

# ACADEMY OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND PROSTHODONTISTS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 JULY 2004, FOUR POINTS SHERATON, SYDNEY

1. **PRESENT:** Tony Coyne, President  
Bradley Shepherd, (Vice President  
Tony Rotondo (Secretary)  
Anthony Au, Keith Baetz, Matthias Bickel, Anders Blomberg, Alan Braughton, Bill Bruce, Gordon Burt, Gerard Clausen, James Connor, Geoffrey Cook, Stuart Cottis, Patrick Creagh, Tony Dawson, John Devlin, Gary Ecker, Suzanne Hanlin, Peter Hawker, Paul Hogan, Markijan Hupalo, Jim Ironside, Ivan Kleinberg, Ian Lander, Arnis Lidums, John Locke, Karl Lyons, Matthew Ma, Cosimo Malol, Brian Monteith, Alan Payne, Neil Peppitt, Peter Pleunir, Lindsay Richards, Brian Roberts, David Roessler, David Sykes, David Thomson, Christine Wallace, Terry Walton, David Wheatley, Tom Wilkinson, Peter Wilson, Phil Yewing

APOLOGIES: Anthony Dickinson, Mark Elliott, Chris Evett, Peter Greer, Harry Hughes, Kevin Joyce, Gary Smith,  
\*\*  
Drummond, Bwitch, Flood, Wiley, Carter, Cutler

NEW MEMBERS: The Following New Members were Welcomed: to the Academy, Peter  
\*\*  
Wilson, Allan Broughton, Matt Bickell and Barbar Shearer

## 2. **MINUTES OF AANZP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 15 SEPTEMBER 2003**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 September 2003, had previously been circulated.

### **MOTION**

Moved Ivan Kleinberg, seconded J Locke

**THAT** the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2003 be accepted as a true and correct record

**CARRIED**

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **Undergraduate Course Guidelines:**

No progress had been made on the Academy preparing Undergraduate Guidelines, similar to the Postgraduate Guidelines. It was agreed that this was still an aim of the Academy, and should be kept on the agenda.

## 3. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

A copy of the Balance Sheet of the Academy for the financial year 2003/2004 had previously been circulated. Tony Rotondo reported that a small profit of about \$1000.00 had been made, it was pointed out thought that the figures were not an accurate reflection of the activities of the Academy, as the income for the meetings came into the previous year's figures to the expenses. The major expense for this financial year had been examiners costs, which totaled about \$5,000.00.

Currently there is a balance of about \$43,000 in the Bank.

A member asked why he had received a letter saying he was no longer a financial member, when he had sent a cheque, which had been banked. Tony Coyne responded by explaining that according to the Constitution anyone not financial within 3 months of receiving their subscription notice was deemed to be no longer a member. However this had been rectified the previous evening, by the Executive, who had moved that all those who had paid their subscriptions late, were still Members. It was noted that there had been no active decision to remove people.

#### **MOTION**

Proposed Tony Rotondo, seconded Brad Shepherd

**THAT** the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

**CARRIED**

A Member raised the question of current reserves, and it was noted that currently \$25,000 was held in a Cash Management Account and the balance of \$18,000 was held in a cheque account.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Tony Coyne reported on the large amount of correspondence received over the past year. Correspondence of note was as follows:

##### **ADA**

The ADA had forwarded a very comprehensive document on the New Zealand Health \*\*Practitioners Assurance Bill, which highlighted a number of areas where New Zealand was ahead of Australia. The Academy had been asked to prepare a paper in response, but the two week deadline had been unrealistic. Tony Coyne decided to discuss this issue at the SACADA meeting where he was advised the ADA had put a lot of work into a response to the New Zealand Health authorities. The recommendations included in this submission may well be reflected in the ADA's Continuing Education programme.

A letter from the Hong Kong Dental Association had been forwarded from the ADA, inviting specialist dentists to make presentations to their Association. There was no financial benefit, but a meal would be provided.

##### **ADC**

ADC had asked for 3 names, from whom they could select a delegate to sit on the panel of Prosthodontics. These names had been supplied.

