

<b>Division:</b>	<b>Fellowship Engagement</b>	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>POL-3062</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>South Australian Regional Office</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>SA Anstey Giles Medal</b>		

## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy details the awarding of the Anstey Giles Medal

## 2. KEYWORDS

South Australia, Anstey Giles, Award, Medal

## 3. BODY OF POLICY

### 3.1. Background

This Lecture, formerly the Annual Lecture, was first given under this name in 1953. It commemorates the contributions to surgery of one of the founders of the College, William Anstey Giles (1860-1944). A member of an eminent pioneering family of South Australia, Anstey Giles was educated at Clifton School in Bristol, and graduated from the medical school at Edinburgh University in 1882. He subsequently undertook postgraduate study with Adam Politzer in Vienna, and specialized in diseases of the ear, nose and throat.

He returned to Adelaide in 1885, and in due course built up a large general practice. He was appointed lecturer in otology at the University of Adelaide in 1886, and joined the (Royal) Adelaide Hospital as assistant surgeon in 1887. His career flourished, and he ultimately became Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (1895 and 1902), Registrar to the Medical Board of South Australia, and consultant surgeon to the (Royal) Adelaide Hospital. He was the first chairman of the South Australian State Committee of the College (1928-32).

Giles, with others in the profession, endured a very difficult period in the history of medicine in South Australia. In 1896 teaching at the Hospital and the Medical School was suspended when the Government dismissed the Board of Management. The honorary medical staff then resigned en masse, leaving the students without any tutelage. Not until 1901 did the staff return, and clinical teaching resume.

Anstey Giles was a man of commanding presence and irascible temper. Whatever he undertook was done with energy and enthusiasm. He was a strict adherent of aseptic procedures, and a prolific contributor to the medical literature on a wide range of topics. When speaking about the foundation of the College, he said, "Its objective was to make more perfect the art and science of surgery, and to give the best possible service to the community".

The annual lecture bears his name to honour his contribution to surgery in South Australia.

### 3.2. Composition

This lecture is given annually during the Annual SA Dinner.

The lecturer is chosen by the Regional Committee. Suggestions are made from the Committee, to which the Chair ratifies.

The recipient does not need to be from the medical fraternity, nor a surgeon. In recent years, the recipient has been someone of interest to the membership, who is South Australian.

The lecturer is given a medal at the conclusion of their lecture.

**POLICY**

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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**4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

Procedure – Annual Dinner (Includes Anstey Giles Lecture)

**Approver** CEO  
**Authoriser** Council

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