

# NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL SURGEONS CONFERENCE 2019

23 – 24 MARCH  
CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL

*TECHNOLOGY, TRAINING & INNOVATION*

A N N U A L   R E P O R T   2 0 1 8



NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION  
OF GENERAL SURGEONS  
Promoting Surgical Excellence

# New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

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# NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL SURGEONS

Promoting Surgical Excellence

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons is to be held on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 at 1.00pm** at the Christchurch Town Hall, Christchurch.

### Agenda

1. Apologies - Richard Perry  
  
Condolences in 2018 – Herbert Dick Rawson, William (Bill) Owen Sawtell Phillipps
2. Minutes of previous AGM held in Paihia 17 March 2018
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Association Reports
  - a. President, J. Speight
  - b. Executive Director, B. Evans
  - c. Education, S. Bann
5. Ratification of Annual Membership Subscription increase in line with CPI of 1.2% to \$540.00pa - Peter Shapkov.  
Treasurer
6. Re-appointment of auditors – Deloitte - Peter Shapkov

## Treasurer

7. Introducing newly elected Executive Members Aleksandra Popadich, Usha Shan, and a huge thank you to Mr Ian Burton who is stepping down after over twelve years on the Executive Committee
8. Board in General Surgery Changes – Simon Bann
9. CADENZA Update – Gowan Creamer
10. Southern Cross Update – Ian Burton
11. General Business
12. Next Meeting, New Plymouth 2020 (convener, Nigel Henderson)
13. Closure



## **Minutes of the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons AGM 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Held at the Copthorne Hotel, Paihia, Bay of Islands at 1pm**

Present: Please see sign in sheet

### **1. Apologies were received from:**

Andrew Hill, Bill Gilkison, Hugh Cooke, Graeme Roadley, Grant Coulter, and Ian Civil

Condolences to the families of the following surgeons who have passed away  
John Simpson, John Hopkirk, and Edward Watson

### **2. Minutes of the previous meeting held at the Palmerston North Convention Centre on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 1pm.**

Andrew proposed that the minutes are accepted as a true and accurate record. Seconded by Philippa Mercer. Carried

- 3. Matters arising – nil
- 4. Reports

### **3. Executive Reports**

#### **a. President's Report**

Andrew Moot announced that NZAGS was developing a voluntary Practice Visit Programme to be piloted once Quality Assurance Activity signoff has been achieved. The philosophy of programme will be to share best practice and both visitors and visitees will earn CPD points for reflective practice.

Andrew also reported that the Australian Medical Council had undertaken an accreditation process of the RACS Education Programme and concluded that they substantially met the accreditation criteria.

#### **b. Executive Director's Report**

Bronwen Evans had nothing else to add that was not in her written report. She noted that Helen Glasgow had joined NZAGS as Training Manager and that Sandra Kennerley was leaving shortly.

c. Treasurer's Report

Peter Shapkov noted that NZAGS was in good financial health, with \$89,000 profit and \$1.347M in reserves.

Peter moved that the NZAGS Executive would like to raise the Membership subscription by CPI which is currently 1.6%. A full membership would rise to \$530 per annum. Seconded by Andrew Moot. Carried.

Peter moved that Deloitte are appointed as the auditors for the 2018 accounts. Seconded by Nigel Hendersen. Carried.

d. Training report

Simon Bann noted that NZ trainees maintain a good pass rate in the Fellowship Exam.

Simon advised that it was likely that the Board in General Surgery will be split so that New Zealand will need to set up its own board to manage the New Zealand SET training. This comes at a time when the need for another level of the Training Committee to focus on strategic issues had become apparent. The main risk with any separation of the boards is lack of momentum of the NZ SET programme in comparison with the Australian General Surgery Programme and that all will need to work hard to ensure this does not occur.

Bronwen noted that members present will need to encourage their non-member colleagues to join the association to support the changes required for a separate training board.

**5. Ratification of Election of Officers**

The following new members of the Executive were ratified:-

Nagham AlMozany, John Lengyel and also Jason Ly as Younger Fellow Representative

Thank you to Philippa Mercer for her 12 years' service on the NZAGS Executive, including her time as president. Philippa is also one of the co-conveners of the 2019 ASM in Christchurch.

Bronwen Evans thanked Andrew Moot for his two years as Vice President, and the past two years as President and his continuation as immediate past president for the next two years. Bronwen acknowledged the considerable amount of work done by the president.

**6. CADENZA**

Gowan Creamer talked about the New Zealand Emergency Laparotomy Audit. Ben Griffiths is the chair and will be speaking at the conference. The purpose of the audit is to improve patient outcomes – one of the key issues is the length of time from presentation to theatre. The UK

model has identified some key ways to improve this. The New Zealand audit will commence in 5 New Zealand Hospitals once ethics approval has been achieved.

## **7. Southern Cross and NIB**

Ian Burton reported that NZAGS has had several meetings with Southern Cross this year to discuss topics such as Colonoscopy Eligibility Criteria and also Patient Surveys and access to the results of these.

Philippa Mercer noted that there is no further progress on the Breast Affiliated Provider Programme.

It is likely that Southern Cross will introduce contracts for skin procedures due to the massive increase in skin procedures.

NIB is focusing on their provider cost outliers. They have reviewed all of their claims and identified the reasonable charge for operative procedures. NIB pay only the reasonable amount, the patient pays any extra.

Ian is leaving the Executive later in 2018 and asked for support for ongoing work with Southern Cross, particularly a Breast Surgeon to advise on the AFP. Richard Martin is to assist on discussions regarding skin procedures.

## **8. General Business**

None

Andrew Moot reminded all attendees of the 2019 conference in Christchurch to be convened by Philippa Mercer, Grant Coulter and Ross Roberts

Andrew thanked the conveners of the current AAM – Usha Shan, John Lengyel and Mark Saunders

The meeting closed at 1.27pm

**Entity Information**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons  
For the year ended 30 November 2018

**Legal Name of Entity**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons Incorporated.

**Entity Type and Legal Basis**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons ("NZAGS" or "Association") is an association incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. NZAGS is also a registered charity registered with the Charity Commission.

**Registration number**

Charity Services Registration number: CC32206

Incorporated Societies Registration number: 643992

**Entity's Purpose or Mission**

The aims of the Association are to:

- Promote and represent the practice of General Surgery and associated specialties in New Zealand;
- Promote a forum for all General Surgeons to discuss and comment on matters affecting their practice;
- Promote activities that provide for continuing education, peer review and research in General Surgery;
- Administer the selection and training of medical practitioners in the specialty of General Surgery in accordance with the partnering agreement with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Board in General Surgery; and
- To promote the Continuing Professional Development of General Surgeons.

**Entity Structure**

Association Structure:

Our association is run by an executive committee who are elected by a ballot for a term of four years. They are eligible for re-election for a further three terms of four years.

**Operational Structure**

Our operations are managed by a team of four paid employees. We employ a Chief Executive, a Policy and Projects Officer, a Training Manager and an Accounts Office Manager. Three of our staff are employed on a part time basis.

**Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources**

Funding is received by way of reimbursement of training costs, membership subscription income and annual conference proceeds.

**Main Methods Used by Entity to Raise Funds**

The Association raises funds by providing training to their members and charging membership subscriptions.

**Entity's Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services**

No reliance is placed on volunteers and donations by the Association.

**Physical Address**

Level 3, 8 Kent Terrace  
Wellington

**Postal Address**

PO Box 7451, Wellington South, New Zealand, 6242

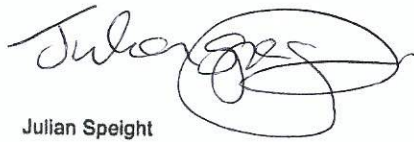


**Approval of Performance Report**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

For the year ended 30 November 2018

The Board are pleased to present the approved performance report including the historical financial statements of New Zealand Association of General Surgeons for year ended 30 November 2018.



