

CANDIDATE STATEMENT — RACP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A/Clin Prof. Hemant Kulkarni

MBBS · MD · DCH · DM (Nephrology) · MRCPCH (UK) · FRACP (Adult & Paediatric)
Clinical Associate Professor, UWA | Renal Physician, EMHS
Registered Company Director (DIN) |

Focus: Action · Integrity · Financial Stewardship

Executive Summary

I am seeking a position on the RACP Board of Directors to translate over two decades of clinical leadership and corporate governance into a leaner, more ethical, and member-centric College — with an unwavering commitment to action over rhetoric. I am Renal Physician at Royal Perth Hospital and Armadale Hospital in WA, with attachments to Dobney Hypertension Centre, Linear Research Institute, University of WA, and Curtin Medical School.

Key Pillars of My Candidacy

1. Proven Leadership, Fiscal Discipline & Corporate Governance

As a current Director of two companies with a registered Director Identification Number (DIN), I bring genuine corporate governance experience — fiduciary duty, financial oversight, and risk management. In October 2025, when I witnessed excessive spending on unnecessary Extraordinary General Meetings, I organised a petition of 125 Fellows within four days to demand fiscal responsibility.

2. Clinical & Educational Depth

I hold Dual FRACP Fellowship in both Adult Medicine and Paediatric & Child Health — spanning the entire College membership. With over 15 years as an RACP Examiner and Supervisor of trainees, I have on-the-ground understanding of educational standards and member pressures. I was instrumental in creating the an expedited FRACP pathway for overseas-trained specialists in 2003.

3. Policy, Advocacy & Systemic Innovation

During my eight-year tenure as the WA Renal Health Network Co-Lead (2012–2020), I shaped research strategy and clinical policy. In 2006, I established the first Renal Nurse Practitioner role in Western Australia. I have completed the Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Module and hold direct clinical experience with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across remote, rural, and outer metropolitan Perth settings — including Armadale Hospital and Royal Perth Hospital — ensuring culturally safe care is embedded in my practice and in the advocacy, I bring to College leadership. IMJ Editorial with Prof Jacqui Hughes address Worker Equity in Renal Medicine (IMJ 2022; 52:11:1859)

Beyond the Clinic: The ‘Whole Physician’ Approach

I bring a balanced, grounded perspective to the Board table — committed to a ‘whole physician’ approach and advocating for the College to recognise that mental, spiritual, and physical resilience are as vital as clinical competency in preventing burnout.

My Vision: Eight Commitments to the Fellowship

- **Member Satisfaction as the North Star:** Every Board decision must improve the experience and wellbeing of Fellows and trainees. Support the development of **CPD app for real time entry** during the event.
- **High-Quality Educational Resources:** Rationalise offerings to be fewer but of exceptional quality, mapped to CPD.
- **Recognising Educators:** Provide genuine recognition and advocate for remuneration of for Supervisors, and DPEs.
- **Strengthening Research Culture:** Establish a dedicated College research function to elevate our standing as a scientific leader.
- **Workforce Advocacy:** Champion meaningful incentives for rural and regional doctors (housing, childcare, connectivity).
- **Transparent Selection:** Centralised, transparent selection into training with minimum two-year contracts.
- **Leaner & Decisive Governance:** Reduce College committees to move from endless deliberation to decisive action. Repeated EGM's be seriously curtailed to bare essentials.
- **IT & Legal Budget Discipline:** Apply rigorous oversight to ensure **IT investments & Legal Expenses** are fit-for-purpose with no blank cheques.