



Dr Debra GRAVES (QLD)

Statement

Medical Administrators are uniquely positioned to solve problems in the health system having both medical knowledge (allowing us to focus on patients) and management skills.

If elected to the Board I would focus on 4 key issues.

1. Raise awareness of the value of Medical Administrators with governments, bureaucrats, and clinicians as our knowledge and skills are poorly understood.
2. Attract high quality candidates to the College.
3. Produce high quality Medical Administrators to be able to carry out this crucial work. We are producing great Medical Administrators but we can do better.
4. Fulfil the needs of Fellows and Trainees

My twenty-five years as CEO of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, experience in both public and private hospital sectors and my board experience particularly as the Chair of the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District provide me with the skills to work strategically with fellow Board members to achieve outcomes.

Personal Qualifications

By way of background I gained Fellowship of the College in 1993 (was the Bernard Nicholson Award recipient) and have worked in various Medical Administration roles since this time, including Assistant Medical Superintendent, Quality Assurance Manager, Deputy Medical Director, Medical Director and CEO in various public and private hospital settings in Queensland and New South Wales and Victoria.

Formal qualifications are detailed below:

Awarded Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) (General Division) 26 January 2023 for services to Pathology and Medical Administration

MBBS, University of Queensland, 1984,

Masters in Health Administration (MHA), University of New South Wales 1991

Fellow Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators July 1993 (Bernard Nicholson Prize Winner)

Fellow Institute of Company Directors 2003

Associate Fellow Australian College of Health Service Management.

Honorary Fellow Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia 2016

Honorary Fellow New Zealand Society of Pathologists 2014

Previous Governance Experience / Board Appointments

From a Board and governance point of view I am a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (2003). I was actively involved in the Board of the RCPA and I have been involved in a

number of Boards over the years. I was on the Board of the South Eastern Sydney Local Health Board for 10 years until December 2024, holding various positions including Chair, Deputy Chair and Chair of the Quality and Safety Board. I am currently still Chair of the Medical and Dental Appointments Advisory Committee (MDAAC) for the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD) and am on the Board of Mindgardens Neuroscience Network.

A summary of my Board appointments include:

- Board Member **Mindgardens Neuroscience Network** August 2023 to present
- Board Director, **South Eastern Local Health District**, NSW 2015 to December 2024.
 - **Chair South Eastern Sydney Local Health District**, NSW August 2023 August 2024.
 - Deputy Chair South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, NSW February 2022 July 2023
 - Chair SESLHD Quality and Safety Board 2017 to August 2023
Member SESLHD Healthcare Quality Committee 2015-2017
- Chairman **Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services** Advisory Committee February 2024-July 2025
- Chairman **Pathology Awareness Australia Pty Ltd** July 2023 March 2024
- Vice Chairman **Pathology Awareness Australia Pty Ltd** 2013-July 2023
- Company Secretary **International Collaboration of Cancer Reporting Pty Ltd** 2014 to March 2024
- Board Member **Neura Research Foundation** April 2022-August 2023

College Related and/or Other Professional Activities (Past and Present)

My most recent full-time position was the CEO of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, a position I held for over 25years. During this time I was actively involved in the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges (CPMC) and was the Chair of its' CEO's group for 10 years. More recently I undertook a short-term contract with CPMC as the Director of Advocacy to assist with lobbying and advocacy for all medical colleges with Commonwealth, State and Territory governments on very important issues such as the expedited Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) pathways, raising the awareness of the important role of medical colleges, accreditation and scope of practice issues.

From a RACMA Perspective I have been a Censor and Member of the Board of Censors since 2013. I have also been a Preceptor and for many years and more recently a Supervisor engaging with and assisting 7 trainees over this time, 5 of who are now Fellows and two are in are working towards Fellowship.

A summary of my other Professional Activities include:

- Examiner and Member of Board of Censors Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators 2013 to present
- Chair Medical and Dental Appointments Advisory Committee **South-Eastern Sydney Area Health Service** 2019 onwards
- Chairman **Committee of Presidents of Medical Colleges (CEO forum)** 1999-2009
- Member of the **Commonwealth Medical Services Advisory Committee** 2003-2007
- Member of Education Committee Australian Council of Health Care Standards
- President - **Australasian Association for Quality in Health Care** 1992 - 1996

- Vice President – **Australasian Association for Quality Assurance in Health Care** 1990 - 1992 and 1996-1997
- Treasurer – **Queensland Association for Quality Assurance in Health Care Inc.** 1989 – 1992
- Chair of **Hospital Medical Officers Managers Group Victoria** (1993).