Julian Speight

President

Date .....06-03-2019



Peter Shapkov

Treasurer

Date .....06.03.19

## Statement of Service Performance

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

For the year ended 30 November 2018

### Our Purpose

The New Zealand Association of General Surgeons is a not-for-profit organisation with around 300 members. We are the voice of General Surgery in New Zealand; promoting excellence in surgical practice including education and training, collegiality and the well-being of its surgeons and patients.

|  | 2018 | 2017 |
|--|------|------|
| <b>Our Achievements in the Year</b>              |      |      |
| Number of General Surgeons Qualified in the Year | 7    | 7    |
| Number of New Doctors Selected for Training      | 15   | 12   |
| Number of Trainee Days Held                      | 2    | 2    |
| Number of Trainees attending trainee days        | 107  | 117  |

### Additional Output Measures

The Association has liaised with various entities within the health industry including Ministry of Health, insurance companies and PHARMAC.

Work was completed with several insurance companies that NZAGS feels will ensure that the delivery of private health care in New Zealand remains affordable for both surgeons and patients.

### Details of Our Achievements

1. The Association's members have contributed to the following Ministry of Health initiatives:
  - The Association is contributing to an Endoscopy Governance Group to provide governance on endoscopy in New Zealand which will include the national bowel screening program.
  - Bowel Cancer Screening Project - resource requirement assessment i.e. how many surgeons required, where will any additional surgeons come from. The Association has been in discussion with Health Workforce NZ and the Ministry of Health about a Health Workforce NZ Project to predict nationwide requirements for General Surgeons.
  - Perioperative Mortality Review - review and report to the Minister on deaths that are within the Committee's scope, with a view to reducing these deaths and to continuous quality improvement through the promotion of ongoing quality assurance programmes.
2. Trainee selection and Delivery Improvements:
  - Improving the process of selection. Considerable analysis had been conducted on the best use of the selection tools and their weightings for Selection 2019.
  - A new surgical logbook has been developed to ensure full training support and visibility for all general surgical trainees and their supervisors.
  - Providing support to the Board in General Surgery of RACS.
3. Annual Scientific meeting with a two day programme of latest surgical advancements which ensures surgeons meet their continuing professional development targets for the year.
4. Liaising with Southern Cross about the ongoing roll out of their affiliated provider scheme, and also updating their colonoscopy criteria.
5. ACC - The Association has been working with ACC on defining hernia coverage under ACC legislation.
6. Developing and working on a Surgeons Wellness Programme to ensure the ongoing health of surgeons within New Zealand. NZAGS is currently trialing various Wellness Apps that can support our surgeons to understand how they are coping with workloads and work-life balance.

### Additional Information

This years outcomes arose mainly because many of the Ministry of Health initiatives were close to implementing, if not implemented.

**Statement of Financial Performance**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

For the year ended 30 November 2018

|  | Notes | 2018           | 2017           |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                                     |       |                |                |
| Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue   | 1     | 27,665         | 25,107         |
| Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members | 1     | 467,505        | 509,970        |
| Revenue from providing our services                | 1     | 55,178         | 65,210         |
| Interest, dividends and other investment revenue   | 1     | 26,578         | 35,517         |
| Total Revenue                                      |       | <b>576,926</b> | <b>635,804</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                    |       |                |                |
| Volunteer and employee related costs               | 2     | 207,113        | 214,580        |
| Costs related to providing our services            | 2     | 290,833        | 296,161        |
| Other expenses                                     | 2     | 39,884         | 35,127         |
| Total Expenses                                     |       | <b>537,830</b> | <b>545,868</b> |
| <b>Surplus for the Year</b>                        |       | <b>39,096</b>  | <b>89,936</b>  |

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with them.

**Statement of Financial Position**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

As at 30 November 2018

|   | Notes | 2018             | 2017             |
|---|-------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>   |       |                  |                  |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                     |       |                  |                  |
| Bank accounts and cash                                    | 3     | 486,664          | 426,045          |
| Debtors and Prepayments                                   | 3     | 27,513           | 33,852           |
| Other Current Assets`                                     | 3     | 873,142          | 850,361          |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                               |       | <b>1,387,319</b> | <b>1,310,258</b> |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>                                 |       |                  |                  |
| Other Non-Current Assets                                  | 3     | 39,050           | 39,101           |
| Property, Plant and Equipment                             | 5     | 6,239            | 9,417            |
| Intangible Assets   | 6     | 53,258           | 43,721           |
| <b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>                           |       | <b>98,547</b>    | <b>92,238</b>    |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                                       |       | <b>1,485,866</b> | <b>1,402,497</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>  |       |                  |                  |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                                |       |                  |                  |
| Trade and other payables                                  | 4     | 61,319           | 21,429           |
| Income Received In Advance                                | 4     | 25,287           | 18,838           |
| Employee costs payable                                    | 4     | 12,419           | 14,155           |
| Funds held on behalf - Linda Porter                       |       | -                | 330              |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>                          |       | <b>99,025</b>    | <b>54,752</b>    |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                                  |       | <b>99,025</b>    | <b>54,752</b>    |
| <b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities / (Net Assets)</b> |       | <b>1,386,841</b> | <b>1,347,745</b> |
| <b>Equity</b>   |       |                  |                  |
| Accumulated Funds   | 7     | 1,386,841        | 1,347,745        |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                                       |       | <b>1,386,841</b> | <b>1,347,745</b> |

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with them.

**Statement of Cashflows**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

For the year ended 30 November 2018

|  | 2018            | 2017            |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Cashflow statement</b>                                      |                 |                 |
| <b>Cashflows from Operating Activities</b>                     |                 |                 |
| Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue               | 27,665          | 25,107          |
| Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members            | 470,789         | 522,884         |
| Interest, dividends and other investment receipts              | 27,383          | 34,543          |
| Receipts from providing goods and services                     | 64,577          | 65,370          |
| Payments to suppliers and employees                            | (468,824)       | (504,130)       |
| Cashflows from operating activities                            | -               | (813)           |
| <b>Total Cashflows from Operating Activities</b>               | <b>121,590</b>  | <b>142,961</b>  |
| <b>Cash flow from Investing and Financing Activities</b>       |                 |                 |
| Receipts from sale of investments                              | -               | -               |
| Cashflow from other Investing and Financing Activities         | (2,254)         | 1,953           |
| Payments to acquire property plant and equipment               | -               | (4,347)         |
| Payments to purchase investments                               | (22,730)        | (34,613)        |
| Payments to purchase intangibles                               | (35,988)        | (21,767)        |
| <b>Total Cash flow from Investing and Financing Activities</b> | <b>(60,971)</b> | <b>(58,774)</b> |
| <b>Net Increase in cash</b>                                    | <b>60,619</b>   | <b>84,187</b>   |
| <b>Cash balances</b>   |                 |                 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                 | 426,045         | 341,528         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year                       | 486,664         | 426,045         |
| Net change in cash for the year                                | (60,619)        | 84,187          |

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with them.

## **Statement of Accounting Policies**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

For the year ended 30 November 2018

### **Basis of Preparation**

The entity has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

### **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

### **Income Tax**

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

### **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are included at cost less aggregate depreciation provided at the rates outlined below. The depreciation rates used are:

Office Equipment 13% DV to 60% DV

### **Amortisation of Intangibles**

Intangible assets are included at cost less aggregate amortisation provided at the rates as outlined below. The rates used are:

Website Development 48% DV

Software 50% DV

### **Subscription Income/Trainee Membership Fees**

Subscription revenue and trainee membership fees are recorded on an accrual basis. Subscriptions are recognised as revenue on a time proportionate basis. Training services are recognised when the training is provided.

### **Presentation Currency**

These financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars because that is the primary economic environment in which the Association operates.

Transactions in foreign currency have been converted at the date of the payment or receipt. Year end balances in foreign currency have been converted at the exchange rate ruling at balance date.