A request for Professional Development recommendations had been handled by John Locke.

Examiners had been provided to peer review programmes last year, and reports had been received.

##### **RACDS**

Notification of changes in specialist definitions, now included Special Needs Dentistry.

Guidelines for Sedation – Tony Coyne had worked with two anaesthetists, to put some recommendations to the College. These had been well received by the College, and the recommendations were now accepted practice.

### **Dental Practices Board of Victoria**

3 names had been requested and supplied, for nominees to the Board, and one of these had been selected and invited.

### **UK MDS Course – request for recognition**

A letter had been received from a young dentist in the UK, who was just completing a 3 year Prosthodontics Course, part time, in the UK, with the course comprising of very intensive blocks, 2 or 3 three times per year. He was asking whether this would entitle him to be registered as a Specialist in Australia. It was felt, on the evidence given, that such a course would not meet the Australian requirements.

Christine Wallace reported that the UK have changed their registration requirements to now include a 5 year course, with an examination by the College, so this course would not be recognised in the UK either.

John Locke reported that this application had also been sent to the ADC, who would respond.

### **Owen Mathieson Letter**

At the previous meeting Owen Mathieson had been asked to investigate the archiving of the Len Beckett records, and AANZP had offered to finance the duplication of this material, so that each of the Dental Schools could have a copy. Owen reported that he was having difficulties getting the material together, and the material he had already gathered would cost a lot to duplicate. The material he had collected would be sent to Ivan Klineberg in Sydney.

This task was considered a work in progress to be completed at some time in the future.

### **International College of Prosthodontics**

Letter from Martin Goss asking about Prosthodontics in Australia.

### **MOTION**

Moved by Ivan Klineberg, seconded by Arnie Lewis

**THAT** the Inwards Correspondence be accepted and the Outward Correspondence endorsed

**CARRIED**

### **5. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

Tony Coyne reported on the progress made since last year's decision to amend the Constitution of the Academy, explaining that a Committee had re-drafted the Constitution and this had been sent to every member, either by e-mail, post, or hand delivery, with a Postal Vote for the Constitution to be Confirmed. Unfortunately insufficient replies had been received, even after personal follow ups to many members, and with only 21 returns received, and 30 being necessary to pass the motion, the postal vote had to be abandoned, and the Constitution brought to the Annual general Meeting.

Karl Lyons then explained that he had followed the format of the International College of Prosthodontists, making the necessary amendments, to fit the Academy's needs. It had been legally necessary to remove the requirement to be a member of another organisation. The only requirement for Membership was that the applicant had completed an Approved Training Program.

An Associate membership had been included, which allowed Students and people who had not completed a course to become part of the Academy; however these people would not be entitled to a vote.

Neil Peppitt asked for clarification of the title, as to whether it would be the Academy of Australian and New Zealand Prosthodontists, or Prosthodontics. It was agreed that it should be Prosthodontists.

Gerry Clausen asked for clarification of what accredited courses are. It was noted that currently this would be courses accredited by the ADC and NZDC, but the wording had been designed to allow flexibility in the future.

**MOTION**

Moved Karl Lyons, seconded Tony Coyne

**THAT** the requirement of being a member of ADA or NZDA be removed from the Constitution

**CARRIED**

It was noted that there would still be a category for Honorary Members, Retired Members and Life Members

The Formation of the Executive would change under the new Constitution, and would include

President, who is also the Councillor for a State

Immediate Past President, also the Councillor for a State

Secretary/Treasurer , chosen by the President from their State

Three other Councilors, one from each of the remaining States.

It was noted that only full members will have voting rights, and a question was raised by Christine Wallace as to whether non voting members would be entitled to attend meetings. It was agreed this would be at the discretion of Council.

David Thomson raised the question of whether the Academy was a Company Limited by Guarantee, or an Incorporated Association. Suzanne Hanlin believed that the Academy had been made an Incorporated Association while the Executive was in Victoria. This matter was checked with the Auditor who advised that currently the Academy is a Company Limited by Guarantee.

