RANZCO
ANNUAL
REPORT
THE MEDICAL EYE SPECIALISTS
2009/2010

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists
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**Summary of Financial Results 2009/2010**

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The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Councillors
The Board of Directors and

New South Wales
Dr Tasha Micheli
Dr Con Moshegov
Dr Sam Lerts
Dr Diana Farlow

Victoria
Dr Cathy Green
Dr Malcolm Ferguson
Dr Wendy Marshman
Dr Heather Mack

Queensland
Dr Bradley Horsburgh
Dr Glen Gole

South Australia
Dr Arthur Karagiannis
Dr Darcy Economos

Western Australia
Dr Richard Gardner

Tasmania
Dr Nitin Verma

New Zealand
Dr James Stewart
Dr Michael O’Rourke

Younger Fellows
Dr James Chen

Professors group
Prof Paul Mitchell

Chief Executive Officer
Ms Susi Tegen

Branches

New South Wales
Chairperson Dr Con Moshegov
Hon Secretary Dr Tasha Micheli
Hon Treasurer Dr Andrew Chang

Victoria
Chairperson Dr Heather Mack
Hon Secretary Dr Malcolm Ferguson
Hon Treasurer Dr Julian Sack

Queensland
Chairperson Dr Bradley Horsburgh
Hon Secretary A/Prof Glen Gole
Hon Treasurer A/Prof John Dyer

South Australia
Chairperson Dr James Muecke
Hon Secretary Dr Jagjit Gilhotra
Hon Treasurer Dr Jagjit Gilhotra

Western Australia
Chairperson Dr Robert Patrick
Hon Secretary Dr Johnny Wu
Hon Treasurer Dr Rob Paul

Tasmania
Chairperson Dr Paul McCartney
Hon Secretary Dr Kate Rattray
Hon Treasurer Dr Kate Rattray

New Zealand
Chairperson Dr Michael O’Rourke
Vice Chairperson Dr Derek Sherwood
Hon Secretary Dr Mary Jane Houlston
Hon Treasurer Dr Mary Jane Houlston

Affiliated
Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA)
Chairperson A/Prof Mark Daniell
Hon Secretary Prof Stuart Graham
Hon Treasurer A/Prof Robert Casson

Save Sight Society of NZ Inc
Chairperson Dr Derek Sherwood
RANZCO Eye Foundation
Chairperson Mr Peter Keel
RANZCO Benevolent Fund
Chair of Trustees Dr Brendan Nelson

Registered Office
94-98 Chalmers Street
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010
Australia
Phone: 61 2 9690 1001
Fax: 61 2 96901321
Email: ranzco@ranzco.edu
Website: www.ranzco.edu

Board of Directors, left to right: Drs Neil Gehling, Mark Renehan and Ross Littlewood, A/Prof Mark Daniell, Ms Susi Tegen and Drs Richard Stawell, Diana Semmonds, Annette Gebauer, Stephen Best, William Glasson and Michael Waldie.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
This year has been a time of significant change for our College. As I travelled around Australia and New Zealand to various Branches, I talked about “An opportunity for change”. The opportunity presented itself with a new administration led by Ms Susi Tegen (Chief Executive Officer), restructuring of the College staffing with a number of new personnel, together with a Board and Council which were willing to embrace change. The College strategic plan, developed over the last couple of years, had clearly identified a need for an increased external focus, and an improvement in member services.

At a governance level, the College year got off to a great start with, the new CEO reviewing the strategic plan, and then widely consulting amongst Fellows, staff, university departments and other stakeholders. A business plan was then developed that she and the Board could work with. This included a broader external focus with government departments, Vision 2020A, and patient support groups, to name but a few. It also identified other major areas for review, including information communication technology (ICT), and a review of the training program. Susi Tegen’s rapid understanding of the issues facing our profession has been invaluable to the Board. She has given above and beyond our expectations - an impressive first year as our new CEO.

The cataract issue in 2009 refocused the profession’s need to have a more active Australian Society of Ophthalmologists (ASO). The College could act as the patient advocate in this debate, but could not take a larger role. Apart from a successful outcome for our patients, we also achieved the establishment of a very good working relationship between the College and the ASO. It is important that this continues into the future. The ASO will provide much of the political lobbying that our profession has needed for some time. When there are meetings with Government and Government departments, both the College and the ASO have been present. We share a research officer, who provides services to both organisations. Drs Russell Bach, Bill Glasson and Brad Horsburgh and the ASO committee are to be congratulated for all their efforts both on the cataract issue and helping to establish such a good working relationship with the College.

For many years the College has successfully worked within a very tight budget to provide services of an educational nature to its members. It has been recognised that ICT systems have moved on a long way and ours needed to be urgently addressed both for administration and education of Trainees as well as Fellows’ needs in Continuing Professional Development. A new system will also offer opportunities and services that we currently cannot provide. A wide-ranging review of our needs has taken place with a great deal of consultation with staff and Fellows. The first stage of our ICT redevelopment program has now commenced, which includes detailed specifications for a user-friendly interface for all Fellows.

The major focus of the College is on education and training. This year marked the end of the first full five-year cycle of our registrar training program. It was appropriate that a comprehensive review of the program should take place with particular focus on the basic ophthalmic sciences component. The latter has generated a lot of discussion over the last few years. The Qualification and Education Committee, under Dr Mark Renehan’s able leadership, is currently in rigorous debate on how the training program might be further enhanced. The QEC and the Board have been keen to ensure that all options, including working with other Colleges or Universities, are carefully assessed. A decision on any changes to the program should be finalised by the QEC by the end of the year.

The Federal Government this year initiated a review of the Medical Benefits Schedule. The proposed reforms inherent in the MBS Quality Framework Review are anticipated, by Government, to provide greater transparency and a stronger evidence-base for services listed under the MBS. The review has put significant demands on the College and its Fellows in particular. All the ophthalmic item numbers have now been reviewed by subgroups of Fellows. The input has been impressive, and is ongoing, with the next phase with a smaller group, working with the Department review team, to look at the evidence base for some of the more common procedures and explain the need for a variety of new item numbers.
such as for OCT and a review of Paediatric item numbers. The next phase is much more difficult with the review assessing the appropriateness of rebates to patients. The ASO will be contributing significantly to this part of the review. It is currently analysing data from the practice survey, which will provide important evidence to justify current fees and the need for appropriate rebates to our patients.

Dr Iain Dunlop’s words two years ago: “The College is like a family of ophthalmologists with the family privileges of being able to bicker and argue...” have never been truer than over the debate regarding the insurance classification for intravitreal injections. A formal process was undertaken last year to provide advice to the Government over reclassification of this procedure to that of primarily an outpatient procedure. The process requires further discussion for a new way forward, which is currently being explored with the Government. The outcome will aim to be fair to the community, the patients and ophthalmologists. It is important that “the family”, at the end of the day, has one cohesive public position.

Susi Tegen and I found it extremely useful and enjoyable to attend the Branch conferences around Australia and New Zealand this year. It provided an opportunity to explain what the College as doing and to hear the views of a significant number of fellows on a huge range of subjects. The meeting in New Zealand provided a unique opportunity to understand the differences between our two countries in healthcare provision.

It followed on from one of our regular board strategic planning sessions, where we had discussed the special needs and problems of New Zealand Fellows. It has been agreed that the College will provide the services of a research/policy officer, who will work with the College office, the NZMA and the RANZCO New Zealand Branch committee to enable the College’s views to be more effectively developed and heard by government.

At the last strategic planning session, the Board made real progress towards the College taking a more proactive role in rural, indigenous and overseas ophthalmology. The meeting was attended by some invited Fellows actively working in these areas. A framework for further discussion is now being developed. For the first time there will be ongoing College administrative support for these activities. Some of the issues identified included: better coordination of optometric and ophthalmology services, funding arrangements, central data bases, facilities for distance learning, standards for overseas aid work and teaching. Our new ICT system will be designed to support these activities.

The College library is based at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital (RVEEH) in Melbourne, and has a great track record of providing services to fellows throughout Australia and New Zealand. Traditionally, this was with print-based resources but, increasingly the service is based via “online access” to journals. The publishers are demanding escalating subscriptions for this access. The College has entered into a short-term agreement to share the cost with the RVEEH, pending a full review of Fellows needs regarding library services.

The College’s scientific journal, [Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology] has gone on to new levels of success under the editorship of Prof Charles McGhee. In 2002, as the second editor-in-chief, Charles had the task of building on the great achievements of founding editor Prof Mark Gillies. Over the last eight years, the Journal has substantially increased the number of publications, citation counts and international sources of manuscripts. Charles has now retired from this position, and I thank him for his significant contribution. The College welcomes the appointment of the new co-editors in chief: Dr Salmaan Qureshi and A/Prof Robert Casson who, I feel sure, will continue to build on the Journal’s success story so far.

The Overseas Trained Specialist Committee, headed by Dr Stephen Cains, has the really important task of assessing the qualifications of any overseas trained ophthalmologist specialist wanting to work in Australia. This responsibility has been delegated to the Colleges and other jurisdictions by the regulatory authorities. This year has not been an easy one with challenges to the system that we have not experienced before. The Committee and College staff have been under a lot of pressure, and I thank them for their commitment and expertise.

As part of the “opportunity to change”, there was a change in Chief Executive Officer of the RANZCO Eye Foundation.
Mrs Jacinta Spurrett took over at the end of last year and has made significant headway in putting the Foundation on a secure financial and strategic footing. Fundraising functions were held to promote the JulEye campaign, which is the focus of the Foundation’s major fund-raising activities. I was pleased to attend events in Queensland and Victoria, which were very well organised and enjoyable evenings. The Foundation is very much part of the College. It is integral to our strategic plan of raising the awareness of the community regarding what is happening in Australian eye research, the need for increased funds for this and overseas aid programs. Through these activities it also raises the profile of ophthalmology. And it has been very successful in providing start-up funding for a number of major research projects that have subsequently been successful in obtaining major NH&MRC grants.

The Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA) is the College’s research arm, and is a recipient of funds from the Foundation. In fact, the ORIA’s research advisory committee provides peer reviewed advice to the Foundation on all research projects under consideration for funding. A/Prof Mark Daniell is successfully leading the ORIA Board in achieving its aim of “Advancing eye research in Australia”. This year it awarded around $400,000 in grants from its own funds, and also assessed and distributed grants on behalf of the Foundation and Glaucoma Australia. Both the ORIA and the Foundation are key components of our College.