**Bank Accounts and Cash**

Bank Accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

**Statement of Accounting Policies**

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

**Notes to the Performance Report**  
New Zealand Association of General Surgeons  
For the year ended 30 November 2018

|   | 2018           | 2017           |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>1. Analysis of Revenue</b>                                   |                |                |
| <b>Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue</b>         |                |                |
| BiGS Wash Up Grant  | 27,665         | 25,107         |
| <b>Total Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue</b>   | <b>27,665</b>  | <b>25,107</b>  |
| <b>Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members</b>       |                |                |
| Conference Income   | 106,428        | 141,159        |
| Membership Subscription Income                                  | 61,388         | 66,041         |
| Trainee Membership Fees   | 15,610         | 15,615         |
| Trainee Funds   | 242,752        | 247,790        |
| Training Day Income   | 6,344          | 5,805          |
| Trainee Selection Application                                   | 24,782         | 18,261         |
| SEAM Income   | 10,200         | 15,300         |
| <b>Total Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members</b> | <b>467,505</b> | <b>509,970</b> |
| <b>Revenue from providing goods or services</b>                 |                |                |
| BiGS Specialty Governance Fee                                   | 45,886         | 8,730          |
| Hospital Inspection   | 8,457          | 52,701         |
| Provision of Accounting Services                                | 835            | 3,779          |
| <b>Total Revenue from providing goods or services</b>           | <b>55,178</b>  | <b>65,210</b>  |
| <b>Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>         |                |                |
| Bad Debts Recovered   | 1,057          | -              |
| Interest Education Fund   | 10,091         | 16,060         |
| Interest  | 13,184         | 14,500         |
| JBWere Investment Portfolio - Income                            | 2,204          | 3,119          |
| Un-realised gain on investment                                  | 43             | 1,837          |
| <b>Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>   | <b>26,578</b>  | <b>35,517</b>  |
| <b>2. Analysis of Expenses</b>                                  |                |                |
| <b>Volunteer and employee related costs</b>                     |                |                |
| Salaries  | 69,196         | 60,366         |
| Staff Recruitment   | 750            | -              |
| Training Salaries   | 137,167        | 154,215        |
| <b>Total Volunteer and employee related costs</b>               | <b>207,113</b> | <b>214,580</b> |
| <b>Costs related to providing our services</b>                  |                |                |
| ACC Levy  | 315            | 601            |
| Travel, Accommodation and Meals                                 | 62,596         | 81,152         |
| Accountancy Fees  | 594            | 668            |
| Bank Charges  | 1,930          | 508            |
| BiGS costs  | 7,328          | 8,602          |
| Conference Costs  | 93,091         | 101,865        |
| Consultancy   | 3,083          | 10,904         |
| Credit Card Merchant Fees                                       | 3,470          | 5,038          |
| Gifts   | 249            | 765            |
| Insurance   | 8              | 874            |
| Interest Paid   | -              | 10             |
| IT Expenses   | 9,873          | 6,235          |
| Legal Fees  | 337            | -              |
| Hospital Inspections  | 16,624         | -              |
| Marketing and advertising                                       | 43             | 3,142          |
| Meeting costs   | 2,480          | 7,291          |
| Office Expenses   | 17,542         | 21,448         |
| Rent  | 25,483         | 23,782         |
| SEAM Expenses   | 10,289         | 155            |



|  | 2018           | 2017           |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Selection Expenses                                   | 13,129         | 159            |
| Subscriptions  | 2,065          | 1,358          |
| Trainee Membership Fees                              | 16,130         | 15,615         |
| Training Day   | 916            | 929            |
| Website Hosting and Maintenance                      | 3,260          | 5,059          |
| <b>Total Costs related to providing our services</b> | <b>290,883</b> | <b>296,161</b> |
| <b>Other expenses</b>                                |                |                |
| (Gain) / Loss on Exchange                            | 2,254          | (1,953)        |
| Amortisation   | 26,451         | 25,466         |
| Audit Fees   | 8,000          | 6,575          |
| Bad Debts  | -              | 1,290          |
| Depreciation   | 3,179          | 3,748          |
| <b>Total Other expenses</b>                          | <b>39,884</b>  | <b>35,127</b>  |

### 3. Analysis of Assets

|                                       |                |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Bank accounts and cash</b>         |                |                |
| ASB Account 00                        | 14,164         | 17,999         |
| ASB Education 01                      | 4,284          | 21,828         |
| ASB Fast Saver Account 50             | 468,216        | 385,862        |
| Linda Porter Fund                     | -              | 330            |
| Petty cash                            | -              | 27             |
| <b>Total Bank accounts and cash</b>   | <b>486,664</b> | <b>426,045</b> |
| <b>Debtors and prepayments</b>        |                |                |
| Accounts Receivable                   | 5,900          | 1,680          |
| GST Receivable                        | (4,368)        | 5,031          |
| Prepayments                           | 25,981         | 25,280         |
| Interest Accrued                      | -              | 1,861          |
| <b>Total Debtors and prepayments</b>  | <b>27,513</b>  | <b>33,852</b>  |
| <b>Other current assets</b>           |                |                |
| ASB Term Deposit 80                   | 542,630        | 319,499        |
| ASB Term Deposit 79                   | 330,512        | 530,862        |
| <b>Total Other current assets</b>     | <b>873,142</b> | <b>850,361</b> |
| <b>Other Non-Current Assets</b>       |                |                |
| J B Were Investment                   | 39,050         | 39,101         |
| <b>Total Other Non-Current Assets</b> | <b>39,050</b>  | <b>39,101</b>  |

### 4. Analysis of Liabilities

|   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Creditors and accrued expenses</b>       |               |               |
| Accounts Payable                            | 55,806        | 20,702        |
| Income Received in Advance                  | 25,287        | 18,838        |
| Credit Cards                                | 5,513         | 726           |
| Employee costs payable                      | 12,419        | 14,155        |
| <b>Total Creditors and accrued expenses</b> | <b>99,025</b> | <b>54,422</b> |
| <b>Other Current Liabilities</b>            |               |               |
| Funds held on behalf - Linda Porter         | -             | 330           |
| <b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>      | <b>-</b>      | <b>330</b>    |

### 5. Property, Plant and Equipment

|   |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Office Equipment</b>                     |              |              |
| Office Equipment - Cost                     | 39,264       | 39,264       |
| Office Equipment - Accumulated Depreciation | (33,025)     | (29,847)     |
| <b>Total Office Equipment</b>               | <b>6,239</b> | <b>9,417</b> |
| <b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>  | <b>6,239</b> | <b>9,417</b> |

### Significant Donated Assets Recorded

The Association have received no donated assets.

|  | 2018             | 2017             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>6. Intangible Assets</b>                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Software</b>                                  |                  |                  |
| Software at Cost                                 | 218,044          | 211,756          |
| Software Accumulated Depreciation                | (199,202)        | (180,914)        |
| <b>Total Software</b>                            | <b>18,842</b>    | <b>30,842</b>    |
| <b>Website</b>                                   |                  |                  |
| Website at Cost                                  | 89,784           | 60,084           |
| Website Accumulated Amortisation                 | (55,369)         | (47,206)         |
| <b>Total Website</b>                             | <b>34,415</b>    | <b>12,878</b>    |
| <b>Total Intangible Assets</b>                   | <b>53,258</b>    | <b>43,721</b>    |
| <b>7. Accumulated Funds</b>                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Accumulated Funds</b>                         |                  |                  |
| Opening Balance                                  | 1,347,745        | 1,257,809        |
| Surplus for the Year                             | 39,096           | 89,936           |
| <b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>                   | <b>1,386,841</b> | <b>1,347,745</b> |
| <b>8. Commitments</b>                            |                  |                  |
| <b>Commitments to lease or rent assets</b>       |                  |                  |
| Due within one year                              | 1,919            | 1,987            |
| <b>Total Commitments to lease or rent assets</b> | <b>1,919</b>     | <b>1,987</b>     |

The NZ Association of General Surgeons has made a rental commitment to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons to commit to their sublease until the end of December 2018.