After further discussion it was agreed that the Constitution Committee should re-word the Constitution, and each member present undertook to provide a postal vote when it was sent out again.

**MOTION**

Proposed Tony Rotondo and seconded Christine Wallace

**THAT** the membership approves the new Constitution in principle, and that when the necessary amendments are made, this will be circulated to the Membership, who undertook respond to a postal vote.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION**

Proposed Tony Coyne and seconded Tony Rotondo

**THAT** the Company structure be changed from Company Limited by Guarantee to Incorporation under the Associations Act.

As this motion had previously been passed at a meeting 4 years ago, there was no need to put this motion again

## **6. STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

John Locke reported on the activities of the Standards Committee. A letter had been sent to Convenors of all Prosthodontics Courses, offering external examiners, for first and second year students, in addition to the third year, which was already offered. Members had readily offered their assistance for this extra task. A peer review of each of the Programmes offered in Prosthodontics had occurred 5 years ago, and these courses were now up for reviews. The Standards Committee had developed a timetable for review of the courses. Melbourne University had already been reviewed and Brian Monteith and Ian Lander were thanked for the time they had given to doing this. Sydney and Adelaide are still to be reviewed, but this would happen shortly.

Currently Queensland and Perth have no students, and could not therefore be reviewed at this time.

Overseas qualifications are assessed by a Committee of the ADC, which has an Academy member. Seven applications have been reviewed over the past year.

If the paperwork shows that qualifications are not clearly admissible, then applicants may be asked to do further clinical testing.

The question of what guidelines are used to make assessments was raised, and John Locke advised that this was done on a one by one basis. After examination of the Clinical documentation, and course programme, some courses obviously met the same criteria as the Australian courses. Others were not so obvious, and those individuals may be asked to undertake extra clinical and written examinations. Peter Wilson reported that in the UK any person with qualifications from outside the UK is asked to sit a written exam and clinical testing. ADC is currently suggesting that anyone with overseas qualifications be asked to sit a written examination and do clinical testing. If this is agreed, then the Academy would be asked to provide a member of the Examining Body. While each State Registration Board is not bound by the decisions of the ADC, they will usually follow the recommendations of the ADC.

### **Peer Review of Courses**

Ivan Klineberg noted that while the ADC can make recommendations to the Faculty on the courses being offered, it is recognised that the University has the right to set its own standards, regardless of the views of the ADC.

The Convenors of the University Courses were invited to give a brief review of their courses, and how they stood with regard examination and peer review.

Peter Wilson from Melbourne reported that they had just introduced a DCD, 3 year programme. The University only requires one examiner; however, each course normally has three, one invited from the Academy, the Course Convenor, and the Clinical Coordinator. Examiners are chosen on the basis of professional standing, and are generally from interstate. Examiners will only be invited back after 3 years, so they will not assess the same student more than once. While the external examiner has no more standing than any other examiner, after 13 years all decisions had been made by

consensus. External examiners must always be independent; there was no point in passing unsuitable candidates, and then complaining about the standard of prosthodontics. All candidates may be asked to re-present after a period of time, if they are deemed unsatisfactory, they also have the right to challenge examiners' decisions

Peter Wilson expressed his desire for students to be embraced by the Academy, inviting them to meetings, and in the alternate years, when Scientific Meetings are not currently held, State meetings be arranged where students could present their research. He also felt that in order to encourage more students to take up Prosthodontics, the Academy should have a greater input to the undergraduate dental courses.

Peter spoke about the experience in Adelaide. He spoke of similar processes to Melbourne, with invited external examiners being chosen from the Academy, and while it was unlikely that there would not be such an external examiner, it is not requisite to meet University criteria.

Peter spoke of ways of ensuring candidates are acceptable, he felt that a set format of assessment could be used by Examiners at all the Universities, thus ensuring an even playing field for all candidates. He stressed that while Universities are independent, the Academy has the power to set general standards for the accreditation procedure of Prosthodontists. He believed that the Academy should be able to go into any University programme and ask questions about it.

