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Re: Changes to Research Requirements

I am writing to address the confusion and uncertainty you may be experiencing about proposed changes to research requirements that are being considered as part of the Fellowship Training Program Renewal Project. In particular what these changes may mean for current Candidates. I want to reassure you that current Candidates will not be unfairly disadvantaged by the proposed changes and that we want to support you during this transitional phase.

The renewed Fellowship Training Program will be implemented for Candidates commencing from 2025. Subject to required approvals, the proposed changes to research requirements include a shift in focus to evidence-informed decision making and research governance and away from the conduct of a research project. The change in focus will include new education and assessment activities. The details of these are not likely to be ready before mid-2024. Feedback on these proposed changes has been sought from all Candidates plus members of subcommittees of the Education and Training Committee. It must be noted that the details of what the proposed new training and assessment requirements will entail have not been finalised.

Some elements of the renewed Fellowship Training Program will be implemented in a phased way across 2023 and 2024. Changes are subject to required consultation, approvals and notice periods. However, I would like to confirm that any change to research requirements will not be implemented until 2025.

From 2025 current Candidates may decide to remain under the current requirements or to opt into the new requirements. Candidates will need to consider their individual circumstances, stage of training and any implication on the duration of their training when making this decision. I would like to reiterate that the details of the new requirements and transitional arrangements have not been finalised.

It is important to note that Candidates expecting to complete Fellowship training prior to 2025 must complete the current Research Training Domain requirements. Candidates should therefore be planning to complete an approved project as described in the [Research Training Domain handbook](#).

Our commitment and responsibility are to ensure you have a clear understanding of the changes being proposed and how they may affect current Candidates. The Fellowship Training Program Renewal Project Working Group are working hard to finalise details of the renewed program and to communicate these to you promptly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

If you have any immediate concerns or questions, please direct these to eduprojects@racma.edu.au

Your sincerely

Pooshan Navathe

Prof Pooshan Navathé

Chair, Fellowship Training Program Renewal Project Working Group