#### **9. Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees**

There are no contingent liabilities or guarantees as at 30 November 2018 (Last year - nil).

**10. Related Parties****2018****2017****Board in General Surgery*****Payables***

|                       |               |          |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|
| BiGS Governance Fees  | 45,000        | -        |
| <b>Total Payables</b> | <b>45,000</b> | <b>-</b> |

***Revenue***

|                               |               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| BiGS Specialty Governance Fee | 45,886        | 8,730         |
| BiGS Costs Recovered          | 27,665        | 25,107        |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>          | <b>73,551</b> | <b>33,837</b> |

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), formed in 1927, is a non-profit organisation training surgeons and maintaining surgical standards in Australia and New Zealand. The Board in General Surgery (BiGS) is an Australasian board of RACS that sets the strategic direction, and oversees the administration of the General Surgical programme. The President of NZAGS and the NZAGS Training Committee Chair are voting members on this board.

NZAGS is a not-for-profit membership based organisation of general surgeons throughout New Zealand. The principal functions of the Association are to represent the broad and collective interests of general surgeons particularly in the areas of vocational training, continuing professional development, workforce planning as well as acting as the interface between general surgeons, Government and components of the health sector generally.

NZAGS is responsible for the administration of the RACS directed training programme in NZ, and inputs into the strategic direction of the RACS BiGS General Surgical Training programme. RACS and NZAGS set the curriculum fees for the general surgical training programme. There are two fees. One for RACS and one for NZAGS. Currently, trainee Fees for NZAGS are collected on behalf of NZAGS by RACS (and then this amount is invoiced back to NZAGS).

RACS pay a governance fee to NZAGS to cover the costs of NZAGS members on the BiGS Board, and for the Chair of BiGS to attend BSET (RACS Board in Surgical Education and Training of which NZBiGS reports in to).

**11. Assets Held on Behalf of Others**

As at 30 November 2018 the Association was holding nil funds for Linda Porter.

**12. Events After the Balance Date**

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (Last year - nil).

**13. Audit**

These Financial Statements have been subject to audit. Please refer to the Auditor's Report.

## Independent Auditor's Report

### To the Members of the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

#### Opinion

We have audited the performance report of New Zealand Association of General Surgeons ('NZAGS'), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 November 2018, and the entity information, statement of service performance, statement of financial performance, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the statement of accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion:

- The reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable in the statement of service performance are suitable;
- The performance report on pages 3 to 12, presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at 30 November 2018, its financial performance and cash flows, the entity information and the service performance for the year then ended in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-for-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board ('PBE SFR – A (NFP)').

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit of the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ('ISAs') and International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) ('ISAs (NZ)'), and the audit of the entity information and statement of service performance in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) ('ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised)'). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We are independent of the entity in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) *Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have no relationship with or interests in the entity.

#### Executive Committee's responsibilities for the performance report

The Executive Committee is responsible on behalf of the entity for:

- Identifying outcomes and outputs, and quantifying the outputs to the extent practicable, that are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable, to report in the statement of service performance;
- the preparation and fair presentation of the performance report on behalf of the entity in accordance with PBE SFR – A (NFP), and
- for such internal control as the Executive Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Executive Committee is responsible on behalf of the entity for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Executive Committee either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs, ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Perform procedures to obtain evidence about and evaluate whether the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the NZAGS' internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Executive Committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Executive Committee and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the performance report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance report, including the disclosures, and whether the performance report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Executive Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

#### **Restriction on use**

This report is made solely to the Members, as a body, in accordance with Section 3 of the Trust Deed. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Deloitte Limited*

Wellington, New Zealand  
6 March 2019

**Appendix 1: New Zealand Association of General Surgeons- Education Funds**  
**For the year ended 30 November 2018**

| <b>Account</b>                                  | <b>Unaudited<br/>2018</b> | <b>Unaudited<br/>2017</b> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Trading Income</b>                           |                           |                           |
| BiGS Specialty Governance Fee                   | 45,887                    | 8,730                     |
| BiGS wash up grant                              | 27,665                    | 25,107                    |
| Hospital Inspection                             | 8,457                     | 52,701                    |
| SEAM Income                                     | 10,200                    | 15,300                    |
| Trainee Selection Application                   | 24,782                    | 18,261                    |
| Trainees Fees - (Education Fund-Service Agreem) | 242,753                   | 247,790                   |
| Training Day Income                             | 3,130                     | 5,805                     |
| <b>Total Trading Income</b>                     | <b>362,875</b>            | <b>373,694</b>            |
| <b>Other Income</b>                             |                           |                           |
| Interest Education Fund                         | 9,952                     | 16,060                    |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>                       | <b>9,952</b>              | <b>16,060</b>             |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                       |                           |                           |
| ACC Levy  | 68                        | 389                       |
| Accommodation and Meals                         | 540                       | 24,617                    |
| Accountancy Fees                                | 90                        | 245                       |
| Amortisation                                    | 26,451                    | 25,466                    |
| Audit Fees                                      | 500                       | 3,250                     |
| Bad Debts                                       | -                         | 75                        |
| Bank Charges                                    | 553                       | 340                       |
| BiGS Accommodation and Meals                    | 2,708                     | 2,283                     |
| BiGS Flights                                    | 4,532                     | 6,164                     |
| BiGS Taxi                                       | 88                        | 155                       |
| Conference Costs                                | 1,436                     | -                         |
| Conferences attended                            | 1,533                     | -                         |
| Consulting and Computing                        | 506                       | 9,311                     |
| Credit Card Merchant Fees                       | 74                        | -                         |
| Depreciation                                    | 7,312                     | (6,584)                   |
| EF Depreciation                                 | 2,652                     | 10,332                    |
| EF Rent   | 12,225                    | 9,915                     |
| Gifts   | 30                        | 663                       |
| Hospital Inspections                            | 16,298                    | -                         |
| IT Expenses                                     | -                         | 3,609                     |
| Marketing and advertising                       | -                         | 1,040                     |
| Meeting Room Costs                              | 1,850                     | 3,612                     |
| Office Equip                                    | -                         | 166                       |
| Office Equip and Furniture                      | -                         | 233                       |
| Office Supplies                                 | 345                       | 2,663                     |
| Postage and Courier                             | 228                       | 12                        |
| Printing and Stationery                         | 638                       | 16                        |
| Printing and Stationery 1                       | -                         | 6                         |
| Rent  | 6,477                     | 958                       |
| SEAM Exp  | 10,289                    | 155                       |
| Selection Expenses                              | 13,001                    | 159                       |
| Software Maintenance                            | 4,679                     | 4,112                     |
| Staff Recruitment                               | 750                       | -                         |
| Subscriptions                                   | 775                       | 36                        |
| Sundry Expenses                                 | 11                        | 1,459                     |
| Telephone communication                         | 1,164                     | 4,462                     |
| Trainee Membership Fees                         | 16,134                    | 15,615                    |
| Training Day Expenses                           | 916                       | 929                       |
| Training Salaries                               | 137,167                   | 154,215                   |
| Travel - accommodation and meals                | 19,832                    | 7,109                     |
| Travel - Airfares                               | 25,867                    | 32,587                    |
| Travel - Taxis and mileage                      | 1,531                     | 5,242                     |
| Travel Expenses                                 | 430                       | -                         |
| Website Hosting and Maintenance                 | 1,579                     | 3,067                     |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>                 | <b>321,259</b>            | <b>328,081</b>            |
| <b>Net Profit</b>                               | <b>51,568</b>             | <b>61,673</b>             |