Ivan Klineberg then spoke about the Sydney University course. He stated that the University of Sydney was also in a similar situation to the University of Melbourne, and was closely aligned to the Academy, having external examiners, for the written, clinical and oral examinations. The course had just gone through its 5 year assessment, and the recommendation to the ADC had been the programme be accredited.

The University of Sydney has offered the Academy a Statement of suggested protocol for external examiners. 3 months out the Academy should be asked to nominate 3 potential external examiners, 2 months out the University invites one of those nominees, 2 weeks out the log books are submitted and written scripts made available for perusal by the examiners. If more than two delegates are being examined it may be necessary for the examiners to spend more than one day at the University..

Ivan Klineberg stressed the need for benchmarks to be in place, so all Universities knew what standards they should meet.

Because of the shortage of lab facilities within the hospital system, Sydney is looking to use private facilities for some of its clinical work.

Sydney is investigating the possibility of a Graduate Diploma, based on a block structure using clinical mentors currently in practice, teaching blocks in the University, and a weekly Research day. This could assist practicing dentists interested in undertaking prosthodontic training, but with a need to earn an income.

Carl Lyons, Course Coordinator at Dunedin University reported on the MDS Prosthodontics Course being offered.

This is a 3 year course with examinations at the end of each year, The final examination being set by the Dental College of New Zealand. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year examinations consist of a 3

hour written examinations, 2 hour clinical presentation of 10 patients based on log book, and a thesis of research project. External examiners play an important role ensuring that the examination is fair and of an adequate standard. External Examiners are given an opportunity to look at the contents of the course, and the written examination prior to the examination. To date Dunedin had experienced no differences of opinion between the internal and external examiners. It was noted that Dunedin University did not offer a part time option.

The meeting then broke for Lunch

Lindsay Richards spoke about the courses offered in Adelaide. He first asked the Membership to remember the progress that had been made over the past few years, and while he is aware of the necessity to keep moving forward, the advances already made should be borne in mind.

AANZP is now recognized as the peak body in prosthodontics, and used in consultancy roles, this must continue, he felt it was important that the Academy does not become too fanatical, so Universities and Colleges will always want to deal with them. The University of Adelaide runs in an almost identical manner to the University of Sydney. Adelaide University will continue to look to the Academy for external examiners in the foreseeable future. Lindsay felt that the peer review process and the external examiner role must be kept separate.

One failing experienced by the University of Adelaide was the lack of feedback to External Examiners, who are not advised of an individual candidate's results. He felt that a feedback form, set by the Academy, should be used by all Universities, and this could be used to feedback to External Examiners and the Academy.

Currently the University of Adelaide has one student completing a 3 year program, which had commenced as a 2 year course. The next round of students would have to complete a 4 year course.

A question was raised as to whether the University of Adelaide would be prepared to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that External Examiners would always be selected from the Academy. Lindsay Richards advised that he could see no difficulty with this, though it should be remembered that the University is not obliged to appoint an external examiner.

The meeting was advised that Melbourne University have clinical and oral examination after having looked at the written examination. Discussion then takes place immediately, so the External Examiner is aware of the candidates outcomes, and if necessary will be invited back to re-examine the student.

All the co-ordinators were thanked for their reports.

## **7. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **ACP Classification**

Keith Baetz reported that he had been trying to activate the ACP classification, which is slowly moving forward.

### **Web Page**

Tony Coyne reported that the AGM in 2003 had recommended \$5,000 be spent to upgrade the web page. He had followed this up with one software company but had found all they were interested in doing was selling software. As the web page was technically working well Tony Coyne had decided not to take any further action in this regard.

Tony Coyne felt that e-mail communication was very good, but had limitations. The problem of keeping e-mail addresses up to date, and getting updated information from members was the most crucial aspect of making this work, and had been almost impossible to achieve. It was felt that the only way to move forward with this was to contact everyone and ask for their e-mail addresses, if there was no response within two weeks someone would need to telephone those people, which would be very time consuming.

## **8. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

Brad Shepherd reported that the main role over the past two years had been setting up the current meeting. The committee had been given specific guidelines with regard to city and programme, and the response from the membership had been encouraging.