This College is only as good as the people in it. We have been blessed with wonderful staff, who are skilled in their jobs and dedicated to our profession. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their commitment this year and their desire to rise to the new challenges that we face. Mr Bob Guest retired as Chief Executive Officer in November last year. As a tribute to his huge commitment and achievements, the College was pleased to award him an Honorary Fellowship and looks forward to his continuing association with us.

Many Fellows of this College put in long hours writing submissions, attending Committee meetings, arguing our case with Government for better and accessible health care and, of course, giving up their time to teach the next generation of ophthalmologists. Without this commitment we would not have a College, nor would we be considered a profession. It is a fantastic effort by all concerned and, on behalf the Board, I thank everyone who has been involved.

Richard Stawell
President
MANAGEMENT REPORT
This year RANZCO has taken on a charter of significant change to meet the future training and advocacy needs of our ophthalmology Fellows, Trainees and community. This has included reviews of the internal structure, the external environment and those whom we currently and or in future need to interact with to ensure the delivery of accessible world class eye care.

The IT infrastructure and interface capacity has also been reviewed, as has the five year training program, by the QEC to ensure education currency within demographic, systemic and individual parameters.

**Achievements and activities**

Significant achievements of note to indicate the scope of our workload are:

- Review and input of the Medicare Quality Framework
  - Reviewing the Medicare item numbers and descriptors pertaining to ophthalmology including the recommendation of services and procedures not covered by the Medical Benefits Scheme, to be included in the Australian Medical Association’s Medical Services List
- Input into the PBS prescribing rights for ophthalmic nurses and optometrists
- Feedback to the ACCC regarding Vision Group’s application for exemption to price fixing, undertaken with the ASO
- Whole of organisation external IT review which includes applications and infrastructure
- Input into various government policies and recommendations relating to access and delivery of eye related care
- The start of the Australian and New Zealand workforce review process
- Inspecting and re-accrediting 23 training posts and accrediting two new training posts in private practice under the Commonwealth Government’s Expanded Specialist Training Program
- Strategic planning and development of new ideas for the Journal (Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology) with Wiley-Blackwell for the continued publishing of the Journal
- Judging and awarding seven post graduate travelling scholarships for advanced studies, utilising funds provided by the ophthalmic industry
- The Human Research Ethics Committee evaluating eight applications seeking ethics approval for ophthalmic research
- Supporting the organisation and promotion of the 2011 Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress, to be hosted by RANZCO
- Judging entries for the RANZCO 2009 Media Awards and presenting three major prizes in the print and electronic categories
- Continuing involvement in a consortium of major international development agencies [Fred Hollows Foundation, Christian Blind Mission, Centre for Eye Research Australia, International Centre for Eye Care Education and Foresight] and AusAID to plan and implement the Commonwealth Government’s “Australian Blindness Initiative” that has allocated $42 million to prevent blindness in the South West Pacific and in South East Asia
- Working with the Government of Timor Leste, the Hobart Eye Surgeons and the RANZCO Eye Foundation to develop an ongoing Fellowship providing an opportunity for the successful candidate to train in areas such as small incision cataract surgery and to experience in-country work in East Timor, including service delivery and capacity building. The aim of the Scholarship is to establish long term relationships between ophthalmic professionals in both countries
- Continued working relationship with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons with further development of eye services in the Pacific Islands Project
- Working with the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) to develop policy and practice pertaining to International Ophthalmology, including working with the RANZCO Eye Foundation to develop an Overseas Development CPD program
The Board is made up of committed members and external information is willing to make tough decisions seriously. Their robust discussions and willingness to make tough decisions on behalf of the Fellows as a whole. Achieving the appropriate balance between ophthalmology practices, community needs and the medical and health system will always be a challenge. The College’s Fellows are supported by a well educated and committed staff. A considerable restructure has taken place to meet future needs of the College and allow for the development and adoption of innovative activities. This has resulted in the development of a General Manager, Education and Development which includes development of new opportunities and the role of General Manager, Operations covering HR, IT, Finance and Communication. Ms Penny Gormly and Ms Catherine Gray, respectively, have taken key roles within the organisation ensuring that any changes we have made, or will make, are well supported. We have created new roles in policy, administration and education.

The financial operations of the College resulted in a net deficit of $211,373. Whilst there were some savings in finance, legal and audit costs, the increased expenditure in staffing costs associated with redundancy and leave provisioning, travel and accommodation associated with increased branch, governance and external relation activities of the CEO, as well as costs associated with the College’s IT review, contributed to this deficit.

Returns on investments were significantly down due to the impact of the global financial crisis but over the closing periods of the financial year there were some improvements. The Audit Committee continued with its ongoing review of the financial activities of the College and have provided significant input into the risk management and IT project funding strategies.

Susi Tegen CEO
Membership

The following table sets out changes in the number of College members over the last four years.

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<th>Category</th>
<th>30/06/07</th>
<th>30/06/08</th>
<th>30/06/09</th>
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<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>136</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1022</strong></td>
<td><strong>1033</strong></td>
<td><strong>1056</strong></td>
<td><strong>1055</strong></td>
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<td>Honorary Fellows:</td>
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<td>International</td>
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<td>Ordinary</td>
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<td>Trainee</td>
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<td>Orthoptic</td>
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<td>Practice Managers</td>
<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td><strong>134</strong></td>
<td><strong>134</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Membership</strong></td>
<td><strong>1442</strong></td>
<td><strong>1502</strong></td>
<td><strong>1542</strong></td>
<td><strong>1560</strong></td>
<td><strong>1573</strong></td>
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New Fellows

During the year the following doctors were admitted as Fellows of the College:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Nadeem Ahmad</td>
<td>NZ OTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alicia Wai Pheng Au</td>
<td>VIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Matthew Ball</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Kathryn Billing</td>
<td>SA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alexander Buller</td>
<td>NZ OTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Derek Chan</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ee-Munn Chia</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brian Chua</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Augustino Clark</td>
<td>NZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Colin Clement</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ewan Fraser</td>
<td>NZ OTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Brent Gaskin</td>
<td>NZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Timothy Gray</td>
<td>SA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Claire Hooper</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Bradley Johnson</td>
<td>WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Michael Jones</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Syed Gibran Khurshid</td>
<td>USA OTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Peter Kim</td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr John Landers</td>
<td>SA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Charmaine Lim</td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Liam Lim</td>
<td>VIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Klaus Loibl</td>
<td>QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Tahina Malik</td>
<td>NZ OTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Catherine McMurray</td>
<td>NZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Rohan Merani</td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Gregory Moloney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Weng Toon Ng</td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Simon Nicholas</td>
<td>NZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Elvis Ojaimi</td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Bheemanagouda Patil</td>
<td>NZ OTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Hakki Semirla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Katherine Smallcombe</td>
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<td>Dr Andrew Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Russell Townsend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Angus Turner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Nathan Walker</td>
<td>QLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Michael Wertheim</td>
<td>WA OTS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In Memoriam

During the year the College received, with sadness, advice that the following members had passed away:

Dr Neville Banks  Fellow of Randwick, New South Wales
Dr Walter Gaston  Retired Fellow of Mount Osmond, South Australia
Dr Kenneth Gullifer  Fellow of Mount Waverley, Victoria
Dr Robert (Meikle) Halley  Retired Fellow of Wagga Wagga, New South Wales
Dr Geoffrey Hipwell  Retired Fellow of St Leonards, New South Wales
Prof Barrie Jones  Honorary Fellow of Tauranga, New Zealand
Dr Heather Mackintosh  Fellow of New Plymouth, New Zealand
Emeritus Prof John Parr  Honorary Fellow of Dunedin, New Zealand
Dr Dorothy Potter CBE  Retired Fellow of Masterton, New Zealand
Dr Samuel Troski  Retired Fellow of East St Kilda, Victoria
Honours and Awards

During the year, a number of College members gained recognition for their work on behalf of the College, for medicine, ophthalmology and for their work in communities in Australia and overseas.

Two members of the College were recipients of the College Medal. Prof Frank Martin AM, of Sydney and A/Prof Justin O’Day AM, of Melbourne each received the Medal in recognition of their distinguished, meritorious and selfless service to the College, the community and to medicine.

The College Distinguished Service Award was presented to Prof Tony Molteno ONZM of Dunedin New Zealand for his significant contribution to ophthalmology in New Zealand, particularly for work in glaucoma and for his education and training of registrars in Australia and New Zealand.

The Meritorious Service Award was presented to Dr Jim Martin, of East Hawthorn Victoria for his significant contribution to ophthalmology - particularly for his work as curator of the College Museum.

Honorary Fellowship of the College was awarded to Mr Robert Guest for his outstanding contribution to the College as Chief Executive Officer. Mr Guest retired as CEO at the end of 2009.

Dr Nitin Verma of Hobart Tasmania was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) “for service to ophthalmology through executive roles with professional organisations as a clinician and researcher, and to humanitarian health-care projects in the Pacific region”.

(Dr Verma was also the recipient of the Order of Timor-Leste in recognition of exceptional service and contribution “to the country of Timor-Leste, the Timorese and mankind”.)

Three College Fellows were awarded the medal of the Order of Australia (OAM):

- **Dr Lawrence (Laurie) Carroll**, of Malvern Victoria “for service to medicine in the field of ophthalmology, particularly through the provision of surgery and training in developing countries”.

- **Dr Geoff Cohn**, of Sydney “for service to ophthalmology and to overseas aid programs fostering improved eye-health services”.

- **Dr Ian Francis**, of Castlecrag New South Wales “for service to medicine as an ophthalmologist”.

In June 2010, retired Fellow, Dr Hylton LeGrice OBE of Auckland New Zealand was appointed as a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to ophthalmology, music and the community.

Dr David Sabiston of Napier New Zealand was appointed as a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to ophthalmology and the community.
EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Key outcomes in Education and Training in 2009/2010:

- conducted 15 hospital inspections accrediting 23 posts
- implemented a range of improvements to selection processes, which have been positively evaluated by registrants, selection panel members and referees.
- developed and implemented improved assessment process in both the Ophthalmic Pathology and RACE clinical examinations improving the rigor of examination processes
- gained a competitive grant of over fifty thousand dollars from the Australian Federal Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of its Specialist Training project funds to support the College’s development of online resources for trainees and supervisor training
- designed a Basic Ophthalmic Surgery (BOS) curriculum, one-day workshop as well as online learning and print-based material to support first year trainees to develop their surgical skills
- conducted developmental workshops in all Ophthalmic Sciences subject areas to create online resources for trainees for implementation in semester 1, 2011.
- continued to improve CPD services and support for members through the development of an IT platform

Management of Education and Training

The Federal Qualification and Education Committee (QEC) met in November 2009 and in June 2010, and during the year took decisions out-of-session as required. At the end of 2009, Drs Stephen Ohrirch and Brendan Vote completed their term as QEC Chairs of Queensland and Tasmania, respectively and were re-nominated and re-elected by the College Board. A/Prof Graham Lee (QLD) was nominated to fill a vacancy on QEC. In 2009, the Board co-opted Prof Paul Mitchell as a Representative of the Ophthalmology Chairs.