**Appendix 2: Statement of Financial Performance - NZAGS**  
**For the year ended 30 November 2018**

| <b>Account</b>                       | <b>Unaudited<br/>2018</b> | <b>Unaudited<br/>2017</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Trading Income</b>                |                           |                           |
| Annual Conference Proceeds           | 6,267                     | 19,363                    |
| Conference Registrations             | 100,161                   | 121,796                   |
| JBWere Investment Portfolio - Income | 2,204                     | 3,119                     |
| Membership Subscription Income       | 61,388                    | 65,588                    |
| Sundry Income                        | 43                        | -                         |
| Trainee Membership Fees              | 15,610                    | 15,615                    |
| Trainee Misc Income                  | 230                       | -                         |
| Training Day Income                  | 2,983                     | -                         |
| <b>Total Trading Income</b>          | <b>188,887</b>            | <b>225,481</b>            |
| <b>Other Income</b>                  |                           |                           |
| Bad Debts Recovered                  | 1,057                     | -                         |
| Interest                             | 13,184                    | 14,500                    |
| Interest Education Fund              | 139                       | -                         |
| Provision of Accounting Services     | 835                       | 3,779                     |
| Un-realised gain on investment       | -                         | 1,837                     |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>            | <b>15,214</b>             | <b>20,116</b>             |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>            |                           |                           |
| (Gain) / Loss on Exchange            | 2,254                     | (1,953)                   |
| ACC Levy                             | 247                       | 213                       |
| Accommodation and Meals              | 218                       | 420                       |
| Accountancy Fees                     | 504                       | 424                       |
| Audit Fees                           | 7,500                     | 3,325                     |
| Bad Debts                            | -                         | 1,215                     |
| Bank Charges                         | 1,377                     | 168                       |
| Conference Costs                     | 90,122                    | 101,865                   |
| Consultancy Fees                     | 275                       | -                         |
| Consulting and Computing             | 2,302                     | 1,593                     |
| Credit Card Merchant Fees            | 3,396                     | 5,038                     |
| Depreciation                         | (6,786)                   | -                         |
| Electricity                          | 135                       | 642                       |
| Gifts                                | 218                       | 102                       |
| Hospital Inspections                 | 326                       | -                         |
| Insurance                            | 8                         | 874                       |
| Interest Paid                        | -                         | 10                        |
| IT Expenses                          | 9,873                     | 2,626                     |
| Legal Fees                           | 337                       | -                         |
| Marketing and advertising            | 43                        | 2,102                     |
| Meeting Room Costs                   | 630                       | 3,679                     |
| Office Equip                         | 698                       | 1,286                     |
| Office Equip and Furniture           | 65                        | 310                       |
| Office Supplies                      | 1,916                     | 1,263                     |
| Postage and Courier                  | -                         | 3                         |
| Printing and Stationery              | 16                        | 241                       |
| Printing and Stationery 1            | -                         | 68                        |
| Rent                                 | 6,781                     | 12,908                    |
| Salaries                             | 69,196                    | 60,366                    |
| Secreterial Costs                    | 137                       | -                         |
| Selection Expenses                   | 127                       | -                         |
| Subscriptions                        | 1,290                     | 1,323                     |
| Sundry Expenses                      | 1,226                     | 1,455                     |
| Telephone communication              | 6,280                     | 3,052                     |
| Trainee Membership Fees              | -                         | -                         |
| Travel - accommodation and meals     | 5,431                     | 484                       |
| Travel - Airfares                    | 6,623                     | 8,907                     |
| Travel - Taxis and mileage           | 2,034                     | 1,786                     |
| Travel Expenses                      | 93                        | -                         |
| Website Hosting and Maintenance      | 1,680                     | 1,993                     |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>      | <b>216,572</b>            | <b>217,787</b>            |
| <b>Net Profit</b>                    | <b>(12,472)</b>           | <b>27,810</b>             |

## NZAGS President's Report 2019

The Executive has been:

- Julian Speight, President
- Graeme Roadley, Vice President
- Andrew Moot, Immediate Vice President
- Simon Bann, Chair of NZ Training Committee
- Peter Shapkov, Treasurer
- David Moss, Vice Chair Training Committee
- Ian Burton, Private Practice Representative
- Jason Ly
- Nagham Almozany
- Vanessa Blair
- Grant Coulter
- Gowan Creamer
- Rowan French
- Nigel Henderson
- John Lengyel
- Peter Stiven
- David Vernon
- Suheelan Kulasegaran, Trainee Representative

Staff at NZAGS Office:

- Bronwen Evans, Executive Director
- Claire Nicoll, General Manager, Policy, Projects and Education
- Helen Glasgow, Training Manager
- Sandra Swainson, Office Accounts Manager

This is my first year in the role of President, and I would like to thank both the Executive Committee and the NZAGS staff for their help and guidance as I learn the role. I'd particularly like to thank Bronwen Evans for her patience, Andrew Moot for his invaluable advice as Past President and Simon Bann in his role as Chair of the NZ Training Committee. I would like to make special mention of Ian Burton's contribution to the Executive Committee over twelve years. Ian is now stepping down, and his extensive knowledge will be missed. David Vernon is also taking a brief break from the Executive Committee, but we hope we will be able to welcome him back soon.

In the time I have spent on the NZAGS Executive Committee I think it is fair to say that the workload of the committee members has gradually increased. NZAGS is now active in collaborating with many other partners, including Southern Cross, ACC, Health Workforce NZ, the New Zealand Medical Council and of course RACS (to name but a few). We are striving to act as a voice for our membership across many important issues that affect General Surgeons and Surgical Trainees both within New Zealand and the Pacific Region. We have forged strong relationships with our sister-organisations within the region and further afield. Most notably we have reciprocal invitations to attend the ASM's of the General Surgeons of Australia (GSA), and the Association of General Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI). The GSA held their ASM jointly with the Pacific Islands Surgeons Association (PISA) in Fiji this year, and GSA very kindly hosted me in my role as NZAGS President. This afforded me the opportunity to strengthen ties between NZAGS and PISA, and this will hopefully result in collaboration between PISA and NZAGS into the future. It is reassuring to know that our General Surgical Colleagues within Australasia, the Pacific Islands and the UK face many similar challenges to us here in NZ. It seems sensible to collaborate with these societies to share knowledge and solutions in what is now a globalised surgical community. In particular I feel strongly that we should extend a hand of friendship to our Pacific Island Colleagues, as they are our nearest neighbours.



### **The Board in General Surgery (BiGS):**

Perhaps the biggest change to occur in 2018 was the separation of the binational Board in General Surgery into two national Boards. This split has been considered in the past but did not come to fruition. Early in 2018 the agreement between BiGS and RACS for providing General Surgical training in Australia and New Zealand came up for review. At this point in time it became clear that there was perhaps a shift in the political landscape. It has long been recognised that Australia has a much larger pool of trainees. This meant that the majority of the meeting was used to discuss Australian trainees. It would seem that as the issues around trainees have become potentially more litigious, resulting in more cases being discussed at the BiGS level rather than being resolved at the level of the regional training committees. This had led to a gradual increase in the frequency of BiGS meetings. This meant that both the NZAGS President and the chair of the NZ training committee were required to attend more meetings in Australia, which certainly placed a significant draw on their time. Added to this, certain aspects of the management of trainees differed between the two nations. This was placing some stress on our NZAGS staff, who sometimes found it necessary to accommodate changes to deal with Australian-centric problems. The previous organisational structure saw the Australian Regional Training Committees reporting to BiGS. The New Zealand Training Committee also reported to BiGS, thus effectively only gaining the same voice as an Australian Regional Committee (2 out of 14 votes). BiGS then reported to the Board of Surgical Examinations and Training (BSET). In order to gain more of a 'national' voice it would require a New Zealand Board in General Surgery to report directly to BSET. The counter-argument to dividing into National Boards was that New Zealand benefitted from Australia's extensive knowledge relating to the 'failing trainee' and the legal aspects associated with this. Also the SEAM modules had been designed as a binational project, and NZ trainees would need access to them into the future.