The meeting was asked whether they were happy with the current format being used for the next meeting. Discussion ensued on the possibility of the Business Meeting being held on the first day, to encourage student attendance, but it was agreed that many members would not attend the Business Meeting if that was the case.

The Conference in 2007 would be held in Sydney again, as this had been the request of the Membership, and the programme and venue finalized by 2006.

### **MOTION**

Proposed Gerry Clausen and seconded Karl Lyons

**THAT** the report of the Scientific Committee be accepted.

**CARRIED**

## **9. SPECIALIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADA (SACADA)**

Tony Coyne, who had taken on the role of Chairman, reported on the success of this group, which represents the dental specialties. He had prepared a constitution for the group, and this had resulted in the Oral Surgeons joining. An annual meeting held in Sydney, am with one representative of the ADA and pm they meet with the Deans of the Dental Schools and ADA executive.

A teleconference had been held during the year to seek feedback about Medicare rebates for diagnostic imaging. It had not been possible to produce a joint response as each group had different needs and the Orthodontists were continuing discussions about this, as they felt that while they were using more up to date equipment than local radiologists orthodontists currently they did not receive recompense, while radiologists did.

The benefits that would result from the introduction of Medicare Plus were very uncertain at present. It appeared that appliances for sleep apnoea would get funding, but other

appliances may not. Currently it appeared that no-one knew what was happening in this regard, with no forms available, and Medicare staff unaware of how to proceed.

SACADA gives AANZP direct access to the ADA, which has more clout than individual representative groups. An example of this being AANZP's submission to Veteran Affairs, which had not received a response. The ADA has now been able to talk to the Minister in this regard and there is currently active dialogue. Each of the Specialist groups had been asked to put together a submission.

Three Universities were planning on awarding DCD (Doctor of Clinical Dentistry) degrees, as their Specialty Degree. The Deans felt it would be preferable if all Universities in Australia and New Zealand offered qualifications with the same name. They had asked all the groups to go back to their organizations and ascertain their views on this. It was felt that currently there is no difference between the Masters Programmes and the DCD programs offered in Prosthodontics. The question of what the courses should be called was put to the meeting with the result of 5 for Doctorate, and 7 for Masters. This information would be passed to the ADA executive.

The question of Insurance for External Examiners, in the case of a student threatening to sue if they failed their course, was discussed by SACADA. The Deans had indicated that the possibility of this happening was very small, although more letters were coming from solicitors asking for review of results. It was felt that individual's Professional Indemnity Insurance would cover them, but Universities also had insurance that would cover this eventuality.

SACADA had felt that the Peer Review of courses could be considerably refined. It was felt that the specialist societies should put together a proposal that should be put to the ADA. The next meeting of SACADA should include representatives of ADC, when this could be discussed.

Overall Tony Coyne felt that SACADA was a most worthwhile committee that was working well.

## **10. MEMBERSHIP**

Five new members had been approved in the past year, and one more had been received recently. It was noted though that applications were not being received from younger people, which could prove problematic in years to come, as the membership aged. Currently there are 103 members.

## **11. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Tony Coyne commented on the issue of how to attract younger members to the Academy. In a survey 2 years ago, over half of the membership was over 50, and now 2/3 of membership was. A suggestion was made that Registrars and Students be invited to future Scientific Meetings as Guests of the Academy. Council agreed to look at this suggestion.

It was felt that individuals should be invited by current Academy members to join, and new graduates should automatically receive membership application forms.

Tony Coyne also commented on his disappointment of involvement of the membership as a whole, the fact that insufficient votes had been received to run a Postal Vote was given as an example. He also felt that member's not responding promptly to requests was wasting a lot of time, with follow ups having to be done all the time. If members responded immediately to requests, a lot of time could be saved. Tony Coyne strongly recommended that secretariat assistance be sought to assist the committee as required.

Tony Coyne felt the committee structure had worked well and shared the workload more evenly among the council. Specific thanks were offered to John Locke, Standards Committee, Brad Shepherd, Scientific Committee, Keith Baetz, Education Committee, Karl Lyons, Constitution Committee, and Tony Rotondo, Secretary, for their assistance.

