

# SURGICAL NEWS

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## A History of Wound Infection



## COLLEGE NEWS / IMPORTANT NOTICE

### Proposed changes to the structure of Council

OUR GOVERNANCE structure needs to continue to change to reflect the requirements of the Fellowship and the need for 'good governance'. This will be undertaken in a number of steps over time.

As noted in the last edition of Surgical News (August 2004), at its June meeting Council voted unanimously to:

- Support a change in Council structure to 16 elected Councillors and nine Specialty Councillors, all of whom would be eligible to vote for, and be elected to, office bearer positions.

Specialty Councillors will be elected to Council by the present centrally conducted electoral system (slightly modified) and must have a recognised line of communication with their electorate.

- Put this option to Fellowship at large via a postal ballot with the additional information as identified.
- Direct the Executive General Manager to implement and conduct such a postal ballot.

A postal ballot will be held in early November to gain the Fellowship's support for this first step in changing the composition of Council.

A positive result of such a postal ballot would mean that Council would be comprised of 25 Councillors of equal standing: 16 elected from the Fellowship at large and nine elected from the Fellowship in each craft group. Terms, conditions, rights and responsibilities of appointment would be the same for all Councillors.

Further information is being forwarded to Specialist Societies and Regional Committees prior to the dissemination of the ballot papers.

We look forward to reporting to you the outcome of the ballot and thank you in advance for contributing to the decision making processes of the College as we aim to better meet the needs, and be more inclusive, of the Fellowship.

Anne Kolbe  
President

## HAND AWARD SURGERY

NEW ZEALAND Plastic Surgeon Mr Murray Beagley recently became not only the first Australasian surgeon to sit the European Hand Surgery Exam but, as a consequence of his outstanding results, the first to win the prestigious Churchill Livingstone medal for Best Exam Candidate.

The Federation of the European Society for Surgery of the Hand presented Mr Beagley his Medal in Lisbon last year while he was also honoured for his achievements in the Journal of British Hand Surgery in July.

Now back home in Auckland, Mr Beagley said sitting the exam and winning the Medal had capped a rewarding period extending his specialist knowledge of hand surgery in the United Kingdom, firstly in Bristol under Mr Donald Sammut and at the St Andrew's Centre for Plastic Surgery at Chelmsford under Mr David Elliot.

He said the exam involved a multi-choice elimination paper and two oral examinations before European hand surgery luminaries John Stanley, Ulrich Lanz and Alberto Lluch.

It included the discussion of the surgical management of congenital malformations, secondary reconstructions, traumatic disorders, tumours and degenerative diseases.

"My results in this exam, particularly as the first Australasian-trained surgeon to undertake it, I believe says a great deal about the standard of surgical education and training offered here," Mr Beagley said.

"In fact there was an attitude expressed at the time that surgeons trained here would not find the examination too daunting with aspects of it not unlike the Part Two exam.

"I feel very honoured that the Australasians are recognised this way."

Mr Beagley returned to New Zealand in October last year, after an appointment at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital as a Congenital Hand Fellow under the tutelage of Mr Paul Smith.

He is now a consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon at the Middlemore Hospital and Starship Children's Hospital in Auckland with most of his practice focussed on hand surgery and the surgical treatment of hypospadias.

He said he was now involved in the establishment of a unique Regional Specialist Hand Unit at Middlemore hospital comprising both Orthopaedic and Plastic Surgeons.

Mr Beagley is also a volunteer surgeon with Interplast Australasia and will be travelling to Fiji next year to undertake hand surgery and hypospadias repair.

– College Media Office