After a number of very amicable meetings between GSA and NZAGS an MOU was agreed upon which allowed for a split of BiGS into two national boards. It was agreed that New Zealand Trainees would continue to have access to the current SEAM modules, and that development costs of any further modules would be divided based on the proportion of trainees in each country. It was important to ensure a common curriculum and standard for achieving FRACS across New Zealand and Australia. To this end a Bi-national Curriculum Conference (BCC) will be held annually. The split in the Boards became effective at the end of 2018, and a New Zealand National Board in General Surgery (NZBiGS) has now been developed. As discussed above this will report directly to BSET. I would like to thank Simon Bann for all his hard work in this regard. I would like to stress that the whole process was very amicable, and that there is a strong desire for NZAGS and GSA to continue to work closely to ensure that trainees in both countries have equivalent training experiences. The Presidents of both societies and Chairs of both Boards are invited to attend each other's meetings to facilitate this.

### **Australia and New Zealand Emergency Laparotomy Audit (ANZELA)**

The significant contribution to perioperative safety made by the National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA) in England and Wales has led to an initiative to replicate this in both Australia and New Zealand. Gowan Creamer is our representative for the ANZELA-QI pilot. Many societies including NZAGS have agreed to fund a 12 month pilot, but as yet it is still not clear the precise data set to be collected. As is often the case with bi-national projects, the data-points vary slightly between countries. It would be ideal to collect the same data across both countries to allow easy comparison of data, but this may not be practical. A good example is that most Australian hospitals have a formal "goals of care" form that addresses issues designed to assess the 'futility' or otherwise of surgery on very co-morbid patients. This is clearly pertinent when looking at outcomes in emergency surgery. However there are no equivalent forms in regular use in New Zealand hospitals at present. Risk assessment is another example: NELA has its own tool, while P-POSSUM is possibly more appropriate in the general surgical setting. I believe it is currently undecided whether ANZELA-QI should use P-POSSUM or the NELA tool. The advantage of using the NELA tool is that ANZELA data could then be more easily compared with the UK data. It seems sensible to design an IT system that will collect appropriate data across both countries in a reasonably simple manner (ie: self-populate as many of the data points as possible), in order to make the audit user-friendly for the General Surgeons who will eventually contribute. My apologies to Gowan if I have misrepresented the topic, but as I am sure you appreciate the interactions between NELA, CaDeNZAA, ANZELA and ANZELA-QI are both complex and confusing. Despite these teething problems, I would suggest that some form of Emergency Laparotomy Audit is worth persevering with as the Quality Improvements are significant.

## **Endoscopy Governance Group of New Zealand (EGGNZ)**

Andrew reported last year that EGGNZ standards for colonoscopy within the National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP) have been adopted by the Ministry of Health for bowel cancer screening. Further work has subsequently been done to roll these standards out more broadly. EGGNZ can only act in an advisory role, and it remains up to the credentialing committees of individual DHB's to adopt (or otherwise) any recommendations within the EGGNZ Guidelines. EGGNZ have sought a Memorandum of Understanding with both RACS and NZAGS. The RACS legal team are currently looking into the legal ramifications of this, and we have been advised to hold-off on signing an MOU until these issues have been resolved.

## **NZ Conjoint Committee for recognition of training in GI Endoscopy (NZCCRTE)**

Both EGGNZ and Conjoint Committee have written to RACS and RACP asking the Colleges to consider forming a restructured Conjoint Committee partnership. Marianne Lill is the RACS appointed member of the NZCCRTE, and Andrew Moot is involved in both EGGNZ and NZCCRTE. As EGGNZ does not have the mandate to act as a credentialing committee, this function is likely to remain with a newly organized Conjoint Committee.

## **ACC Hernia Guidelines**

For many years the "Smith Criteria" have been the main guideline used by ACC to determine whether an inguinal hernia meets the threshold for ACC support. These guidelines have been interpreted quite differently in different areas of the country, leading to both confusion and a lack of equality. This often led to ACC decisions being challenged in court, with the associated fiscal and time costs. A group of Surgeons consisting of: Spencer Beasley (Paediatric Surgeon), Grant Coulter (General Surgeon) Sally Langley (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon) and myself were invited to join ACC staff in revisiting the criteria. An extensive review of the literature was undertaken and new Guidelines were agreed upon. It was quite difficult to reconcile the needs of ACC, who are implementing an Act of Law, with the needs of the surgical community. However, it was important to produce an evidence based guideline that was both transparent and equitable. The intention of the group was to provide guidance to GP's who might be considering referral of patients with possible traumatic hernias. The hope was to avoid patients being referred if they had little or no hope of ACC cover. Clearly the guidelines could not be exhaustive. Work has subsequently been done by the same group on guidelines for Incisional Hernias covered through Treatment Injury.

## **Southern Cross**

Southern Cross holds the majority of the market share in the private surgical sector. Although a not-for-profit organization, Southern Cross have made significant losses over the last 12-24 months. NZAGS has been working closely with Southern Cross on a number of issues on behalf of our membership. This includes Affiliated Provider contracts (specifically Breast and Skin contracts) and more recently the possibility of 'utilization limits' and other restrictions to new Fellows setting up in Private practice.

Although not an exhaustive list of the activities of our Executive Committee, I hope this report helps to indicate the variety of activities NZAGS is involved with on behalf of our members. I'd like to acknowledge all the hard work provided and time spent by our committee members, especially as these are purely voluntary roles.

Nga mihi

Julian Speight  
President

### **Composition of the NZTC**

The training committee comprises the Chair (myself), Deputy Chair (Dave Moss, Middlemore) and representatives from each of the 18 DHBs with accredited training positions. In addition, there is a training representative and the exceptional Wellington office staff.

There were a few changes to the composition of the Training Committee. In March 2018 we said farewell to Usha Shan in Whangarei who had been on the Committee for 8 years and Atul Dhabuwala from the Hutt who stood down in June after 9 years in his role. Many thanks to Usha and Atul for their many years of contributions to the Committee. John Lengyel replaced Usha at Whangarei and James Tietjens replaced Atul at the Hutt. In addition, Bevan Jenkins took on the role for 12 months while Emily Davenport was on parental leave. Bevan did a stellar job and we hope to see him again in a Committee role at NZAGS. At the end of 2018 Steven Kelly stood down at Christchurch after 6 years and has been replaced by Sarah Abbott.

I am now in my third year in the role as Chair of the Training Committee and Dave Moss will be taking over the role in June 2019. It is a busy role and there are always issues (large and small to be attended to) and I am grateful to previous and current Committee members for their assistance, support and dedication to their roles.

### **Training Post Status**

In 2019 New Zealand has 69 SET 2+ training positions. This is an increase from 2018 as Middlemore, Waikato, Hawkes Bay and Christchurch all successfully applied for an extra training position. In 2019 all training positions bar one six month term is filled which is fantastic given that there were a number of gaps in 2018. The length of training is 4 years and moving back to a 5 year training program in 2021.

In April and May 3 DHBs were reinspected. One DHB was accredited for a further 4 years and two were given accreditation for one year pending a further reinspection in 2019.

### **Trainee Performance**

Our trainees continue to perform well in general. In 2018 there were a total of 69 trainees and 77 in 2019. In the 2019 year there are 6 trainees on interruption - 2 on research interruption and 4 on parental interruption. This is higher than previous years and in addition there are 3 trainees on deferral.

Examination performance continues to be good and an improvement on the 2017 year which had a pass rate over the two sittings as 64%. The Training Committee was particularly pleased with the success of a trainee who had made a number of attempts at passing the exam.

May 2018 – 9 sat, 7 passed = 77 % pass rate

September 2018 – 3 sat, 2 passed = 66% pass rate

12 attempts over the 2 sittings = 75% pass rate

### **2018 Selection**

In 2018 there were a total of 37 applicants for the SET programme in General Surgery – an increase of 9 from the previous year. Of these 31 candidates were offered an interview based on their Curriculum Vitae and referee reports. Twelve candidates were offered a training position in the first instance with a wait list of eight. In the end three on the wait list were offered a place on the training program as three trainees deferred.