#### **MOTION**

Proposed Tony Coyne, seconded John Locke

**THAT** the Presidents Report be accepted

**CARRIED**

## **12 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS**

Tony Coyne advised that nomination of Councillors would take place, on the basis of the new Constitution. There being one nomination for each position there was no need for an election.

As Vice President, Brad Shepherd would automatically take on the role of President, the following nominations had all been accepted:

President and WA representative: Brad Shepherd

Vice President and Victorian representative: John Locke

Secretary/Treasurer: Ian Lander

SA representative: Cosimo Malolo

NSW representative: Keith Baetz

NZ representative: Karl Lyons.

## **13 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **13.1 Motion re RACDS**

#### **MOTION**

Proposed Brad Shepherd seconded Sue Hanlin

**THAT** the Academy of Australian and New Zealand Prosthodontists from a Division of Prosthodontics within the Australian College of Dental Surgeons

The motion was discussed at length.

Brad Shepherd spoke to the motion, urging members not to get caught up in the small print, but to look at the benefits offered by this proposal. The Academy would remain autonomous, and would not accept onerous decisions by the College. He felt the formation of a Division of Prosthodontics could only strengthen the standing of the Academy, and assist with national benchmarking, peer review of courses etc. The Academy would at all time control their own destiny, and would remain independent, and become inter-dependant.

John Locke reported that a lot of information had been circulated and the College had been very good responding to queries with good answers.

Tasks currently undertaken by the Academy, provision of external examiners, peer review, etc would still be undertaken in the name of the Academy, but with oversight by the RACDS.

It was noted that currently an MOU based on the Periodontists was being used, and this may not be appropriate for the Academy.

The RACDS would need to reach agreement with all University Departments of Prosthodontics, as well as the Academy on how examinations etc. would be managed.

Some concern was expressed about the need for extra committee members to service the College requirements, but the meeting was assured the Academy would still retain the same Committee structure, and there should be no need to duplicate committees, people would just wear 2 hats, representing the Academy and the RACDS.

Universities would still run their own examinations, and award qualifications that entitle registration as a specialist, but in addition they would be offered an extra College Award.

The College could receive the kudos and credit currently given to the Academy.

The College could offer a standardization of qualifications that is currently being sought by many bodies

The process of assessing overseas qualifications would remain the same, but would be administered by the RACDS, with representative from the Division of Prosthodontics.

A number of examination proposals had been put forward. Currently the registerable qualification is a Masters Degree, which gives the right of membership to the Academy. Under the RACDS new Prosthodontists would need to undertake a Primary College examination at the same time as the University exam.

A special Grandfathering clause would be offered to current members of the Academy who do not have the necessary qualifications.

Prosthodontists would have to become members of the College before they could join the Academy.

It was noted that the arrangements being offered could be altered to suit the Academy, and as such it was a very fluid document. It would therefore be difficult to form an opinion until this was finally formalized.

The college coordinators were asked to comment.

Christine Wallace, for Sydney, commented that for the past 3 years they had offered an exit exam with 5 cases on the table, with an additional 4 cases for the College exam, but to date no one had taken up this offer. Cost was a determining factor and only one person, who had no financial restrictions, would probably take it up in the next year.

Peter Wilson, for Melbourne indicated that the University was an independent body, and stood alone in some way, although it works with other organizations, the University would be unlikely to accept the need to have external examiners nominated by an outside body.

Karl Lyons for Otago University indicated that the model proposed would probably not be accepted by the University, as it was felt that the University should be an independent body, and would not be prepared to accept external examiners set by another organization. As Otago is the only school in New Zealand offering Prosthodontics, the issue of benchmarking across New Zealand is not relevant.

Lindsay Richards felt that the University of Adelaide would be unlikely to enter into an agreement with the RACDS, as he felt that although they normally accepted one of the nominated external examiners put forward, it would be a big step to be obliged to accept one person put forward by another organization. He assessed the benefits and disadvantages, noting that an advantage of using the College would be that any disciplinary matters could be handled by them but felt there would be little advantage in changing the examination system.

