

1.1 The Australasian College of Dermatologists

1.1.1 Vision Statement

The College is a fellowship of dermatologists trained to the highest professional standards whose objective is to serve the community by providing the best quality dermatological care.

1.1.2 Key Competencies of the College

The key competencies of the College are:

1 Education

- Training
- Professional development
- Education of other health professionals

2 Professionalism

- Professional standards
- Ethical standards

3 Service

- Ensuring quality dermatological service to the community
- Developing new programs to deliver dermatological care to all parts of the country

4 Expertise

- Advising Government, media, support groups
- Promoting public awareness of skin health
- Supporting research

1.1.3 Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives of the College are:

- 1 To provide and maintain dermatological education at all levels.
- 2 To define and maintain the highest standards of ethical practice.
- 3 To promote better public awareness about the skin and its care and the prevention of skin disease.
- 4 To provide the best standards of professional service to all members of the community.
- 5 To support and promote dermatological research.
- 6 To undertake its objectives competently, efficiently and responsively.

1.1.2 Membership of the College

The College 2006 Annual Report to members reported the following membership:

Table 1
Current Members

State	Numbers
Queensland	61
New South Wales	163
Victoria	87
South Australia	33
Western Australia	31
New Zealand	10 ¹
Associates	30
Corresponding members	17
Total	385

Of the current members listed in Table 1 above, the following number are trainees:

Table 2
Current Trainees

State	Total Number In 2006 ²	Number Who Deferred Training or are on Leave in 2006
Queensland	13	1
New South Wales	20	0
Victoria	21	0
South Australia	6	2
Western Australia	4	0
Total	64	3

The College does not run a training program in New Zealand. The Royal Australasian College of Physicians runs the training program for dermatologists in New Zealand.

1.1.3 Management of the VTP

The Board of Censors (BOC) is responsible for managing the vocational training program. The Board of Censors consists of the Chief Censor and six

¹ The College does not have a training program in New Zealand. The Royal Australasian College of Physicians runs the training program for dermatologists in New Zealand.

² Includes trainees who deferred training or are on approved leave, for example, maternity leave

Censors. The Chief Censor is appointed for three years. Censors are appointed for five years.

Until May 2006 all of the BOC's recommendations were ratified by the College Council. In 2005 the College adopted changes to its corporate governance to enable more effective governance in the medico-political environment of the 21st century. The background to these changes is explained in Attachment 1.

Under a new Constitution a Board of Directors (BOD) took effect on 1 April 2006. The Board met for the first time by teleconference on 11 April 2006 and resolved that each Director be assigned a portfolio of responsibilities. The following education portfolios were established:

Chief Censor	Responsible for examinations
One Elected Director	Responsible for overseeing educational development for Fellows, including the professional development program, working with the Professional Development Subcommittee, considering scientific meeting content and overseeing training for OTSs
One Elected Director	Responsible for overseeing the implementation of the training program at Faculty level, including liaison with Directors of Training, Heads of Departments, Supervisors of Training and the Trainee Representative Committee.

At its second meeting on 12 May 2006 the full Board of Directors resolved that:

- The Board of Censors would be a standing committee of the Board of Directors and should be authorised to exercise greater autonomy on matters that are not of major political, policy or financial consequence to College, rather than referring all such matters to the Board for decision;
- College should establish an Education Committee comprising the Chief Censor and the two elected Directors with education portfolios;
- In due course, there should be separate committees for training, professional development and curriculum.

The Board of Directors is moving to fulfill its declared objective of establishing an overarching Education Committee, under which there will be a number of committees of equal importance referring to it namely:

- The Professional Development Committee which is concerned with the College's Professional Development Program;
- The Training Committee which is responsible for overseeing the selection of trainees into the training program;
- The OTS/AON Assessment Committee which is responsible for the assessment of overseas trained dermatologists.

1.1.4 Duties of the Board of Censors

The 2006 *Training Program Handbook* (pp 40-41) states that the duties of the Censors are to:

- Evaluate and review the trainee selection process;
- Review the Training Program Handbook annually;
- Develop, evaluate and review the training program curriculum;
- Oversee the formative assessment of trainees;
- Oversee the summative assessment of trainees which includes:
 - Assessing eligibility of trainees to sit for the Clinical Sciences, Pharmacology and Fellowship Examinations;
 - Developing examination questions, cases and scenarios;
 - Organising and Co-ordinating the examinations;
 - Examining for the oral Fellowship examinations;
 - Training Additional Examiners needed for the oral Fellowship Examinations;
 - Marking both written and oral examinations;
 - Giving feedback to trainees who fail any of the summative assessments required in the training program.
- Periodically carrying out inspections of training programs to determine if they meet the requirements of the curriculum and making recommendations to Council³ based on these inspections;
- Developing, organizing and evaluating the Biennial Training Conference;
- Attending the Board of Censors meetings and teleconferences as required;
- Acting on directives from Council regarding elements of the training program;
- Ensuring that the training program meets the requirements for AMC accreditation;
- Contributing to the preparation of documentation required for ongoing accreditation with the AMC.

In addition to the above duties, the Chief Censor is responsible for:

- Co-ordinating the activities of Board of Censors, including meetings, workloads and responsibilities of individual Censors;
- Submitting written reports to Council⁴ as required;
- Being a member of the College Executive⁵ and attending Executive meetings and teleconferences as required;
- Attend other meetings related to the training program as required;

³ The Board of Censors now makes recommendations to the College Board following changes to the College governance arrangements implemented in 2006 (see Attachment 1 for more information).

⁴ The Board of Censors now reports to the Board of Directors.

⁵ The College Executive has been replaced by the College Board following changes to the College governance arrangements implemented in 2006 (see Attachment 1 for more information).

- Communicating the outcomes of any meetings attended in his/her capacity as Chief Censor, to the Board of Censors;
- Liaise with State Directors of Training to obtain information on trainee concerns and performance;
- Monitor the progress of those trainees who have been brought to the Chief Censor's attention by the State Director of Training as performing unsatisfactorily in any aspect of their training;
- Be the chairman⁶ of the interview panel for consideration of the qualifications of overseas trained specialists;
- Oversee the Professional Development Program⁷.

The duties of both the BOC and Chief Censor are reviewed annually when the *Training Program Handbook* is reviewed. When this annual review takes place in late 2006 the duties will be updated in line with the Board of Directors decisions concerning the management of education and training.

⁶ This panel is now chaired by the Director responsible for overseeing the professional development of Fellows (see section 1.1.3). The Chief Censor is a member of this panel.

⁷ The Director responsible for overseeing the professional development of Fellows is now responsible for overseeing the Professional Development Program (see section 1.1.3).