Selection of candidates is a relatively complex process that depends on a number of factors including availability of training posts in the following year, and the threshold of performance based on the selection tools. RACS is actively looking at tools that can be used to assist Training Boards with Selection. Situational Judgement Tests (SJTs) are a tool that are used in The UK, Canada and the USA and further discussion is underway about piloting these in New Zealand and Australia.

In November a SET induction day was held in Wellington. This is the sixth time we have run this day. The purpose is to familiarize the new trainees with the structure of the training programme, the requirements, and the various regulations that it is important for them to know. Various members of the committee contributed as well as present trainees. Ben Cribb gave a very timely session on Cultural Competency and suggestions for dealing with Maori patients and their Whanau. Pete Stiven gave a talk about the benefits and the odd downside of working in a provincial centre. Sean Seo and Suheelan Kulasagaren both current trainees gave their perspective on a number of issues including SOLA, Trainee Representative role and SEAM. Many thanks to Ben Cribb, Sean Seo, Suheelan Kulasagaren Pete Stiven and Dave Moss who assisted at the Induction Day.

### **Research Network**

The Clinical Trails Network in New Zealand and Australia is now in its second year. The aim of this network is to encourage multi centre research projects across New Zealand and Australia. We hope that this will develop over the next few years resulting in some significant research projects.

## **SEAM**

All trainees passed the requisite modules in 2018. All the modules were reviewed in 2018 and a refresh project of all the modules is well underway.

### **Additional Board and Training Committee Activities**

The major development in 2018 was the request from the GSA President and the Chair of BiGS outlining their proposal for a separation of the Board into separate but amicable Training Boards for both countries. A number of meetings were held to discuss how this might work and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in July 2018 with the proposal for the Boards to separate as of 1 December 2018. This was agreed to by RACS and the new Board is now operational with myself as Chair. The first meeting of the Board will be in March 2019 and the Board will have responsibility for more strategic matters while the Training Committee will continue to do the day to day running of the training programme.

Supporting Cultural Competence in Surgical Training – In September 2018 a workshop bringing together all the specialties was held at the RACS offices. It was a very fruitful and interesting day with good representation from General Surgery, Orthopaedics, Plastics, Urology, Otolaryngology, Te Ora plus other invited guests. My hope is that there is that we are able to come up with a combined set of resources rather than each specialty coming up with their own resources.

Similarly, to last year the training committee will interview all SET 2 trainees in March at the time of the face to face meeting. This allows the committee to interact and discuss any training issues with trainees.

Mandatory courses for Trainers and Supervisors – as of December 2018 General Surgery nearly has a 100% completion rate for these. There is just one more trainer required to complete this course. Disturbingly we still do get reports of bullying behaviours in some of our DHBs and we need to continue to spread that message that this behaviour is not acceptable.

My thanks go to the members of the subcommittee for their commitment to the wellbeing of their trainees, and to Helen and Claire for their unwavering support this year.

Simon Bann BSc MD FRCS FRACS

*Regional Chair*

*New Zealand Training Committee General Surgery RACS*

*General/Endocrine/Bariatric Surgeon*

*Wellington, New Zealand*

## Executive Director's Report 2018

The year ending 30 November 2018 was a busy year for me. Claire Nicoll was on extended leave for 7 months and we lost Sandra Kennerley, our Accounts Manager in March. I managed to replace Sandra with another Sandra (not a requirement for the role) Sandra Swainson who started in August. So it was only Helen Glasgow and I for half of the year. I'd like to personally thank Helen for her support and work during this time. I would have been lost without her. What this staff leave highlights is our strategy of having several part-time roles instead of 1 or 2 full time roles is essential for a small organization when staff go on leave or are sick etc.

I undertook a major website rebuild this year, and our new website launched in December 2018. I hope you agree it's a more professional looking website and easier to navigate. The website will now be responsible for invoicing annual subscriptions on a rolling 12 month basis. So, if a new member joins in August they will pay another sub the following August.

The other main piece of work outside of the day to day duties was helping the Executive work through the request from GSA to separate the BiGS board. Thanks to Mr Simon Bann, this was achieved relatively painlessly.

## **Financials**

Revenue was down by \$55k this year at \$577k, largely due to the higher income received in 2017 from hospital inspections. Trainee numbers were down and therefore trainee income was down, but selection income was up. Conference revenue and conference annual contribution to profit was also down for the Paihia conference although the conference did contribute a profit of \$6k.

Expenses were also down \$7k this year to \$538k largely due to the employment costs being lower due to staff leave of absence. I expect expenses to rise in 2019 due to the NZBiGS. While we will receive a fee from RACS for the board costs, it is unlikely to cover the full cost of running the board. The extra costs will have to come from the trainee fees income.

## **Membership**

Was down this year and is likely a result of not having an Accounts Manager for part of the year to chase outstanding invoices. The new website will do this for us. It will send an invoice and a reminder if it is not paid. We have 186 members and 66 trainees. The sub-specialty surgeons still tend to only join their sub-specialty associations and one of my

actions this year, now that I have more time, is to build stronger relationships with our sub-specialty groups.

I would like to remind surgeons that NZAGS is the Specialty organization that advocates for ALL members (as our work on bowel cancer screening attests to) and it's important that all surgeons are involved to ensure we can advocate across sub-specialties. NZAGS are conscious that Southern Cross is likely to role out a breast APP in 2019/2020 and we need all breast surgeons to be involved.

You should be encouraging your fellow consultants to become members to demonstrate a united front. Also why should a few members carry the cost of running the organization? I'm often ask to poll our members for various GS consultants and it still surprises me how many requests I get from non-members. Who do they think pays for my time etc.

Under the terms of the Surgical Collective Agreement, members can claim for both specialty and sub-specialty membership subscriptions.

Please ensure you keep NZAGS updated with changes in your email and physical addresses through the website. Email is used for all communications with members, and delivers relevant news and events. It takes two seconds to drop NZAGS an email, or make a change to your profile yourself within the NZAGS website. Log in and visit the MY ACCOUNT page <https://www.nzags.co.nz/my-account/>

I also would like to thank my staff, Sandra, Helen, and Claire, Julian Speight our President, the Executive Committee, Training Committee, and all of you who give very generously of your time to our organization. I don't know where NZAGS would be without you.

I wish you all the best in 2019. On behalf of Claire, Sandra, Helen and I, thank you.

*Bronwen Evans*  
*Executive Director*

## Directory NZAGS Executive Committee, 2018

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| President                               | Julian Speight               |
| Vice-President                          | Graeme Roadley               |
| Immediate Past President                | Andrew Moot                  |
| Treasurer                               | Peter Shapkov                |
| Continuing Professional Development     | Simon Bann / Ian Burton      |
|   |                              |
| Committee Members (during the year)     | Grant Coulter                |
|   | Gowan Creamer                |
|   | Rowan French                 |
|   | Nigel Henderson              |
|   | Vanessa Blair                |
|   | Peter Stiven                 |
|   | David Vernon                 |
|   | Nagham AlMonzey              |
|   | John Lengyel                 |
|   |                              |
| Chair, Education and Training           | Simon Bann                   |
| Training Vice-Chair                     | David Moss                   |
| Meeting Co-ordinator (Palmerston North) | Philippa Mercer/Ross Roberts |
| Trainee Representative                  | Suheelan Kulasegaran         |
| Private Practice Representative         | Ian Burton                   |
| Executive Director/Secretary            | Bronwen Evans                |
| Younger Fellow Representative           | Jasen Ly                     |

### Office

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## Future NZAGS Meetings -2019