The College acknowledges with thanks the contribution of members of QEC to education and training. It also thanks Mr Dennis Sligar for his guidance throughout his time as Director of Education and Training and wishes him well in his future endeavours.

External Education Relationships

The College provided a comprehensive report to the Australian Medical Council (AMC) on all education activities, including details of progress in fulfilling accreditation requirements. These reports are an annual AMC requirement for the College to maintain its accreditation status.

The College also provided annual reports and responded to a range of requests or advice from various agencies. These included government departments, medical colleges, the Medical Training Review Panel, the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC), and university medical schools. College education managers continued to participate in the Network of Medical Educators.

In the reporting year, the College gained a competitive grant of over fifty thousand dollars from the Australian Federal Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of its Specialist Training project funds to support the College’s development of online resources for trainees and supervisor training, in particular to support training in settings outside the public teaching hospitals.

Trainee Numbers

At June 2010, there were 142 trainees enrolled in the vocational training program:
- 35 trainees were in first year posts
- 30 trainees were in second year
- 27 trainees were in third year
- 21 trainees were in fourth year
- 29 trainees were in their final year.

In addition, two trainees had not proceeded to the final year because of examination failures or interrupted training.

In the reporting year, six trainees interrupted their training for maternity leave or other purpose leave.

Training networks and posts

Early in July 2009 the three training posts in the Northern Territory were re-accredited. One post for a Basic trainee and one post for an Advanced trainee from the Sydney Eye Hospital network were accredited in Darwin with the inspectorate recommending some specific improvements to be made with regards to theatre sessions and also to space. The training post in Alice Springs as part of the South Australia Network was re-accredited.

Following inspections of the Queensland Training Network posts the College re-accredited the 12 existing posts in the Brisbane metropolitan area at Greenslopes Private Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Royal Brisbane Hospital and Royal Children’s Hospital. The Queensland Training Networks three non-metropolitan posts were also inspected with one post re-accredited at Lismore Base Hospital and one post each given provisional accreditation at The Gold Coast Hospital and Townsville Hospital. Subsequent to the inspection both institutions have notified the College that they have addressed, or are in the process of addressing, the deficiencies outlined in the inspection reports. During the inspections in Queensland the inspectors discussed, and had agreement, from all jurisdictions that trainees be provided a half day per week to attend formal teaching sessions. These sessions have been very successful and well attended by most trainees.
Inspections in non-metropolitan Victoria led to the re-accreditation of one post each at the Wodonga & District Regional Health Service, Ballarat Health Services Base Hospital and the Geelong Hospital. Subsequent to an inspection in late May 2009 re-accreditation was given to a post incorporating Royal Hobart Hospital and Hobart Eye Surgeons. A post at Launceston Eye Surgeons was also re-accredited.

The progress being made in addressing the deficiencies in the training post at Royal Newcastle Centre has resulted in a further 12 months conditional accreditation.

There was no new application round for funding for 2010 through the Federal Governments Specialist Training Program however the training posts at St Vincent’s Hospital in NSW, the Eye Hospital in Launceston, The Vision Eye Institute, and Alice Springs Hospital were approved for continued funding.

The College very much appreciates the time and effort that goes into the accreditation of training posts by Chief Inspector, Dr Peter O’Connor and Senior Inspectors Dr Brian Sloan, Professor Glen Gole and A/Prof Mark Elder; and Inspectors Dr Alex Hunyor Snr and Dr Alan Hilton.

Selection of trainees and the matching program

The 2010 trainee cohort

In 2009, 94 doctors registered to take part in the matching process; 42 had applied in previous years, 52 were first time applicants and eight withdrew prior to matching.

Twenty six applicants were matched and appointed to College-accredited training posts across Australia and New Zealand: two in South Australia; three in Western Australia; three in Queensland; seven in Victoria; five in New Zealand; five at Sydney Eye Hospital; and one at Prince of Wales Hospital. Twenty three applicants were matched to their first preference and three to their second preference. Of the trainees, 8 were first time applicants, 12 had applied twice, five had applied three times, and one for the fifth time.

The matching process was conducted by the National Ophthalmic Matching Program Coordinator, Dr Ralph Higgins.

To fill vacancies that became available during 2010, four new trainees were appointed through College-approved processes: two at Sydney Eye Hospital and two at Prince of Wales Hospital (NSW). All appointments took effect in April 2010.

In 2009 significant changes were made to the selection of trainees into the training program. These changes included the introduction of three new sources of information about the applicants. First, the referee process was improved with the introduction of a structured referee report aligned with the CANMED roles (medical expert, collaborator, manager, health advocate, scholar and professional). Second, applicants were required to complete an authentic task at interview which directly related to the work of an ophthalmologist and in this way assessed more accurately whether applicants had the required skills to equip them for ophthalmology training. Third, applicants were required to provide detailed applications submitted to the College about their experiences in each of the CANMED roles. Each of these changes was systematically evaluated, drawing on feedback from selection panel members, referees and registrants. The changes to selection were well received by each of these stakeholder groups. Some improvements were suggested by each group and this data has been used to inform the selection process in 2010 for the 2011 trainee cohort.

Selection in 2010 for 2011

The College continued with the practice of providing increased information to selection committees and refining these sources following evaluations. To further support selection committees the College developed a Selection handbook. This was sent to all selection committee members to clarify the process and to ensure consistency of process.
Supervised clinical and surgical training

The quality of the educational engagement between an individual trainee and the supervisor or clinical tutor in work-based settings across Australia and New Zealand is critical to the effectiveness and efficiency of the trainee’s learning. The College relies heavily on its supervisors and clinical tutors to maintain high standards of work-based training and assessment. Hospitals make increasing demands on these Fellows to meet service targets, and this directly limits their time with the trainees.

To support trainers this year, the College coordinated symposiums at the Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane and responded to individual trainer’s requests. The College again gave, Awards for Excellence in Training, which were made at the Annual Scientific Congress, to the following supervisors: Drs Richard Gardner (WA), Stephen Ohlrich (QLD), Tony Kwan (QLD), Anne Brookes (VIC), Brendan Vote (VIC), John Downie (POW), Joanne Sims (NZ), Rob Weatherhead (NZ), Prof Peter McCluskey (NSW), and A/Prof John Crompton (SA).

Across the networks this commendation has been awarded to 32 Fellows for their excellence in planning, communication, assessment and evidence based professional practice. In each network there is a group of trainers who can be used as a resource for their fellows.

College advice and support is provided by two senior education managers who track the progress of each trainee across all networks. They provide practical advice and guidance to any trainee, supervisor, or director of training on training-related issues. They attend regional QEC meetings to provide advice and support and coordinate follow-up action where required. They support network orientation sessions for new trainees and coordinate the management of exceptional events, such as trainee development plans.

Assessment and examinations

Work-based assessment

Depending on the training network, trainee terms are of three, four or six months’ duration. There are three key assessment meetings: at the outset, the supervisor and trainee agree on the intentions for the term; there is an informal feedback meeting halfway through; and toward the end of term the supervisor coordinates reports from clinical tutors, and discusses the final assessment with the trainee. Most trainees progress in minimum time. For those few who might require additional assistance, the College initiates a development plan. Supervisors are encouraged to identify such trainees as early as possible so that suitable support can be provided.

Ophthalmic Sciences (OS)

Over ninety percent of the OS exams sat by trainees from the 2009 cohort were passed at the first attempt. Again this year, Physiology was the exam which offered the greatest challenge to trainees. The on-line assessments in Genetics and Microbiology are being completed successfully with more passes. Evidence-based Ophthalmic Practice has been incorporated into work based assessment and the research requirement for Fellowship, and is no longer assessed separately as an examination.

Advanced Examinations

During the year, the College conducted two examinations for both the Ophthalmic Pathology (OP) Examinations and the RANZCO Advanced Clinical Examinations (RACE). In 2009, both the OP and the RACE Board of Examiners introduced changes to the structure of each of these examinations. The revised formats were implemented in the Semester 1 2010 examinations.

In the Ophthalmic Pathology Examination, the microscope viva was replaced by a 30-minute digital pathological examination. In the RANZCO Clinical Examination (RACE), the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) now comprises 18 test stations examining nine clinical areas. The OSCE continues to be conducted over two consecutive days.
During the reporting period, 27 College trainees presented for the Pathology Examinations. All passed.

In Semester 2 2009, 15 out of 17 candidates passed the RACE. In Semester 1 2010, 21 trainees presented for the written and 23 for the clinical. Over fifty percent of candidates passed both the written and clinical examination, six candidates had to repeat one or two clinical areas and five had to repeat the entire clinical examination. During the year, six overseas trained doctors assessed by the College sat the RACE as part of their assessment.

**Graduation, scholarships and medals**

**Graduation**

Thirty two College trainees were admitted as Fellows in 2009-2010. In addition, 7 overseas trained ophthalmologists were admitted to Fellowship.

**Scholarships**

Allergan provided two travelling scholarships for $10,000 each. Dr Stuart Carroll (NZ) is using his scholarship to study Paediatric Ophthalmology and Glaucoma at Great Ormonde Street Hospital for Children in London. Dr Adrian Fung (NSW) is using his for a Vitreo-retinal fellowship at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

Pfizer Australia provided two travelling scholarships for $10,000 each. Dr Amy Cohn (VIC) will use her scholarship for a Medical Retina fellowship at Moorfields, London. Dr Alessandra Martins (NSW) will undertake a Clinical Glaucoma fellowship at Moorfields, London.

Alcon provided a scholarship of $10,000 to enable a trainee associate member to spend the final year in an overseas institution. Dr Peter van Wijngaarden (VIC) will use his scholarship to study embryonic stem cell technology for ARMD at University College in London.

Advanced Medical Optics provided a $10,000 scholarship for postgraduate studies. In 2009 Dr Judy Ku (NZ) will use her scholarship for a Glaucoma Clinical fellowship at Singapore National Eye Centre.

