1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Lumley Exchange Surgical Research Scholarship. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the duration, value, frequency and conditions of the scholarship.

2. KEYWORDS

Lumley, Exchange, Surgical, Research, Scholarship

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

The Lumley Exchange Surgical Research Scholarship is a combined effort of the College and the Royal College of Surgeons of England. It incorporates the Edward Lumley Fellowship Fund and is supported by the Henry Lumley Charitable Trust and Lumley General Insurance Ltd. It was established following an offer by Mr Edward Lumley, director of insurance firms of the same name, of funds for support of research in surgery in 1955. The first awards were made in 1962.

3.2. Eligibility Criteria

Applications for the scholarship are open to Fellows and SET Trainees to spend a year undertaking research in the United Kingdom.

All scholarships, fellowships and grants are conditional upon the applicant being a permanent resident or citizen of Australia or New Zealand, or an international medical graduate accepted into the College as a trainee.

Applicants are eligible for a maximum of four years of RACS Research scholarship funding. This can be made up of multiple College research scholarships and does not have to be taken consecutively.

3.3. Selection Criteria

The scholarship recipient will be chosen on the basis of his/her written application, Curriculum Vitae, supporting references and subsequent interview, if applicable.

Research scholarship applicants will be short-listed for interview based upon the candidate’s academic record, postgraduate training, research experience, publication history, the experience of the supervisor and reputation of the institution where the research is to be undertaken. These criteria will be assessed from information provided in the application, supporting references and accompanying Curriculum Vitae.

Short-listed applicants will be interviewed by a panel comprised of the Chair of the Board of Surgical Research and two other Board members. Assessment will be based upon the candidate’s understanding of the research project as evidenced by their explanation of the project and ability to address questions from the panel. The candidate will also be assessed on their initiative in attempting to source other funding.

3.4. Value of the Scholarship

Prospective applicants should refer to the College website at www.surgeons.org for information on the current value of the scholarship.
3.5. Duration of the Scholarship
The scholarship will normally be of twelve month’s duration.

3.6. Frequency of the Scholarship
The scholarship may be awarded annually, subject to the income being sufficient and providing there is a worthy applicant.

3.7. Conditions of the Scholarship
The following conditions are based on information supplied at the point of application on which scholars’ applications were assessed and approved. Any changes from those originally approved by the College will require the College’s prior consent. To obtain this consent, scholars are required to complete an amendment form available from the College.

3.7.1. Research Program
Applications must contain details of the proposed research to be undertaken, a statement of where the research will be undertaken, a statement from the host institution advising that the candidate is acceptable for the program outlined, information on when the scholarship might commence and when it is proposed the research activity will conclude, an outline of previous research experience, proposed future research and other activities and a confidential report from three professional referees.

Scholars must undertake research at an approved institution in the United Kingdom, as approved by the College.

3.7.2. Financial Arrangements
a) 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 proceed to the FAQ section.

b) Payment of the award will be made in one instalment, prior to 1 March in the given year.

c) Award funds will only be paid on receipt of a valid tax invoice.

3.7.3. Additional Scholarships/Fellowships/Awards
The scholar may not hold two College awards simultaneously.

3.7.4. Reporting
a) The payment of the award is conditional upon receipt of a report in the requested format to the College on the research undertaken. This report must be received within one month of completion of the research. If such report is not received the recipient will be ineligible for any further financial assistance from the College and may be required to reimburse the College for the award paid. A
b) Scholars must prepare and publish an article in Surgical News on the completion of their award.

c) Scholars are required to present their research at the annual meeting of the Surgical Research Society of Australasia, at least once, during the scholarship period or within 12 months after the end of the scholarship period.

d) Scholars are required to complete two Scholarship Evaluation Surveys. The first will be requested upon completion of the award. The second will be requested 5 years after completion of the award.

3.7.5. Timing of Scholarship

Applicants must not have commenced their travel prior to the closing date for applications in the year of application. The commencement date must be as stipulated in your application.

3.7.6. Reapprication for the Scholarship

Awards are of twelve months duration. Scholars are eligible to re-apply in subsequent years through the normal application channels and observing the advertised application deadlines and formats in competition with all applications.

3.7.7. Acknowledgements

The Scholarship is to be acknowledged in any relevant correspondence, public announcement, advertising, publication or other material relating to the award. The RACS coat of arms must be included in all presentations relating to the award, including those made at the ASC.

3.7.8. Publications and Patents

The College must be notified of any publications as soon as practicable after acceptance by the journal, or patents arising from the award together with the results of any research that is to be commercially developed.

3.7.9. 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.

3.7.10. Termination of Scholarship

The College may, at its discretion, for what is considered grave cause, suspend the tenure of an award for such time as is thought fit, or deprive a scholar of his/her Award. From the date of either of these decisions, the entitlement to stipend and other allowances shall cease.

3.7.11. Acceptance of Offer

A copy of the report will be forwarded to the Henry Lumley Charitable Trust.

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.
Scholars must sign the Acceptance Form as acknowledgement of the above conditions and approved research and return it to the College prior to commencement of the award.

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 Scholarship.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS
PRC: Research Scholarships - General
Scholarship Process map
FRM: College Travel Scholarships, Fellowships and Grants Application

Approver      Authoriser
CEO            Council