

## **A College Timeline (*Some dates of note down the years...*)**

- 1948 Informal meeting of pathologists began in Queensland and from this the Australian Association of Clinical Pathologists emerged. They met formally for the first time in October 1948 in Melbourne. By 1954 the members of this group proposed the establishment of a College.
- 1956 College of Pathologists of Australia incorporated 10 April 1956.
- 1956 Inaugural meeting of the College was held in Melbourne on 30 August at the College of Surgeons. 170 people attended of whom 70 were Foundation Fellows. Dr Edgar Thompson became the first President.
- 1958 A Coat of Arms designed by Dr Davies became the College crest. The College gowns reflect the red and green colours of the crest.
- 1958 The College established a Board of Censors to deal with examinations for College membership.
- 1959 First College examinations held in June 1959 with 5 candidates.
- 1965 College subscriptions were raised from 8 to 10 guineas in June 1965.
- 1966 A Councillor appointed from College Fellows in NZ was included for the first time
- 1967 In August 1967 it was decided to produce a Quarterly scientific journal to be named 'Pathology' and it continues today under the same title.
- 1969 First 'broadsheets' were published.
- 1970 Council agreed to set up a Regional Committee for NZ. Queen granted College the privilege of using the title "Royal" in December
- 1971 Under Presidency of Dr Hackett the title 'Member' changed to 'Fellow' of the College.
- 1971 A 20 year lease was granted by the City of Sydney for the use of premises at 82 Windmill Street in Sydney's historic Rocks area.
- 1973 JSAC (RCPA and RACP combined training) begins with haematology and immunology a year later.
- 1974 Premises leased next door at 84 Windmill St – extensions planned for the new premises.
- 1975 Commonwealth Government introduced Medibank – because of problems the College became involved in medico political affairs.
- 1976 College established its Pathology Services Advisory Committee to replace the Committee for Fees and Medical Benefits.
- 1978 Fully renovated/extended premises of 82-84 Windmill Street (including the Edgar Thompson Memorial Library), were opened by the Federal Minister for Health.
- 1979 College changed from Royal College of Pathologists of Australia to AUSTRALASIA. Fellows expressed overwhelming approval for the change of name.
- 1979 The College's long involvement in Accreditation of Pathology Laboratories in Australia culminated in the Order-in-Council constituting the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council in Canberra in February 1979
- 1980 The College celebrated Silver Jubilee Meeting in October – NSW Minister for Health, the Hon Kevin Stewart opened the Meeting on behalf of the State Premier. The tapestry of the College crest was presented the Silver Jubilee which now hangs in the Peter Herdson Boardroom at the College.

- 1981 Negotiations began on establishing NATA/RCPA scheme and by 1984 the first assessment was completed.
- 1984 College purchased Durham Hall and the move took place.
- 1986 the College's considerable activity in running surveys, quality control exercises important in relation to laboratory accreditation in chemical Pathology, Haematology, Microbiology, Blood Transfusion Serology, Anatomical pathology and Immunology evolved into the establishment of RCPA QAP.
- 1986 Distinguished Fellows Award created for significant contributions to the practice of pathology.
- 1987 LALAC became QASEC (Quality Assurance Scientific and Education Committee).
- 1987 First Chief Examiner in General Pathology appointed.
- 1988 RCPA Quality Assurance Program Pty Ltd formalized the work begun by LALAC and QASEC and began as a separate company to develop and run the QA program.
- 1990 First hardcopy edition of The Manual of Use and Interpretation of Pathology
- 1992 NZ Councillor participated in Executive meetings for the first time.
- 1995 CPD, the continuing personal development program, began.
- 1995 First Chief Examiner in Genetics appointed.
- 1996 Establishment of the Faculty of Oral Pathology.
- 1996 The 'Terraces' 203-205 Albion Street, were acquired due to College growth.
- 1999 Chief Executive Officer appointed to oversee the management of the College.
- 2000 Detailed Needs Analysis undertaken to provide guidance for the future.
- 2000 Meritorious Service Award created to honour service given to the College (first recipient was Dr David Rothfield).
- 2001 Temporary regional Councillors for Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore, become full Councillors of the College.
- 2002 ASMs were superceded by a new format known as 'Pathology Update'.
- 2003 Paediatric AC formed
- 2004 Appointment of a Deputy Chief Executive Officer in recognition of the increased activities of the College.
- 2005 Trainee AC established
- 2006 Jubilee Celebrations
- ~ Special letterhead/postal imprint developed for the year
  - ~ Custom printed 2006 RCPA Diary given to all Fellows and Trainees
  - ~ Release of College History book covering the second 25 years
  - ~ Exhibition at Powerhouse Museum, NSW titled "Blood, Bugs and Bodies"
  - ~ Exhibition made available to travel throughout States and Regions
  - ~ Special Jubilee edition of PathWay to mark the Jubilee
  - ~ DVD (associated with exhibition) sent to 11,000 schools in Australia
  - ~ States and regions conduct their own Jubilee celebrations
  - ~ Durham Hall (College headquarters) opened to the public for a day by the Historic Houses

Trust of NSW providing history of the house as well as handouts and history of RCPA

- 2008 Cancer Services Advisory Committee established
- 2010 After 8 years in Sydney 'Pathology Update' held in Melbourne and was a resounding success; repeated again in 2011.
- 2010 Council makes the historic decision to create a Faculty of Science (299 of the applicants for Founding Fellowship were approved to be grandfathered in prior to the December 2011 cut off).
- 2010 Pathologists are Indispensible Campaign is launched
- 2011 Following the demise of the long term Pathology Agreements between the Federal Government and the Pathology bodies, a new set of committee and sub-committees were announced and established under the title of PAAC
- 2011 New Zealand Society of Pathologists re-established to provide more hands on political activities in New Zealand – a Memorandum of Understanding outlining responsibilities was signed by the College and the Society.
- 2011 College staff now over 30 people (more than doubled in 10 years) and include website personnel and educational designers for the many online education services available for Trainees and Fellows.
- 2011 RCPA Foundation for Education and Research established by College Council
- 2012 Review of Constitution and Committees comes to fruition heralding the first major changes since the 1956 inception.
- 2013 Pathology Day held across Australia and New Zealand in May (to become annual event)
- 2013 New governance structure of the College fully implemented after November AGM
- 2014 Opening of the Professor Alan BP Ng Education Centre at 203-205 Albion Street
- 2015 RCPA QAP became a wholly owned Company of the College  
Staff increases to 40 with some special projects being undertaken
- 2016 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College