Designs for Vision provided a $10,000 scholarship for 2009. Dr Tze Yo Toh (NZ) will be using this for a glaucoma fellowship at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital with Professor Jonathan Crowston.

The College thanks the ophthalmic industry for its generous support in providing these scholarships.

**Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

In 2009, following a review of the College’s Continuing Professional Development [CPD] program the College, under the leadership of Dr Heather Mack, introduced a number of changes including annual reporting of CPD participation and a gradual increase of the annual point requirement. In October 2009, the College also introduced a new online reporting system.

At the end of the 2009 CPD period, over eighty percent of College Fellows who reported their CPD participation met and exceeded the College’s total point requirement and completed an audit activity.

The College’s Continuing Professional Development Committee continues to support the professional development of College Fellows through advice to Fellows, accreditation of external educational providers and educational activities, and organising CPD events at the Annual Scientific Congress.

At the end of 2009, Dr Brendon Vote and Dr Ralph Higgins retired from their roles as CPD State representatives. Dr Guy Blysma succeeded Dr Brendan Vote as the State representative for Tasmania. Dr Alok Sharma joined Dr Sam Lerts as the State representatives for New South Wales.

The College thanks the Continuing Professional Development [CPD] Committee, and acknowledges the service and contributions of both Dr Brendon Vote and Dr Ralph Higgins.
Evaluation and Development

Evaluation involves systematically collecting and analysing information about the various elements of the Vocational Training Program (VTP) for the purpose of making improvements to the effectiveness of the training program.

In 2009-2010 the College continued to collect data on all College examinations including the Ophthalmic Sciences, Ophthalmic Pathology and RACE. The data from the Ophthalmic Sciences and Ophthalmic Pathology has pointed in particular to the need for the College to support the networks to provide increased training opportunities for trainees in these subjects. The College is currently working with examiner groups to develop study support material which will be available to trainees in 2011. The RACE evaluation surveys showed that the changes that had been made to RACE in 2010 were seen to be improvements by both examiners and trainees. In particular, the trainees and examiners have valued the discontinuation of the long case and introduction of more extensive OSCE stations which has afforded the opportunity for trainees to interact with examiners more fully to demonstrate both what they know and can do in all areas of the clinical curriculum in the clinical examinations.

In 2010 the College conducted two extensive new surveys. The Training Network survey and the Preparedness for Independent Practice. The Training network survey was conducted with all trainees years in 2-4 in the VTP. Key findings were that trainees value the teaching that they gain in networks but that access time to supervisors to learn new skills is relatively limited. This points to the continuing issue of the difficulty of balancing work and service commitments within hospital networks. The College plans to work more closely with jurisdictions in the coming years to address this issue. The survey for Preparedness for Independent Practice was distributed to all Younger Fellows who had graduated 2004-2009. The aim of this survey was to gather data on how prepared Younger Fellows considered themselves to be for independent practice at the conclusion of the VTP. Results show that respondents were generally satisfied with their training.

In the reporting year, the College embarked on two key development areas: a strategy to support trainees to develop Basic Ophthalmic Surgical (BOS) skills in first year and a commitment to developing online resources for ophthalmic sciences subjects to be available for trainees from semester 1, 2011. The BOS strategy involved the establishment of a working party with representation from each training network. They were instrumental in developing a BOS curriculum, a one-day workshop conducted in training networks throughout Australia and New Zealand and support through an online learning system and print-based material. In 2010 the College has worked closely with examiners in the ophthalmic sciences subjects to develop online study skills resources for the ophthalmic sciences subjects including a discussionboard and podcasts to support trainees in their study.

In addition, the College has begun a rigorous process to explore that validity of establishing a Foundation Year in the training program this would have the advantage of more fully acknowledging that trainees need increased support in terms of teaching and infrastructure in the first year of training to provide a solid basis to develop independent skills in subsequent years of the training program. The idea of developing a Foundation Year has been extensively discussed at QEC, the Board and Council.

Dr Mark Renehan
Censor-in-Chief
The Journal

Within the burgeoning field of academic publishing, Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology (the Journal) continues to publish top quality research with both a local and international flavour. Whilst fully embracing the exciting developments in the management of journal content, publication and delivery, the Journal remains one of the leading general ophthalmological journals, attracting an increasing, and increasingly diverse, authorship and readership. The Editorial Board is pleased to report on another exciting year of journal development 2009-2010.

Manuscript submissions, reviews and publications

The Journal received an average of 60 new papers every month from 47 different countries. Manuscripts from Australia and New Zealand accounted for 20 per cent of submissions. The Journal published a variety of article types, but continued to focus on original articles, which comprise 50 per cent of both manuscript submissions and publications. Despite the significant climb in submissions, the efficient review process continued to return first decisions for 75 per cent of papers in under 10 weeks, with many authors receiving a decision within one or two weeks from submission. The current acceptance rate is a very competitive 22 per cent although, with the overall increase in submissions the time from acceptance to print publication has steadily risen to eight months.

Special issue

March 2010 saw publication of the second “Special Issue”, consisting of 10 reviews of corneal surgical techniques. These invited review articles top the 2010 download tables, and should generate high numbers of citations over the coming years. During the past 12 months, the January 2009 Special Issue articles attracted 22 citations.

Readership and circulation

The increasing preference for online access is shown in the numbers of online articles downloads for 2009 (75,000 full text accesses and 270,000 abstract views). The USA, Europe and Australasia constitute the majority of the readership, downloading 27 per cent, 25 per cent and 11 per cent respectively. Despite the increasing popularity of Google as an academic search engine, PubMed remains the preferred database for readership, with traffic from PubMed accounting for 49 per cent of total online usage. Whilst only 100 institutions have individual subscriptions to CEO, Wiley-Blackwell sell, or provide free or low-cost access to, bundles of journals including the Journal, to 9,500 institutions around the world.

Editorship

After more than eight years at the helm, Prof Charles McGhee will stand down as Editor-in-Chief in September 2010. Since April 2010 Prof McGhee has been working closely with the newly appointed co-Editors, Prof Bob Casson and Dr Salmaan Al-Qureshi to ensure a seamless handover. The new Editors will officially assume responsibility for the Journal on 1 September 2010 and Prof McGhee will remain on the Board in an advisory capacity as an Associate Editor. Dr Susan Carden, who has been the "Paediatrics & Strabismus" Section Editor for a number of years, has been appointed as one of the four Associate Editors of the journal, particularly focusing on the younger journal authors.
Editorial Board

There have been a number of changes to the Editorial Board in the past 12 months. Dr Brian Sloan (Orbital & Plastics), Dr Sue Ormonde (Anterior Segment), Prof Ian Grierson (Visual Sciences), Professor Helen Danesh-Meyer (Neuro-Ophthalmology) and Mr Chetan Patel (Posterior Segment) have retired, or will retire, from their Section Editor duties in 2010, while Dr Graham Wilson has stood down from his position as History Section Editor. The following new Section Editors have joined the team: Prof Calvin Pang (Visual Sciences), A/Prof Timothy Lai (Posterior Segment), Dr Jurij Bilyk (Orbital & Plastics), Dr Stephen Ng (Orbital & Plastics), A/Prof Bruce Hadden (History) and Dr Raid Alany (Ophthalmic Pharmacotherapy).

Strategy meeting

In May 2010 the second CEO “Strategy Meeting” was held in Melbourne at the Wiley-Blackwell offices. The meeting provided an opportunity for the incoming co-Editors and the new RANZCO CEO (Ms Susi Tegen) to meet with the publishers, existing Editor, Managing Editor and key Editorial Board members.

Journal Impact Factor

The impact factor continued to rise, with the 2009 ISI Journal Impact Factor (JIF) at 1.76. This is a significant increase from the 2008 figure of 1.35 and has resulted in an associated rise up the ophthalmology journal rankings, with the Journal now placed 23rd of the 49 ophthalmology and vision science journals listed by ISI (up from 27th place in 2008). The new figure is a reflection of the increasingly high quality of article published in the Journal.
Indigenous and Rural Health Committee

The Committee has given considerable time to the need of rural health coordinators. Issues with the recruitment, funding, retention and administration of the positions were identified. A submission to the consultative review for the Department of Health and Aging placed emphasis on ensuring that there was equity throughout all regional areas.

Members of the Committee attended the Vision 2020A-sponsored Regional Eye Health Coordinators Workshop in May at which the report was discussed and a draft proposal was produced. The Committee ensured that RANZCO’S experience and input was provided for a submission to the Federal Government.

Several Committee members have independently produced valuable reports over the last two years which, taken collectively, form a body of work which will inform rural and indigenous public health policy for some years. These include a survey of rural services by Dr Angus Turner, the National Indigenous Eye Health report by Prof Hugh Taylor et al, a series of reports on eye health of indigenous Australians from central Australia by Drs John Landers and Tim Henderson and A/Prof Jamie Craig in June 2010, an MSOAP report from Dr Henderson, and a National Survey of Diabetic Retinopathy Management.

Also relevant to rural service delivery was the endorsement by the Australian Health Ministers’ Conference of a National Framework for coordinated action on eye care. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner has promoted the Close the Gap campaign which calls on Federal and State governments to close the life expectancy and health care gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a generation. The Committee continued to monitor and advocate for sensible funding avenues to achieve this aim.

Another issue which occupied some Committee time was the effect of the changes to the cataract rebate for rural and remote Australians. While a partial reversal of the proposal and an undertaking to increase rural funding negotiated, negotiated by the Australian Society of Ophthalmologists and RANZCO occurred, concern for patient access continues.

This year was the first year of a new medical student scholarship from the University of Western Australia, established in memory of Dr Indran Chelva of Bunbury by his family and colleagues. Every year a Sixth year student will be able to accompany a visiting eye team to the Kimberleys. The inaugural winner was Tashunka Taylor-Miller.
Overseas Development

More than 100 RANZCO Fellows participated in eye-related overseas development work in 17 countries in the past year. Their work included the medical and surgical management of eye disease, running eye clinics, and skills development and training of local people. Many other Fellows contributed financially or donated equipment to be used overseas.

The College’s Overseas Development Special Interest Group has been collating and updating the involvement of College members working overseas through a Google website established by Fellow Dr Laurie Sullivan. While Asia and the Pacific remain the predominant focus, work has been done for the first time in Micronesia and South America in the past year.

