

International Volunteer Day 2019

Thursday 5 December

Our Examiners, Assessors, Board and Committee members are Fellows and Trainees who donate their time and expertise to serve the RCPA. This International Day of the Volunteer we wish to acknowledge their professional contribution to the College. These volunteers make it possible to continue to uphold the high standards of Pathology for patients and the community.

One valued RCPA volunteer is Tasmania-based Haematologist, Dr Daniel Owens. He has been a RCPA Fellow for 22 years and has been actively contributing to College as a professional volunteer for the past 6 years. This includes being an Examiner in Haematology and the Tasmanian State Councillor. In addition to these roles, he is a member of the RCPA Board, the Board of Professional Practice and Quality (BPPQ), the Haematology Advisory Committee and the Pathology Education Outreach Committee (PEOC). Through PEOC, Dr Daniel Owens was able spend time in Fiji providing support to clinical teams at the CWM Hospital, Suva. This was a rewarding experience for him: "I enjoyed teaching in the Pacific region and gaining a greater understanding of the challenges faced here in healthcare delivery."

Raising awareness about the importance of pathology and the unseen work of Pathologists is challenging, but it drives Dr Owens to be an active voice in the media. He works with the Bowel Cancer Prevention Program (#justpooit) and promotes other topical matters in Pathology, such as iron deficiency in pregnancy and HPV associated cancers. Being a professional volunteer for the RCPA is something Dr Owens enjoys and values: "It's definitely rewarding. If you want to hear what's going on and have the chance to shape the future of pathology, then be involved. The College is the Fellowship."

Well done Dr Daniel Owens for your admirable and extensive commitment to #yourRCPA! We give thanks and acknowledge all our dedicated volunteer Fellow and Trainees for promoting our speciality and the vital work of Pathologists.



Dr Daniel Owens (centre) pictured with Sophie Scott (left) and Anton Enus (right) on International Pathology Day 2018.