

Portfolio	Operations	Ref. No.	REL-PCS-015
Department:	President & Council Support		
Title:	Sir Louis Barnett Medal		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Sir Louis Barnett Medal. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Sir Louis Barnett Medal, Annual Scientific Congress

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

- 3.1.1. Established in 1990, the Sir Louis Barnett Medal was deemed by Council to be a signal honour.
- 3.1.2. The medal represents the efforts of Sir Louis Barnett to create a “hallmark” of surgical excellence. He was responsible for the original proposals, in 1920, to create a New Zealand or Australasian association of surgeons. He was also instrumental in maintaining the ties that kept New Zealand in the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) despite the communication and other problems of the 1930s.
- 3.1.3. The Sir Louis Barnett Medal is bestowed on persons who have made outstanding contributions to education, training and advancement of surgery.

3.2. Presentation and Frequency

The award is normally presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).

3.3. Criteria for Award

The Sir Louis Barnett Medal is bestowed on persons who have made outstanding contributions to education, training and advancement of surgery.

3.4. Nominations

- 3.4.1. The Sir Louis Barnett Medal is a Singular Award and a nomination can be accepted for discussion at any Awards Committee meeting but will usually only be approved and presented to Council for final approval at the October Awards Committee meeting held during Council Week.
- 3.4.2. A nomination for the Sir Louis Barnett Medal shall be made in confidence in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee by a minimum of two members and a past member of Council at least six (6) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting and shall contain biographical details, information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications or a CV.
- Each nomination requires the nominator to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the nomination for the award. Nominations without this additional background information will be returned to the nominator for further documentation.
- 3.4.3. After approval by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. At least 12 members of Council must be in favour of the award.

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3.5. The Award

- 3.5.1. Cast in sterling silver, the RACS Coat of Arms appears on the obverse of the medal and the name of the medal, the effigy of Sir Louis Barnett and the object of the award on the reverse as follows:

“Sir Louis Barnett Medal of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons – for outstanding contributions to education, training and advancement in Surgery”.

- 3.5.2. The Medal is accompanied by a calligraphic citation bearing the recipient’s name and the date and a statement that it has been awarded.

3.6. Financial implications for recipient of the Award

As this award is normally presented at the ASC it is important to note that:

- 3.6.1. Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by RACS.
- 3.6.2. If being presented at the ASC, registration and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Sir Louis Barnett Medal procedure: REL-PCS-024

Approver: Awards Committee

Authoriser: Council