College members continue to support two Myanmar (Burma) programs. Four South Australian Fellows are involved in the Sight For All Foundation (formerly called the Vision Myanmar Program) of which Dr James Muecke is Chair. The Foundation trains staff and equips 40 eye centres in Myanmar. It also supported the training of Myanmar’s first children’s eye surgeon and established the first children’s eye clinic – an initiative it is now doing for Sri Lanka. The Foundation has also expanded to Laos, Vietnam and Nepal (www.sightforall.org).

The second Myanmar initiative, the Myanmar Eye Care Program, has sourced surgeons experienced in small incision cataract surgery (SICS) to update Myanmar ophthalmologists in the technique.

The Pacific Islands Program finishes at the end of 2010. This program has been delivering eye care successfully to the Pacific region for 15 years, and many College members have given their time to the program. Training sites have been developed in Fiji, creating a new generation of qualified nurses and eye doctors for the Pacific. It is hoped the training program will soon resume in the Solomon Islands also. This will help reduce the need for fly-in fly-out eye care in many countries.

The College remains a member of the Vision 2020 Australia Global Consortium which was established to oversee the $42 million Commonwealth Government’s Avoidable Blindness Initiative in the Asia Pacific Region. Through this Consortium, the Solomon Islands now has three eye centres funded by AusAID, and a training facility for Melanesia is likely to be set up in the near future.

The Pfizer travelling scholarship continued throughout 2009-2010 and has enabled Registrars to participate in eye-care projects overseas.

A Practical Skills Workshop was held at RANZCO’s Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane in November 2009. The one-day workshop provided an overview of the common things people experience when working in developing countries. More than 70 attended the workshop including overseas members of RANZCO and ophthalmic Trainees from neighbouring countries.

Equipment for use in overseas development remains a challenge. The College has a YAG laser and an Argon laser which are loaned to those working in developing countries. This year the YAG laser required a substantial service costing $10,000 and, unfortunately, the Argon Laser (or ‘green’ laser) was considered unserviceable. This means that smaller countries which rely on Fellows bringing the green laser with them each visit, will no longer have a laser for management of diabetic eye disease unless one is donated or funded by the College.
Overseas Trained Specialist (OTS) Assessment Committee

In the reporting year the College processed 14 new applications. One of the new applications was a combined Area of Need (AON) and Overseas Trained Specialist (OTS) full specialist recognition application.

Of the 14 applications: two applicants were determined to be 'substantially comparable'; twelve applicants were deemed to be 'partially comparable' and are undergoing further assessment to determine their substantial comparability.

From previous years, the College carried over 19 applications for assessment. Of these, four applicants were determined to be 'substantially comparable', and the remaining 15 were deemed to be 'partially comparable' and are completing further assessment.

The College assesses the qualifications, training and experience of OTS applicants as a service to the community, and follows protocols issued by the Australian Medical Council (AMC). Information for applicants, including the assessment pathway, is provided on the College website. Assessments are conducted by the OTS Committee comprising eight Fellows, including three who have themselves successfully undergone OTS assessment. Through streamlining of internal processes, the Committee is arriving at more specific assessments while reducing processing times.

For OTS applicants in New Zealand, the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ) requires a recommendation from a College assessment committee, which comprises members of the New Zealand Qualification and Education Committee. To ensure compatible processes within the College, there is some common membership across the two assessment committees.

The accompanying tables include information which is required to be published by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

TOTAL applications
July 2009–June 2010:
Breakdown of applicant by country of qualification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Specialist Application</th>
<th>Number of applications</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Specialist recognition applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concurrent Area of Need/Full Specialist applications</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<table>
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<th>Country of qualification / origin</th>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td>USA</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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### Standard OTS applications July 2009-June 2010:

#### Country of qualification and College determination

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<tr>
<td>College determination “not comparable”</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College determination “partially comparable” (needs assessment to determine comparability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of applications still being processed at June 2010</td>
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### AON (Area of Need) applications July 2009-June 2010:

#### Country of qualification and College determination

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<tr>
<td>College approval of the applicant for the AON position (the applicant’s experience matches the job description)</td>
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<tr>
<td>College determination “substantially comparable”</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College determination “not comparable”</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College determination “partially comparable” (needs assessment to determine comparability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of applications still being processed at June 2010</td>
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### Standard OTS applications July 2009-June 2010:

#### Country of qualification and time taken by the College to make determination

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<td>Number of applications</td>
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<td>Number of applications determined in less than three months</td>
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The Australian and New Zealand Society of Retinal Specialists (ANZSRS) held two highly successful conferences during the past year. The satellite retinal meeting immediately prior to the Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane attracted more than 200 delegates. The format was similar to previous years but, for the first time, included a “late breaking news” section, allowing local investigators to present up-to-date reports from a number of large international trials. The Neil Della Lecture was delivered by Prof Mark Gillies.

The mid-year Medical Retina Symposium, held over two days in May, was the largest and most successful to date, with over 300 attendees, mostly from Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. Sponsored through an educational grant from Novartis Ophthalmics, it included presentations by local experts, as well as important contributions by guest speakers from Canada and Singapore.

The Medicare Advisory Committee activity during the year. In the last Federal Budget, $9million was set aside to develop a framework by which the Medicare Schedule Review could be undertaken.

The College has taken a proactive approach to review current ophthalmology Medicare descriptors to ensure they reflect modern-day ophthalmology practice and patient safety. New item numbers have been submitted and non-relevant item numbers removed. The College’s responsibility to its members and the community is to ensure that the descriptors reflect best practice and patient needs. The College is not a gatekeeper.

We have been particularly cognizant of the fact that there are certain areas of our profession where the consultation fees are very much undervalued and it is having a perverse effect encouraging young registrars to take up these specialties. This particularly includes paediatrics and neuroophthalmology.

Patient Medicare rebates for paediatric ophthalmology consults are an area of great concern for the Committee and RANZCO. Many of the related item numbers are in dire need of a funding review. This not only impacts the patient, but also has a further detrimental affect on encouraging ophthalmologists into this important subspecialty area to meet the needs of children requiring eye care.

RANZCO members across the Tasman are to be commended on their efforts in establishing Macular Degeneration New Zealand (MDNZ), an organization that will fulfill a similar role to the Macular Degeneration Foundation in Australia. Dr Dianne Sharp from Auckland has been appointed as the inaugural chairperson. In April, MDNZ launched the Vision Van Tour, a series of vision education seminars throughout New Zealand. Each seminar was conducted by a local ophthalmologist, optometrist and staff member from the Royal NZ Foundation of the Blind, with the aim of increasing awareness of AMD and enhancing the quality of life for people suffering from this disease.

RANZCO’s review of the Medicare Benefits Schedule pertaining to ophthalmology has included a submission by ANZSRS of suggested vitreoretinal item number revisions. A small measure of success in relation to item number 42740 has been achieved with the removal of limitations on its use. As a result, patients will be able to claim a Medicare rebate on the entire range of intravitreal drugs used by ophthalmologists in their treatment, even if they are “off-label”.

Launch of Macular Degeneration New Zealand Vision Van

Dr William Campbell

Dr Bill Glasson
Military Ophthalmology Special Interest Group

During 2009-2010, members of the Group provided Defence Force recruiters with advice on ophthalmic problems, and to Commanding Officers on the changing employment status of those in the Military who develop eye problems.

A major review on the status of current refractive surgery in the Military and future needs has been started.

Another matter which attracted some attention was the stereo vision requirements for various trades in the Military.

The Group continued to discuss increasing recruitment and retention of ophthalmologists in the Australian Defence Forces Reserve. It was considered very important to ensure that young ophthalmologists in the Reserves be encouraged to attend joint national and, possible, international training exercises to gain exposure and insight into the place of health services in the field.

Australia and New Zealand Glaucoma Interest Group

The annual scientific meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Glaucoma Interest Group (ANZGIG) was held in Wellington, New Zealand in February 2010, with 83 full delegates and 85 other registrants.

The overseas invited speaker was A/Prof Felipe Medeiros from San Diego, California, who delivered the Lowe Lecture with the topic “Fast and Furious: The Importance of Rates of Change in Glaucoma”. The other named lecture of the Meeting is the Gillies Lecture. This year’s Gillies Lecturer was Prof Tony Molteno from Dunedin NZ, who spoke eloquently on “The Tissue Biology of Drainage Operations”.

During the College’s Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane ANZGIG conducted a and some Symposia which were well attended.

A new clinical audit programme is ReVision, an audit of patients who did not attend for return appointments and the effects of non-attendance on long-term management. Another new audit has commenced, bringing together “FORGE meets FIELD meets FOE”, with enhanced assessment of optic disc structure and visual field function, in the context of alternative diagnoses.

Australia and New Zealand Cornea Society

The Australian and New Zealand Cornea Society held a successful scientific meeting in March 2010/ Over two days the meeting investigated many aspects of cornea and anterior segment disease. The main focus was on the new surgical techniques for corneal transplantation and multiple sessions examined technical and scientific aspects of this major advance in corneal surgery.

The Society was involved in the College-initiated MBS item number review. It examined in detail all of the appropriate corneal numbers and made numerous recommendations with regard to deletion of unused items, addition of new items and changes in remuneration.

In a joint submission with The Eye Banks Association of Australia and New Zealand, the Society made a detailed response to the Therapeutic Goods Administration Consultation on proposed standards and Code of Good Manufacturing Practice for human blood components, human tissues and human cellular therapies. In this submission it argued strongly that eye donation, eye banking and corneal transplantation should be regarded in a separate category from blood and other products given its unique properties and the specific risks to the patient.

Col John Crompton
A/Prof Ivan Goldberg
A/Prof Mark Daniell

Australia and New Zealand Strabismus Society Annual Scientific Meeting

Col John Crompton
A/Prof Ivan Goldberg
A/Prof Mark Daniell
Australian and New Zealand Strabismus Society

The Australian and New Zealand Strabismus Society held its annual scientific meeting in March 2010 at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead New South Wales. The visiting speaker was Prof Michael Repka from Baltimore USA.

During the meeting, which was well attended, a teaching session was held for trainee associates of the College.

The sub-committee of the Society has reviewed the MBS items relating to strabismus and has made recommendations to the College. There are considerable concerns within the Society and the MBS Review Committee that strabismus item reimbursements to patients are grossly undervalued.

Archives Committee

Work continued on sorting the College Archives boxes. While most have now been sorted, further classification work is required.

In February 2010, Committee members were saddened by the untimely death of the Chairman and most active member, Dr Neville Banks. Dr Banks had spent much time working on a computerised classification system, so that documents could be easily searched and found. He had nearly completed this project. He left a legacy which will be very useful in the future, but his death also has left a void which will not easily be filled.