Gerry Clausen read a letter that had been sent by Dr Dickenson, expressing his views.

Tony Dawson spoke against the motion as it stands. He could see benefits in both arguments, but felt that there was not enough information about the exact format the relationship would have. He foreshadowed a motion THAT the Association should form a sub committee to negotiate arrangements with the RACDS regarding the formation of a Prosthodontic Division of the College. These proposed arrangements to be brought back to the Academy for discussion prior to a final decision being made.

Tom Wilkinson spoke against the motion. He felt that the Academy should be the body that undertakes peer reviews and offers external examiners, not the College. His opinion was that the College would gain far more from this proposal than the Academy. He believed the College Council to be undemocratic, and felt that in time they would try to undermine the role of the ADC and the State Boards. He felt it was more relevant to form a better relationship with the ADC than to become a Division of the RACDS.

Neil Peppard responded, acknowledging the fear of the unknown, pointing out that at present the Academy is working on a model similar to the Periodontists, but this need not form the Prosthodontic model.

The College has certain strengths, it has a CPD programme we could use, and also has secretariat services the Academy could use. He stressed the escape clause that was included in the proposal, saying if at any time the Academy was unsatisfied they could chose to leave the RACDS.

Cosimo Malolo felt that the Academy should be able to stand alone, it was obvious from earlier proceedings that the Academy was considered the peak body for Prosthodontists, and therefore does not need another body to lead it. He felt that the time given to looking into this would be better spent on advancing the Academy. He felt that an alliance with RACDS could fractionalise the membership.

David Roessler stated the case of ANZAOMS who had joined RACDS, and continued to maintain independence. The formation of a division should be seen as an alliance, and in order for the small professions to maintain credibility, it is important they form alliances.

Brian Roberts noted that a comment had been made earlier about lack of young people joining the Academy. This merger could make it even more difficult for people to join.

Terry Walton noted that he had been a member of the RACDS for a number of years, and this had not affected his enthusiasm for the Academy.

A secret ballot was then held  
Result 39 against and 29 for.

### **MOTION**

Proposed by Tony Dawson seconded by John Locke

**THAT** a Working Party of AANZP be formed to look at ways that the Academy could form a Division of the RACDS. Different models of Memorandum of Understanding that could be put to the RACDS, including one that says that no Division be formed, should be brought back to the Academy for ratification.

**After discussion this motion was Carried by a majority.**

### **13.2 INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF PROSTHODONTISTS**

The International meeting, being held in Crete in 2005 was recommended to the meeting, as an ideal opportunity to see how Prosthodontics is being practiced around the world.

### **13.3 MEMBERSHIP FEES**

#### **MOTION**

Proposed by Brad Shepherd and seconded by Tony Rotondo

**THAT** the membership fees be increased by \$50.00, to \$200.00 to meet the costs of Secretariat assistance.

Discussion ensued about the type of assistance being sought, and Tony Coyne advised that the Council were looking at the Australian Professional Centre, who currently acted as Secretariat to ANZAOMS, to provide this service.

Clarification was sought about the amount of financial reserves currently held by the Academy, and how it was intended to use these reserves.

The general feeling of the meeting was that the fees should not be increased, but reserves used to meet secretariat costs.

**The motion was therefore withdrawn.**

There being no further business Tony Coyne stood down from the Chair, and handed over to Brad Shepherd, the new President.

Brad Shepherd thanked Tony Coyne and Tony Rotondo for their efforts over the past two years. He felt that a lot of progress had been made over this period, but there was still a

lot to achieve. He hoped to concentrate on the areas of education, service and research during his term of office.

He intended to get the members more involved, have more communication in hard copy, and ensure that the Committees are working towards goals. He hoped that the Education Committee would work towards making prosthodontics a popular career choice, by making undergraduates more aware of the specialty. Good communication, he felt, was the key to progressing the Academy and he hoped to be able to facilitate this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.20pm.