1. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**
   This policy governs the awarding of the John Mitchell Crouch Fellowship. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the duration, value, frequency and conditions of the Fellowship.

2. **KEYWORDS**
   Scholarship, John, Mitchell, Crouch, Fellowship

3. **BODY OF POLICY**
   3.1. **Background**
   The John Mitchell Crouch Fellowship is the most prestigious award of the College. It was established in 1978 by Mrs Elisabeth Unsworth in honour of her son, John Mitchell Crouch, who died in 1977 at age 36. It was established in the hope that recipients would contribute to the understanding and practice of surgery and anaesthesia, in keeping with the skills and promise demonstrated by her son. The Fellowship was first awarded in 1979.

   3.2. **Eligibility Criteria**
   The Fellowship is open to Fellows of the College who are making an outstanding contribution to the advancement of surgery or to fundamental scientific research in this area and be working actively in the field. The Fellowship must be used to assist in the continuation of this work. To be eligible, applicants must have obtained their College Fellowship or comparable overseas qualification within the past 15 years at the time of application. The definition of within 15 years is the year of application minus 15. All scholarships, fellowships and grants are conditional upon the applicant being a permanent resident or citizen of Australia or New Zealand.

   3.3. **Selection Criteria**
   The scholarship recipient will be chosen on the basis of assessment by the Board of Surgical Research and following ratification from the College Executive Committee.

   3.4. **Value of the Fellowship**
   Prospective applicants should refer to the College website [www.surgeons.org](http://www.surgeons.org) for information on the current value of the Fellowship.

   3.5. **Duration of the Fellowship**
   The Fellowship is awarded for twelve months duration.

   3.6. **Frequency of the Fellowship**
   The Fellowship is to be awarded annually, providing there is a worthy applicant.

   3.7. **Conditions of the Fellowship**
   3.7.1. Financial Arrangements
   a) Payment of the award will be made in one instalment, prior to 1 March in the given year.
b) Award funds will only be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice.

c) The scholar must refer to his/her financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the stipend. General information about whether scholarships/fellowships are exempt from income tax is available on the College website. Please go to www.surgeons.org/scholarships/ and then proceed to the FAQ section.

3.7.2. Reporting

a) A report outlining the project is required at the completion of the Fellowship year. This report must be of publishable quality of between 800 – 1,000 words. This report will be incorporated into the John Mitchell Crouch book, produced every 5 years. A copy of the report may be forwarded to Mr Ken Unsworth.

b) Scholars are required to complete two Scholarship Evaluation Surveys. The first will be requested upon completion of the award. The second will be requested five years after completion of the award.

3.7.3. Obligations of the Fellowship Holder

The Fellowship holder is expected to attend the convocation ceremony at the next Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) of the College for a formal presentation. The Fellowship recipient must also be prepared to make a 20-25 minute oral presentation at the ASC (in the year of their award) on their research work including the contribution arising from the award. Travel costs to attend the ASC must be met by the Fellowship recipient.

The Annual Scientific Congress is held in May of each year.

3.7.4. Reapplication for the Fellowship

Applicants can only receive the John Mitchell Crouch Fellowship once. Applicants can reapply in subsequent years while eligible, until they are successful.

3.7.5. Acknowledgements

The Fellowship is to be acknowledged in any relevant correspondence, public announcement, advertising, publication or other material relating to the award.

3.7.6. Privacy

The College takes reasonable steps to protect the information it holds from misuse or loss and from unauthorized access, modification or disclosure. The scholar has the right to access his or her personal information and to have it corrected if inaccurate, incomplete or out of date.

3.8. Access

This policy may be accessed by the general public, College and staff.
3.9. Communication

Scholarship recipients will be notified of the policy or any changes to the policy that impact them by email. Other stakeholders are encouraged to check the College website on a regular basis to keep up to date with policy changes.

3.10. Administering Committee

The Board of Surgical Research administers the Fellowship.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

PRC: Research Scholarships - General
Scholarship Process map
FRM: College Research Scholarships, Fellowships and Grants Application

Approver: CEO
Authoriser: Council