The College will be pleased to hear from any Sydney-based ophthalmologist – possibly retired – who would be interested in joining the Committee and helping to continue Dr Banks’ work.

Congresses

Annual Scientific Congress

The College’s 41st Annual Scientific Congress was held in Brisbane, Queensland from 14-18 November 2009.

It attracted almost 1300 registrants, including College Fellows, Trainees, overseas visiting doctors, practice managers, orthoptists, ophthalmic nurses and ophthalmic industry representatives.

The Congress was opened by the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO. During the Opening Ceremony 18 doctors were admitted as Fellows of the College by examination and seven were admitted as Fellows by assessment. Dr Catherine Slaughter recited the College Oath for the admission of the new Fellows.

The Scientific Program, organised by the College’s National Scientific Program Committee, covered 21 courses, four symposia, four plenary sessions, six rapid-fire sessions and two case-presentation sessions. It was the first College Annual Scientific Congress at which posters were displayed electronically (ePosters). There were 229 abstracts submitted.

The local organising committee was led by Prof Tim Sullivan and the Scientific Program Committee by Dr John Grigg. At a staff level, coordination of various activities related to the Congress were handled by Mr John Deeth and Ms Margaret Dunn.
Major industry sponsors were Alcon, Allergan Eye Care, Abbott Medical Optics, Novartis and Pfizer Ophthalmics.

The Program Committee continued to support the combined plenary sessions, such as that of RANZCO/AAO and the joint subspecialty sessions, such as glaucoma and cornea. The combined plenary of CPD, RANZCO Eye Foundation and ORIA provided a showcase for the research activities undertaken and supported by College Fellows.

The Program Committee continued to work with industry to provide innovative, educational, breakfast sessions, thus enhancing this popular component of the program.

During the year, the Committee has also worked with the local organising committee for the 2010 Annual Scientific Congress in Adelaide, under the leadership of the Congress Convenor A/Prof John Crompton, to organise that Congress’ scientific program.

Participation by the College Committees and Special Interest Groups helps provide content and ideas with their interests fitted into the courses, workshops and symposia. All Fellows are actively encouraged to nominate invited speakers and to submit proposals for symposia, particularly as combined sessions to provide insight from other perspectives with more than one discipline involved.

**APA Sydney 2011**

Planning and arrangements for the 26th Congress of the Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, which RANZCO will host in Sydney from 20-24 March 2010, increased in scale during the year. The Congress is supported by the Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology and the International Council of Ophthalmology.

The Organising Committee for the Congress includes College Fellows A/Prof Ivan Goldberg as Congress President, Prof Frank Martin as Chair of Sponsorship and Industry Exhibition and Prof Charles McGhee as Chair of the Scientific Program Committee. Mr John Deeth is the Congress Executive Director, assisted by Ms Fiona Redner.

Other Committee members are College Fellows Prof Peter McCluskey (Deputy Chair of the Scientific Program Committee) and Dr Iain Dunlop (Congress Treasurer).

The Committee continued to hold regular meetings with key representatives of ICMS Australasia, the company appointed to organise the Congress with the Committee, discussing ongoing issues and advancing the planning and organisation processes.

During the year the Congress was promoted on-site to the international ophthalmology community, including doctors and the ophthalmic industry, at the American Academy of Ophthalmology meeting in San Francisco in October 2009 and the World Ophthalmology Congress in Berlin in June 2010.

Publicity has also been via promotional material distributed to delegates at College Branch scientific meetings, at other overseas ophthalmology meetings and on associated websites.

Further ongoing publicity on the Congress has been through RANZCO News, local and international ophthalmic publications, in Academy Express and via regular electronic newsletters to an international database.

The target is for up to 4000 delegates, mirroring the success of the International Congress of Ophthalmology (WOC) which the College hosted in Sydney in 2002.

The Congress website, www.apaosydney2011, contains all information and is linked through the RANZCO website.
The Ronald Lowe Library

The Conjoint Libraries of
The Royal Victorian Eye and
Ear Hospital
and
The Royal Australian and New Zealand
College of Ophthalmologists

Major activities and achievements of the library during the year included:

New Web Catalogue Spydus

The new library catalogue was launched on 25 August, 2009.

New Electronic Resources Portal (My E-Resources)

Planned to go live in August 2010, and funded by RANZCO, this will replace the portal that uses generic login.

Collection

50 new Ophthalmology titles were added to the library collection.

There were generous donations of books, journals, CDs and DVDs from RANZCO Fellows.

Online journals for RANZCO (non-RVEEH)

RANZCO has commenced funding the four ScienceDirect journals (Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, Ophthalmology, Survey of Ophthalmology, American Journal of Ophthalmology) for this subscription year for RANZCO (non-RVEEH) Fellows and Trainees.

RANZCO has also taken over the funding of the OVID journals, Cornea and Current Opinion in Ophthalmology, previously funded by RANZCO Victoria.

Staff

The RANZCO Librarian, Caroline Ondracek, resigned in May to travel and work abroad. Caroline has made a valuable contribution to the development of the Ronald Lowe Library and will be missed by many.

Library Membership

A total of 66 RANZCO Fellows and eight Trainees registered as new library members during the year.

Electronic Resources Portal Usage

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The Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA) is the College’s research arm. The ORIA’s activities are co-ordinated and managed by a 16 member Board and the Executive Officer Ms Anne Dunn Snape.

Using the income from its investments and donor organisations, the ORIA continued to contribute to funding for research projects throughout Australia. During the year the ORIA’s Research Advisory Committee considered 36 applications for project funding from Australian researchers, a significant increase from 19 assessed in 2004. It also assessed three New Zealand applications for funding on behalf of the Save Sight Society of New Zealand. The NZ Branch is represented on the committee via its Save Sight Society.

The ORIA’s Research Advisory Committee is composed of leading research scientists and ophthalmologists from Australia and New Zealand. All applications are independently peer reviewed which forms the basis for discussion and recommendation of funding by the Committee. During the year $596,600 was distributed to fund 13 one-year projects. The College donated $40,000 and the RANZCO Eye Foundation a further $75,000. Glaucoma Australia Inc. donated $45,790 to co-support a project. The ORIA continued funding a New Investigator category in an endeavour to encourage up and coming researchers; three grants were awarded this year.

Significant projects to receive funding were:

- **ORIA/RANZCO Grant**
  Prof Keryn Williams and Prof Doug Coster for Improved screening for eye disease in premature babies

- **ORIA/Esme Anderson Grant**
  Dr Sanjeewa Wickremasinghe and Prof Robyn Guymer for Does genotype influence response to anti VEGF therapy? A prospective study

- **ORIA/R and L Lowe Grant**
  Prof Mark Gillies for A transgenenicmodel for selective ablation of Muller Cells

- **ORIA/Renensson Bequest Grant**
  A/Prof Jamie Craig and Dr Kate Laurie for Identification of a novel gene for Nanophthalmos in a large Australian pedigree

Details of all other grants awarded can be found on the ORIA website www.oria.org.au and, for New Zealand, at www.safesightsociety.org.nz.

The ORIA, as a significant funding body for eye research in Australia, conducted two audits over the previous three years in an attempt to measure outcomes from the research it has funded. In 2002 the $250,000 distributed in grants provided the basis for more than $2.5million in federal funding. In 2003, a similar amount funded by the ORIA for eight projects, resulted in $3.5million of additional funding. All of the successful researchers were still involved actively in research and this funding provided a track record and credibility that further enhanced their reputations and so allowed them to gain these larger grants.

At the ORIA symposium on genetics at the RANZCO Annual Scientific Congress in 2009, the Institute presented progress on projects funded in 2007 and 2008 to Prof David Mackey, Dr Paul Baird, Prof Keryn Williams and Dr Kathryn Burdon.

The ORIA continued its support of the Australasian Visual Sciences Meeting. It also continued support of the Ringland Anderson Chair of Ophthalmology in Victoria.

During the year, Dr. Ehud Zamir and Dr Salmaan Qureshi retired from the ORIA BOARD. New members are Dr John Males and RANZCO nominee, Dr Wilson Heriot.
THE RANZCO EYE FOUNDATION
The RANZCO Eye Foundation spent the first six months of the financial year refocusing its attention on its own business direction, working closely with the College, the Fellows, its donors and supporters.

It looked to renew and reinvigorate its core messaging and strategy - focusing on building and strengthening its relationships, listening and responding to feedback and developing a positive and proactive strategy for the future.

To complement its business and financial plans, The Foundation created a year-long communications strategy which was designed to implore all Australians, no matter their age, to get their eyes tested regularly.

During the 2009/2010 RANZCO financial year (The Eye Foundation works to a January-December financial year), The Foundation provided funding and grants in excess of $830,000 in support of its inspiring research and overseas development projects.

The Eye Foundation also entered into its first Diamond Partnership with Pfizer Ophthalmics, the first of its kind for the Foundation, RANZCO and Pfizer.

There were a number of other milestones for The Foundation from 1 July 2009 including:

- the inaugural JulEYE Ball 2009 held in Brisbane and attended by 272 guests;
- extensive media and public relations coverage of the 2009 JulEYE campaign including Westfield tabletops in 19 food halls nationally, Sydney Morning Herald advertising; EYE outdoor advertising at Sydney Airport and 44 study locations nationally; Google Adwords placement and a community service announcement aired on Nova and Vega FM.

The Foundation and the College are indebted to the commitment of the Foundation's Board members: Mr Peter Keel (Chairman), Prof Frank Martin AM (Vice-Chairman) and Dr Mark Loane. The Foundation also welcomes A/Prof Julian Rait and Ms Kim McKay AO who joined the Foundation Board in November 2009 and April 2010 respectively. We would like to thank outgoing Board Members A/Prof Justin O’Day AM and Ms Anne Fulwood for their energy and dedication to The Eye Foundation prior to their departure from our Board in November 2009.

The Foundation is honored to have continued support of the Governor-General of Australia, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC, Patron of The Foundation. The Board and staff of The Foundation also express their gratitude to Mr Kirk Pengilly, who provides outstanding support promoting The Foundation and its work. The Foundation was delighted to have the support of Ms Janice Petersen and Mrs Betty Churcher during JulEYE 2009.

In addition, we thank major industry and corporate partners, including:

- **Diamond Partner**: Pfizer Ophthalmics;
- **Platinum Partners**: Wyeth Nutrition and Novartis Australia;
- **Gold Partners**: The Eye Surgery Foundation and Alcon Australia;
- **Silver Partners**: Allergan Australia, ODMA and Vision Eye Institute;
- **Bronze Partner**: Device Technologies.

