

# Supporting travel grants for Younger Fellows

**R**ACS has worked with the Bongiorno Group for more than 30 years. The Bongiorno Group and Bongiorno National Network are one of Australia's leading financial service organisations that specialise in the medical profession. So, when Tony Bongiorno heard about the critical need for an ongoing travel grant to support younger Fellows, he and the Bongiorno National Network wanted to help.

Many of you would have seen and contributed to last month's Pledge-a-Procedure campaign where the Bongiorno National Network pledged to match donations up to \$66,000. Thanks to your compassion and generosity the \$66,000 target was exceeded. This was an extraordinary result, but the Bongiorno National Network wanted to do more to support younger Fellows. In addition to the promised co-funding, the Bongiorno National Network is contributing \$200,000 over the next three years—an additional \$134,000 to ensure younger Fellows can sustainably establish this travel grant and get the professional development they need to be the next generation leading surgical care.

Andrew MacCormick, Chair of the Younger Fellows Committee, explains the impact that the travel grant will have.

"Establishing a corpus to ensure travel grants can be offered on an ongoing basis is essential. This will provide younger Fellows with the opportunity to go overseas and develop in a way they may not have had the chance to do previously. It also gives exposure to cutting edge technology and approaches, provides new skill-sets and furthers international collaborations."

The Bongiorno National Network has been helping medical professionals for more than 53 years to grow, manage and protect their wealth. Across the country, the Bongiorno National Network works with many established surgeons who have been clients since they were young medical students.

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The network is made up of like-minded firms in each state; Bongiorno & Partners – Vic and NSW, Walshs – QLD, Bartons – SA and Smith Coffey – WA.

"We believe that being mindful and giving back to the community is the only way forward. Over the last decade, we have helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for community based charities.

Working with RACS to support younger Fellows with a travel grant was a natural fit. We are proud to create this legacy for the future benefit of surgery," said Director and founding partner Mr Tony Bongiorno.

*Gabrielle Forman  
Communications and Policy Officer, RACS.*



Left to right: RACS CEO Mary Harney, Bongiorno & Partners Director Michael Waycott and RACS President John Batten