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| New Plymouth    | 2020 |
| Wellington      | 2021 |
| Fiji (TBC)      | 2022 |
| Nelson          | 2023 |
| Tauranga        | 2024 |
| Hastings/Napier | 2025 |
| Dunedin         | 2026 |
| Hamilton        | 2027 |
| Rotorua         | 2028 |
| Auckland        | 2029 |
| Invercargill    | 2030 |

| NZAGS Members 2018<br>(Including Retired) |                         |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| Adrian Secker                             | John Frye               | Timothy Eglinton  |  |
| Alec Winder                               | John Keating            | Todd Hore   |  |
| Alex Dalzell                              | John Windsor            | Tom Burton  |  |
| Alexander Skavysh                         | Jonathan Koea           | Tony Phang  |  |
| Alice Febery                              | Josephine Todd          | Universe Leung  |  |
| Andrew Bowker                             | Karl Kodeda             | Wai Keat Chang  |  |
| Andrew Connolly                           | Li Hsee                 | William Perry   |  |
| Andrew Hill                               | Lincoln Israel          | Alastair Yule   |  |
| Andrew Ing                                | Malcolm Gordon          | Charles Mixer   |  |
| Andrew MacCormick                         | Mark Sanders            | Denis Whittle   |  |
| Anupam Modi                               | Mark Stewart            | Douglas Knight  |  |
| Atul Dhabuwala                            | Matthew Clark           | Gavin Wilton  |  |
| Avinesh Kumar                             | Matthew Leeman          | Kenneth Menzies   |  |
| Bernard McEntee                           | Michael Booth           | Murray Pfeifer  |  |
| Bernd Grunewald                           | Michael Hulme-Moir      | Phillip Godfrey   |  |
| Bevan Jenkins                             | Michael Puttick         | Stephen Vallance  |  |
| Bill Gilkison                             | Michael Rodgers         | Aleksandra Popadich   |  |
| Birgit Dijkstra                           | msakowska               | Alexandra Gordon  |  |
| Bruce Rhind                               | Nicholas Evennett       | Andrew Audeau   |  |
| Burton King                               | Nick Smith              | Andrew Moot   |  |
| C K Reddy                                 | Nicola Davis            | David Vernon  |  |
| Chris Gray                                | Philip Allen            | Elizabeth Dennett   |  |
| Christoffel Snyman                        | Pravin Kumar            | Emily Davenport   |  |
| Christopher Harmston                      | Rene van den Bosch      | Etienne Truter  |  |
| Christopher Wakeman                       | Richard Coutts          | Falah El-Haddawi  |  |
| Colin Wilson                              | Richard Flint           | Gowan Creamer   |  |
| Damien Ah Yen                             | Richard Martin          | Graeme Roadley  |  |
| David Adams                               | Richard Perry           | Grant Coulter   |  |
| David Dickson                             | Richard Tapper          | Helen   |  |
| David Griffith                            | Rick Cirolli            | Isaac Cranshaw  |  |
| David Moss                                | Suheelan Kulasegaran    | Belinda Scott   |  |
| david.fletcher                            | Robert Cable            | James Tietjens  |  |
| Fraser Welsh                              | Robert Robertson        | Jasen Ly  |  |
| Garth Poole                               | Ross Roberts            | Linus Wu  |  |
| Gary Cooper                               | Rukshan Ravindra Ranjan | Marianne Lill   |  |
| Gerard Bonnet                             | Sanjay Pandanaboyana    | Nigel Henderson   |  |
| Graeme Millar                             | Savitha Bhagvan         | Paul Samson   |  |
| Grant Beban                               | Saxon Connor            | Peter Shapkov   |  |
| Hisham Hammodat                           | Semisi Aiono            | Philippa Mercer   |  |
| Hugh Cooke                                | Simon Richards          | Rowan French  |  |
| Ian Burton                                | Siraj Rajaratnam        | Thomas Elliott  |  |
| Ian Campbell                              | Stephanie Ulmer         | Usha Shan   |  |

|               |                         |                  |
|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Ian Civil     | Stephen Kyle            | Vanessa Blair    |
| Imad Aljanabi | Steven Hudson           | Simon Harper     |
| James Shaw    | Steven Kelly            | Jeremy Rossaak   |
| Jane Strang   | Susan Gerred            | John Jarvis      |
| John Dunn     | Susan Seifried          | Julian Speight   |
| John Fleischl | Susrutha Wickremesekera | Magdalena Biggar |
| John Lengyel  | Wayne Jones             | Amit Reddy       |
| Peter Stiven  | Warren Watson           | Sarah Abbott     |
| Simon Bann    | Mark Thompson-Fawcett   | Peter Chin       |

# 2018 SET Trainees

|    | LAST NAME   | FIRST NAME |
|----|-------------|------------|
| 1  | Amer        | Mohammad   |
| 2  | Anderson    | William    |
| 3  | Balhorn     | Josh       |
| 4  | Barazanchi  | Ahmed      |
| 5  | Barnard     | Jon        |
| 6  | Barnes      | Tracey     |
| 7  | Bayly       | Angela     |
| 8  | Brown       | Lisa       |
| 9  | Burton      | Thomas     |
| 10 | Campbell    | Sandra     |
| 11 | Chu         | Michael    |
| 12 | Chung       | Lisa       |
| 13 | Clinick     | Tara       |
| 14 | Cribb       | Benjamin   |
| 15 | Cross       | Andrea     |
| 16 | Davies      | Jemma      |
| 17 | de Burlet   | Kirsten    |
| 18 | Edwards     | Melissa    |
| 19 | Escott      | Alistair   |
| 20 | Fagan       | Paul       |
| 21 | Fischer     | Nicholas   |
| 22 | Foo         | Elizabeth  |
| 23 | Goodwin     | Bernadette |
| 24 | Gunawardene | Ashok      |
| 25 | Keane       | Celia      |
| 26 | Khan        | Ayman      |
| 27 | Kong        | Victor     |
| 28 | Kulasagaren | Suheelan   |
| 29 | Lam         | Anna       |
| 30 | Lauti       | Melanie    |
| 31 | Lim         | Yukai      |
| 32 | Liu         | Chen       |
| 33 | Manning     | Stephanie  |
| 34 | Morrow      | Anna       |
| 35 | Murray      | Mark       |
| 36 | O'Grady     | Michael    |

|    |              |             |
|----|--------------|-------------|
| 37 | Omar         | Ahmed       |
| 38 | Palit        | Somnath     |
| 39 | Patel        | Riteshkumar |
| 40 | Phang        | Kian Liun   |
| 41 | Pondicherry  | Ashwini     |
| 42 | Puckett      | Jevon       |
| 43 | Pullman      | Jack        |
| 44 | Pyle         | Braden      |
| 45 | Rajaretnam   | Nigel       |
| 46 | Rapson       | Kate        |
| 47 | Reeves       | Michael     |
| 48 | Rennie       | Sarah       |
| 49 | Rhodes       | Janet       |
| 50 | Robertson    | Jason       |
| 51 | Russell      | Michael     |
| 52 | Sarvepalli   | Rohit       |
| 53 | Seo          | Sean        |
| 54 | Sheikh       | Laila       |
| 55 | Shine        | Rebecca     |
| 56 | Singh        | Parry       |
| 57 | Smith        | Maiko       |
| 58 | Sthory       | Roberto     |
| 59 | Sutherland   | Aleisha     |
| 60 | Tan          | James       |
| 61 | Tan          | Jeffrey     |
| 62 | Thomas       | Jen         |
| 63 | Thomas       | Megan       |
| 64 | Turner       | Gregory     |
| 65 | Vather       | Ryash       |
| 66 | Watson       | Bridget     |
| 67 | Wijayanayaka | Delendra    |
| 68 | Wilkins      | James       |
| 69 | Yassaie      | Shahed      |

Total number of trainees: [69]

Total number of Active trainees: [55]

Trainees on Interruption – Accredited Research [5]

Trainees on Interruption – Parental [5], Medical [1]

Trainees Deferred (3)