**JulEYE 2009 Partners**: Australian Rugby Union, Big W Vision, Clayton Utz, Deloitte, Dymocks, DMG Radio, Emirates, EYE, Google Australia, Moreton Hire, RACV, St George, Stone Coast Wines, The Sydney Morning Herald, Thrifty, Toga Hospitality and Westfield.

In early 2010, the Foundation announced the appointment of Ms Jacinta Spurrett as Chief Executive Officer. This followed former CEO Mrs Belinda Sullivan’s decision, whilst on maternity leave, to spend more time with her family. The Board of Directors thanks Mrs Sullivan for her contribution to the development of The Foundation over the past three years and wishes her all the best for her future career direction.
Funding for projects, research, scholarships and development

The Foundation continues to provide support and funding for eye health research, development and community awareness. The Foundation thanks its many donors and supporters, both private and corporate. These organizations and individuals allow The Foundation to provide funding to further our vision, supporting ophthalmologists and the community via research and overseas development projects.

The Fight Retinal Blindness Project

This project is establishing, for the first time anywhere in the world, a large scale, methodical national registry of the outcomes of treatment of macular diseases in order to guide patient management. Patient data of 549 patients has been entered into the database from patients in Sydney and Melbourne with new centres trialing and testing the software. In 2009 this project received a National Health and Medical Research Council grant for $815,000 over three years – a prestigious honour recognising the strength of the project.

The Australian and New Zealand Ophthalmic (Rare Diseases) Surveillance Unit

This surveillance unit facilitates national identification and the reporting of cases of rare conditions chosen for public health, clinical or scientific importance. Highlights for 2009/2010 include:

• the creation of a contact database with information received by ophthalmologists; and
• ANZOSU has received three applications for study with two approved to date.

Minum Barreng (‘Tracking of Eyes’) Indigenous Project

This project, which is now complete, has achieved its aim of obtaining definitive and quantitative information regarding the current extent and type of eye disease prevalent in the indigenous population throughout Australia. The report’s executive summary was launched by the Governor-General Ms Quentin Bryce on 28 September 2009.

Key findings from the report include:

• blindness rates in indigenous adults are 6.2 times the rates in the mainstream;
• low rates of vision in children are 2.8 times the rates in the mainstream;
• major causes of blindness in adults include cataract (32 per cent), optic atrophy (14 per cent), refractive error (14 per cent) and trachoma (nine per cent); and
• indigenous children are five times less likely to have vision loss than non-indigenous children. However, by the time they reach adulthood, they’re six times more likely to be blind and three times more likely to have low vision.

The ORIA/The RANZCO Eye Foundation Research Grants

The Foundation was pleased to provide more than $75,000 in funding to the ORIA specifically for the following projects:

• ORIA/RENENSSON BEQUEST GRANT (Dr Robyn Jamieson and Dr John Grigg). High resolution genomic techniques for novel gene identification in glaucoma;
• ORIA/RANZCO EYE FOUNDATION GRANT (Dr Luba Robman and Prof Robyn Guymer). Inflammatory markers of early AMD progression;
• ORIA YOUNG INVESTIGATOR/RANZCO EYE FOUNDATION GRANT (A/Prof Robert Casson and Prof Peter Blumbergs). The effect of hyperglycaemia on experimental glaucoma.

The RANZCO Eye Foundation/Novartis Medical Retina Scholarships

Fellowships commencing in January 2010 totaling $60,000 were awarded as follows:

• Dr Paul O’Connell for his project entitled “Quantitative assessment of advanced diabetic retinopathy and retinal vein occlusion using novel geometric patterns of the retinal vasculature”; and
On behalf of the Trustees, I am pleased to present to the College my report, as Chairman, on the activities of the Fund for the year.

The Trustees met during the year to review the audited financial statements, review investments and attend to administration matters.

There were no calls on the Fund for assistance during the year and the Fund’s reserves continue to grow in a pleasing fashion (four per cent), supported by voluntary donations from College members of $8,218.

Should you find yourself in any unforeseen circumstances, or know of any member with financial difficulties, please do not hesitate to approach the Fund, care of the College, for assistance. All enquiries are treated in strict confidence.

On behalf of my fellow Trustees, Dr Michael Steiner, Prof Stuart Graham and Dr Rod Keillor, Ms Susi Tegen, and honorary advisor, Dr Grosvenor Burfitt-Williams, I commend the Fund to you.

Brendan Nelson
Chair of Trustees
Branches, Committees, Special Interest Groups and special Boards

Branches

**New South Wales**
- Chairperson: Dr Con Moshegov
- Hon Secretary: Dr Tasha Micheli
- Hon Treasurer: Dr Andrew Chang

**Victoria**
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- Hon Secretary: Dr Malcolm Ferguson
- Hon Treasurer: Dr Julian Sack

**Queensland**
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- Hon Secretary: A/Prof Glen Gole
- Hon Treasurer: A/Prof John Dyer

**South Australia**
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**Western Australia**
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- Hon Treasurer: Dr Kate Rattray

**New Zealand**
- Chairperson: Dr Michael O’Rourke
- Vice Chairperson: Dr Derek Sherwood
- Hon Secretary: Dr Mary Jane Houliston
- Hon Treasurer: Dr Mary Jane Houliston
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Dr Mei Ling Tay-Kearney, WA
Dr Brendan Vote, Tas
Dr Wendy Marshman, Vic
Dr Mark Chehade, SA
Dr Brian Sloan, Vic
Dr Tim Roberts, NSW
Dr Trevor Gin, Vic
Dr Keith Small, NZ
Dr Stephen Ohrich, Qld
Dr Graham Lee, Qld
Ex-officio –
Dr Peter O’Connor, Qld
Dr Stephen Jones, Vic
Dr Cathy Green, Vic
Dr Stephen Cains, NSW
Dr Heather Mack, Vic
A/Prof Mark Elder, NZ
Dr Anthony Hall, Vic
Co-opted:
A/Prof Glen Gole, Qld
Prof Paul Mitchell, NSW

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President and Censor-in-Chief
Dr Mark Renehan, Vic

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Dr Richard Fleming
Dr Richard Hart
Dr Sam Lerts
Dr John McCoombes
Dr Jean-Louis De Sousa
Dr Alok Sharma
Dr Guy Bylsma

Therapeutics
Prof Peter McCluskey (Chair)
Dr Graeme Johnson
Prof Stuart Graham
Prof Minas Coroneo
Dr Guy D’Mellow (incoming chair)

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Dr Tim Forster
Dr Nick Wolfe
Dr Phillip McGeorge
Dr Ross Benger
Dr Alan Rosenberg
Dr Paul Beaumont
Dr Fred Wechsler
Dr Michael Hennessy
Dr Michael Steiner
Dr Trevor Hodson
Dr Mark Ellis
Dr Nick Karunaratne
Dr Raf Ghabrial
Dr Alex P Hunyor

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Dr Brian Sloan

Visual Standards
Dr Matthew Lazarus (Chair)
Dr Rick Wolfe
A/Prof Justin O’Day
Dr Julian Mazzetti
Dr Elaine Wong

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Dr William Glasson
Dr Nitin Verma
Dr Garry Brian
Dr Damien Louis
Dr Henry Newland
Dr Richard Rawson
Dr Mark Loane
Dr Michael Hennessy
Prof Hugh Taylor
Prof Minas Coroneo
Dr Tim Henderson

Human Research Ethics
Dr Kathy McClellan (Chair)

Program
Dr John Grigg (Chair)
Dr Noel Alpins
Dr Andrew Apel
A/Prof Robert Casson
Prof Jonathan Crowston
Dr Helen Danesh-Meyer
Dr Shuan Dai
Dr Simon Dean
Dr Craig Donaldson
Dr Samantha Fraser-Bell
Dr Thomas Hardy
Dr Sam Lerts
Dr Joanne Sims
Prof William Morgan
Prof Tim Sullivan
Dr Brendan Vote
Prof David Mackey

Medico-Legal
Dr Michael Delaney (Chair)

International Ophthalmology
Dr Gary Brian (Chair)
Dr Geoffrey Painter
Dr Richard Le Mesurier
Dr Gillian Clover
Dr Paul McCartney
Dr Peter Cooper

Human Resources
President (Chair)
Dr William Glasson
Dr Stephen Best
Dr Diana Semmonds

Audit
Dr Stephen Best (Chair)
Dr Neil Gehling
Dr Annette Gebauer

Human Research Ethics
Dr Kathy McClellan (Chair)

Industry Liaison
Dr Michael Steiner (Chair)
Prof Frank Martin
Dr Emmanuel Gregory

Archives
Dr Graeme Johnson (acting Chair)
Dr Theo Keldoulis
Dr Max Moore
Prof Minas Coroneo
Special Interest Groups
Convenors -

Australian and New Zealand Cornea Society (formerly Refractive Surgery & Contact Lens SIG)
A/Prof Mark Daniell

Australian and New Zealand Glaucoma Interest Group
A/Prof Ivan Goldberg

Australian and New Zealand Strabismus Society
Prof Frank Martin

Inflammatory Diseases
Prof Peter McCluskey

Paediatrics
A/Prof Denis Stark

Ocular Oncology
Dr James Muecke

Australian and New Zealand Society of Retinal Specialists
Dr William Campbell

Australian and New Zealand Society of Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery
Prof Dinesh Selva

