Dr Arnob Chakraborti
Dr Cameron Cole
Dr Kate Eggleston
Dr Maithri Gurusinghe
Dr Dale Harrison
Dr Matthew Higgins
Dr Monica Johnson
Dr Julia Pettitt
Dr Elizabeth Robson

Dr Rachael Simpson

Dr Tejpal Singh

Western Australia

Dr Kalliste Black
Dr Dheeraj Buruju
Dr Philippa Carter
Dr Marie Dunne
Dr Jodi Eatt
Dr Asha Juniper
Dr Koorush Kalani
Dr Kate Law

Dr Koorush Kalani
Dr Kate Law
Dr Madeline McCreanor
Dr Thomas Mole
Dr Jasmine Mordecai
Dr Rory Morris-Butler
Dr Arti Parmar
Dr Varun Sharma
Dr Natalie Shulman
Dr Luke Somerville-Brown
Dr Jeremy Tannenbaum

Dr Lewis Walker

Certificates of Advanced Training 2021

During 2021, 91 Fellows were awarded RANZCP Certificates of Advanced Training.

Addiction Psychiatry

Dr Vikash Balgobind

Dr David Barison

Dr Kai Yang Chen

Dr Joel Jackson

Dr Mathew James

Dr Sally Lambert

Dr Syed Mushtaq Mohiuddin

Dr Kiran Nair

Dr Olalekan Ogunleye

Dr Ayodele Olatunji

Dr Sarah Reilly

Dr Sadia Saeed

Adult Psychiatry

Dr Vibha Bhullar

Dr Elena Bratu

Dr Andrew Hui

Dr Albert Matti

Dr Erich Ting

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr Gaynor Andresen

Dr Philippa Carter

Dr Renee Chen

Dr Grace Cowderov

Dr Navin Dadlani

Dr Kaveh Darabian

Dr Marie Dunne

A/Prof. Vikas Garg

Dr Hany Farag Ghabrash

Dr Jiong Ho

Dr Steven Jones

Dr Rachel Kan

Dr Paul Lanning

Dr Claire McAllister

Dr Laurel Morrissey

Dr Skye Murray

Dr Laura Pejnovic

Dr Raja Sadhu

Dr Anupama Sequeira

Dr Joel Singer

Dr Luke Somerville-Brown

Dr Radha Srikanth

Dr Christopher Sulaksono

Dr Linda Tran

Dr Jacinda White

Dr Alice Wong

Dr Melody Wong

Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Dr Charles Betts

Dr Reece Bretag-Norris

Dr Nicholas Burgess

Dr Huw Davie

Dr Nardine Elzahaby

A/Prof. Dylan Flaws

Dr Ronald Gill

Dr Suzanna Goodison

Dr Judith Greenland

Dr Hamish Gunn

Dr Myles Gutkin

Dr Anthony Hew

Dr Hannah Kim

Dr Michael Lloyd

Dr William Lugg

Dr Eva Maher

Dr Nir Nachmani Major

Dr Dale Marchant

Dr Claire McAllister

Dr Catherine Nyuthe

Dr Shivdev Sandhu

Dr Alice Wong

Forensic Psychiatry

Dr Sonny Atherton

Dr Richard Baker

Dr Clare Griffin

Dr Gordon Hopkins

Dr Madeline McCreanor

Dr Khine Oo

Dr Lewis Walker

Psychiatry of Old Age

Dr Sereena Abraham

Dr Michelle Baek

Dr David Botros

Dr Tali Elsayed

Dr Nadia Friend

Dr Lara Gallur

Dr Richard Goodwin

Dr Brian Leung

Dr Melissa Renzenbrink

Dr Namrata Shetty

Dr Rachael Simpson

Psychotherapies

Dr Priyanga Arachchi

Dr Lukas Cheney

Dr Kylie Cheng

Dr Lara Gurgone

Dr Varun Kumar

Dr Tony Muller

Dr Wimaladharma

Dr vvimaladnarma

Ranasinghe

Vale

The RANZCP pays tribute to the members who passed away during 2021:

A/Prof. David Ash Dr Leon Fail Dr Fiona Simsion Dr Andrew Bennett Dr Rod Farnbach Dr Michael Spelman Dr Barbara Burkitt Dr Edgar Freed Dr Nicky Stephens Dr John Chick Dr Peter Morse Dr Peter Wells Dr Mark Davis Dr Michael Mulcahy Dr Warwick Williams Dr Eleanor Dawson Dr John Quaife Dr Alice Wong

The RANZCP was informed in 2021 that the following members had passed away in a previous year:

Dr James Begg Dr Horace Hannah Dr Charles Moore Dr James Hannah Dr Henry Bethune Dr Estelle Morrison Dr Bernard Bignold Dr Arthur Jones Dr Leslie Norton-Willson Dr Basil Cameron Dr Leonard Knott Dr Peter Ots Dr Leslie Chen Dr F Kyneur Dr Asoka Polonowita Dr Robert Demonchaux Dr Robert Lea Dr John Roper A/Prof. Ala'ud-Din Drooby Dr Pok Lie Dr Rose Rothfield Dr Averil Earnshaw Dr Rajesh Maheshwari Dr Karl Schmidt, MBE Dr Ruth Ekis Dr Judd Marmor Dr Kirpal Singh Dr Jeffrey Faulkner, OAM Dr George Martinus Dr Rosemary West Dr Rolfe Finn Dr Dougald McLean Dr Christopher White Dr Bela Mezo Dr James Gatenby Dr Yip Wong Dr Robert Wu Dr Anna Gregory Dr Peter Mitchell

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