

Division:	Education Development & Assessment	Ref. No.	EDA-EXA-036
Department:	Examinations		
Title:	Gordon Gordon-Taylor Prize		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy details the awarding of Gordon Gordon-Taylor Prize.

2. KEYWORDS

Gordon-Taylor, Medal, Generic, Surgical Science, Examination

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

Born in Scotland, Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor (1878–1960) was already a classical graduate of Aberdeen when he entered the Middlesex Medical School in 1898. Thence he qualified in 1903 and went on to obtain a B.Sc. with first class honours in anatomy at the University of London.

During the First World War he became Consulting Surgeon to the Fourth Army and on demobilization was appointed Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital in 1920. A scholar and a great teacher, he was an adventurous surgeon and prolific writer on the diverse aspects of surgery. In the Second World War as a Consulting Surgeon to the Royal navy, he held the rank of Rear Admiral.

Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1906, a Councillor from 1932 to 1948, and Vice-President from 1941 to 1943. He was many times Hunterian Professor at the Royal College of Surgeons and held high office in many other professional associations. In 1956 he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Society of medicine – a rare honour. Widely travelled, he held a Doctorate (*honoris causa*) in many universities the world over and was an Honorary Fellow of every surgical College in the English-speaking world.

His association with and interest in Australian and New Zealand Surgeons commenced during the First World war – an interest which brought close friendship and practical help to many Australian and New Zealand surgeons throughout his lifetime.

He was Visiting Examiner in Australia for the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1931 and 1934. His interest in the Royal Australian College of Surgeons was profound and he came to regard this as his second spiritual home. He was killed in an accident returning from a Test match at Lord's in 1960.

His name is fittingly perpetuated in the Gordon-Taylor Lecture (distributed annually among the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Middlesex Hospital and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons) and also by the Gordon-Taylor Prize. The Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor award was endowed by the Fellows of the Australasian College who have been recipients of the Hallett Prize – a counterpart award made by the Royal College of Surgeons of England for the recipient of the highest marks in the Primary Examination for Fellowship of that College.

3.2. The Award

The award is comprised of a bronze medal.

3.3. Presentation and Frequency

3.3.1. This prize is awarded to the highest scoring candidate at each RACS Generic Surgical Sciences Examination (GSSE).

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3.3.2. All GSSE candidates are eligible to receive the award.

3.3.3. The prize may be formally presented at a regional meeting or the recipient may elect not to be presented.

3.3.4. The recipient is notified via post and his/her name is published on the College website.

3.4. Financial implications for recipient of the Award

When the prize is presented, travel and accommodation is not provided and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by the College.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Policies

EDA-EXA-008 Conduct of the SET Generic Surgical Sciences Examination

EDA-EXA-026 Conduct of the Generic Surgical Sciences Examination for Prevocational Doctors

Approver Education Board
Authoriser Council

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