Military Ophthalmology
Col John Crompton

Communications and Information Technology
Dr Michael Hennessy

Women in Ophthalmology
Dr Faye Walker

Younger Fellows
Dr James Chen

Overseas Development
Dr Richard Rawson and Dr Geoff Cohn

Honorary Positions

Librarian
Dr Gary Leber

Museum Curator
TBA

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Dr Peter Hadden, NZ
Dr Peter Wellings, NZ
Dr Kanishka Jayasundera, OS
Dr Jean Louis De Sousa, WA
Dr Vivek Chowdhury, NSW
Dr Simon Taylor, NSW
Dr Dzung Vu, Qld
Dr Saad Al-Ali, NZ
Dr Ian Elliott, NZ
Dr James Chen, NSW
Dr Anthony Kwan, Qld
Dr Justin Friebele, Vic
Dr Krishna Tumuluri, NSW
Dr Mark Whiting, Vic
Dr Cathryn Edrich, Qld
Dr Maged Atalla, Vic
Dr Mark Steiner, Vic
A/Prof Bruce Hadden, NZ
Dr Sonya Bennett, NZ
Dr Andrew Thompson, NZ
Dr Michael Shiu, Vic
Dr Andrew Atkins, Vic
Dr Andrew Vincent, NZ
Dr Tasha Micheli, NSW
Dr Robyn Jamieson, Vic
Dr Jonathan Ruddle, Vic
Prof David Mackey, WA
Dr Laurence Sullivan, Vic
Dr Terrance Ong, Vic
Dr Anthony Hall, Vic
Dr Peter Martin, NSW
Dr David van der Straaten, Vic
Dr Sam Lerts, NSW
Dr David Ng, NSW
Dr Ravinder Singh, NSW
Dr Magdalena Guzowski, NSW
Dr Karin Attebo, NSW
Dr Michelle Gajus, NSW
Dr Leonard Ong, Vic
Dr Rohan Merani, NSW
Dr Andrew Kaines, NSW

Clinical Ophthalmology
(RACE)
Dr Stephen Jones (Chair), Vic
Dr Robert Weatherhead, NSW
Dr Grant Raymond, SA
Dr Mark Dal-Pra, Qld
Dr Justin Mora, NZ
Dr Kristen Wells, Vic
Dr Mark Walland, Vic
Dr Richard Stawell (on leave), Vic
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Dr Simon Taylor, NSW

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Dr Michael Steiner

AMA Craft Group Committee
Dr Iain Dunlop (Chair)
Dr Andrew Stewart
Dr Allan Rosenberg
Dr Michael Steiner
Dr Ralph Higgins

NH&MRC Liaison
Prof Paul Mitchell
Prof Ian McAllister
Dr Julian Rait

Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology – Regional Secretary (Australia)
Prof Ian Constable

Standards Association of Australia
Prof Frank Billson (Spectacles)
Dr Malcolm Capon
(Personal Protection against Laser Radiation)
Prof Charles McGehee
(Contact Lenses),
Dr Ian Anderson
(Protective Eyewear for Sport)
Dr A Atkins (Sunglasses)

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Glaucoma Australia Council
A/Prof Ivan Goldberg
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Dr Guy O’Mellon,
Dr Mark Walland

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ORIA Board
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Dr Wilson Heriot

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Ophthalmic Members
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V2020A Board
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Mr Dennis Sligar

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Manager, Education System Evaluation
Dr Julie Gustavs

Manager, Assessment and Development
Ms Eden Tay

Manager, Training Networks and Selection
Mrs Joanna Starling

Manager, Assessment and Development
Ms Cate Gadsby

Manager, Education Operations
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Receptionist
Mr Barry Diletti

Coordinator/Administrative Support (part-time)
Mrs Francine Dutton

Administrative Assistant (part-time)
Mrs Kathryn Kiernan

Finance Assistant (part-time)
Mr Alvin Lau

RANZCO Librarian
The Ronald Lowe Library
Ms Caroline Ondracek*
(resigned 26 June 2010)

Managing Editor, Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology
Ms Vicky Cartwright*

Victoria Vision Initiative Education Officer
Mr Nicholas Brislane*

*Based outside Sydney office

Co-located:

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Mrs Jacinta Spurrett

Marketing Manager
Ms Rachel Jelley

Events and Promotion Manager
Ms Anthea Tindall

Grant and Development Manager (part-time)
Ms Jacqueline Wharton

Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA)

Executive Officer
Ms Anne Dunn Snape
## Contents

**Summary of Financial Results 2009/2010**

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</table>

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### AS AT 30TH JUNE, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009 ($)</th>
<th>2010 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>4,153,199</td>
<td>3,691,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>773,003</td>
<td>730,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>142,763</td>
<td>562,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,068,965</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,984,474</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assets</td>
<td>1,099,325</td>
<td>1,710,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant and Equipment</td>
<td>2,603,109</td>
<td>2,633,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intangible Assets</td>
<td>2,491</td>
<td>2,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,734,425</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,372,356</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,803,390</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,356,830</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>1,745,604</td>
<td>2,280,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>109,950</td>
<td>96,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,855,554</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,376,550</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6,276</td>
<td>6,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,276</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,276</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,861,830</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,382,826</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,941,560</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,974,004</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>550,739</td>
<td>794,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained Earnings</td>
<td>6,390,821</td>
<td>6,179,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,941,560</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,974,004</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009 ($)</th>
<th>2010 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>927,532</td>
<td>College Education and Training Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,590,796</td>
<td>College Membership Subscriptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>237,475</td>
<td>College Investments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302,492</td>
<td>College Scientific Congress &amp; Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,100</td>
<td>Scholarship &amp; Travel Grants Received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>843,227</td>
<td>Other Income from Ordinary Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,913,622</td>
<td><strong>Less: Expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35,776</td>
<td>Depreciation Expense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,701</td>
<td>Loss on Sale of Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,006</td>
<td>Loss on Sale of Investments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96,269</td>
<td>Finance, Legal &amp; Auditing Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172,869</td>
<td>Communications System Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>136,397</td>
<td>Building &amp; Office Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,873,624</td>
<td>Staff Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124,914</td>
<td>Travel &amp; Accommodation Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>569,444</td>
<td>Educational &amp; Training, &amp; Other Service Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138,900</td>
<td>Donations &amp; Grants Paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Donations &amp; Grants to Eye Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,950</td>
<td>Scholarship Grants Paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16,762</td>
<td>Grant to Save Sight Society of NZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Donation to ASO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,272</td>
<td>Donations to Vision 2020 Consortium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,324</td>
<td>Donations to NZ Branch Operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Sponsorship Registrars Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>IT Project - Phase 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36,482</td>
<td>Other Donations – Made by Branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>236,535</td>
<td>Printing, Publicity &amp; Public Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,360</td>
<td>Branch Expenditure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,338</td>
<td>Branch Conference &amp; Congress Meeting Expenditure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,569,123</td>
<td><strong>Net Surplus/ (Deficit)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>344,499</td>
<td>Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>Transfer from Special Projects Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(50,000)</td>
<td>Payment of Academic Grant MQU Chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20,000)</td>
<td>Payment of Academic Grant VIC Chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(40,000)</td>
<td>Payment of CPD Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>344,499</td>
<td><strong>Net Surplus/ (Deficit)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Comprehensive Income for the year

- Write back prior years decrease of disposed Managed Funds & Listed Equities
- Net increase/ (decrease) in Managed Funds & Listed Equities
- Net increase/ (decrease) in Bank CDO Securities in year

| 511,857 | 283,817 |

| 167,358 | Total Comprehensive Income for the year | 72,444 |
| 167,358 | Profit attributable to the members of the entity | 72,444 |
| 167,358 | Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity | 72,444 |
## Statement of Changes in Members’ Funds

For the year ended 30th June, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009 ($)</th>
<th>2010 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESERVES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Profits Reserve</td>
<td>1,386,288</td>
<td>1,386,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 30th June, 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidential Chain Revaluation Reserve</td>
<td>13,337</td>
<td>13,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 30th June, 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluation Reserve</td>
<td>(407,029)</td>
<td>(918,886)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 1 July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Comprehensive income for the year</td>
<td>(511,857)</td>
<td>283,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(918,886)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(635,069)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 30 June 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects Reserve</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance 1 July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tfr to Retained Earnings for VIC Chairs Grant</td>
<td>(20,000)</td>
<td>(20,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tfr to Retained Earnings for MQU Chairs Grant</td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tfr to Retained Earnings for CPD Project</td>
<td>(40,000)</td>
<td>(20,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL RESERVES</strong></td>
<td>$ 550,739</td>
<td>$ 794,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RETAIRED EARNINGS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained Profits at the Beginning of the Financial Year</td>
<td>6,046,323</td>
<td>6,390,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus / (Deficit) Attributable to Members</td>
<td>340,562</td>
<td>(179,558)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain/(loss) on Foreign Exchange</td>
<td>3,937</td>
<td>1,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior period Adjustment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from Special Projects Reserve</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment for Academic Grant VIC Chairs</td>
<td>(20,000)</td>
<td>(20,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment for Academic Grant MQU Chairs</td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment for CPD Project</td>
<td>(40,000)</td>
<td>(53,580)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retained Earnings at the end of Financial Year</strong></td>
<td>$ 6,390,821</td>
<td>$ 6,179,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>$ 6,941,560</td>
<td>$ 6,974,004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Statement of Cash Flow

**For the Year Ended 30th June, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inflows (Outflows)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Inflows (Outflows)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,702,571 Subscriptions Received</td>
<td>1,941,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3,678,457) Payments to Suppliers and Employees</td>
<td>(3,699,995)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290,385 Interest Received</td>
<td>133,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21,692 Distributions Received/ Paid</td>
<td>20,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,983 Grants, Donations &amp; Contributions</td>
<td>(173,010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52,151 Sales and Advertising Receipts</td>
<td>60,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>929,177 Education &amp; Training</td>
<td>933,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225,904 Congress Surplus, Meeting, Course Fees</td>
<td>287,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106,915 Royalties</td>
<td>176,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544,880 Other Income/(Expenses)</td>
<td>664,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,898 Net GST Received</td>
<td>(12,603)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>205,099</strong> Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Operating Activities</td>
<td><strong>332,126</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[28,241] Payment for Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>(67,630)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155,016 Proceeds from Purchase/Sale of Investments</td>
<td>[300,000]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>126,775</strong> Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Investing Activities</td>
<td><strong>(367,630)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19,698 Congress Seeding Grants</td>
<td>(174,317)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,833 (Increase)/Decrease in Amounts Due to Benevolent Fund</td>
<td>8,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Eye Foundation – Payment from Renansson Trust</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[218,385] Eye Foundation – Financing</td>
<td>(49,589)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[3,839] Amount due to ANZGIG, Glaucoma and Strabismus SIG</td>
<td>(202,341)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,730 Amount due to Westmead Training Fund</td>
<td>(1,944)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,040 Amounts due to/(from) ORIA/Others</td>
<td>(5,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(183,923)</strong> Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Financing Activities</td>
<td><strong>(426,034)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>147,951</strong> Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
<td><strong>(461,538)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,011,524 Cash &amp; cash equivalents at the beginning of the Financial year</td>
<td>4,159,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$ 4,159,475</strong> CASH &amp; CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</td>
<td><strong>$ 3,697,937</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A copy of the full financial report is available on the College’s website www.ranzco.edu.
A copy of the full financial report is also available on request.