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NEW ADDITIONS TO AMA ROLL OF FELLOWS

AMA ROLL OF FELLOWS AMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2017 #amanatcon

The AMA has inducted two new members into the AMA Roll of Fellows.

Former AMA Tasmania President, Adjunct Professor Tim Greenaway, and immediate past Federal AMA President, Professor Brian Owler, have been added to the Roll of Fellows in recognition of the outstanding contribution each has made to both the AMA and the medical profession.

AMA President, Dr Michael Gannon, announced the additions at the AMA National Conference 2017 in Melbourne.

Dr Gannon said that both of the new Fellows were distinguished representatives of the profession, and inspiring leaders who had fought hard for public health issues throughout their careers.

“Both Adjunct Professor Greenaway and Professor Owler have excelled in their medical careers, and in their roles as advocates for the profession,” Dr Gannon said.

“Each has contributed at the State and Federal level to improving working conditions for doctors, and making the Australian health system work more effectively for patients and communities.”

Each new AMA Fellow carries an impressive record of achievement, as excerpts from their citations show:

Adjunct Professor Tim Greenaway

One of Australia’s leading endocrinologists, Adjunct Professor Tim Greenaway has been actively involved in undergraduate and postgraduate medical education for more than 30 years.

After completing his undergraduate medical studies at the University of Sydney, he trained in Endocrinology at Sydney’s Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and was awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council Postgraduate Medical Scholarship to undertake doctoral studies into hepatic insulin resistance in type 2 diabetes.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway has held senior positions at the University of Tasmania and Royal Hobart Hospital, and has served on a number of Ministerial Advisory Committees.

An AMA member since 1994, he served as AMA Tasmania Vice President for two years before becoming President in 2014. During his Presidency, AMA Tasmania became debt-free and increased its membership.

He presided over AMA Tasmania during the development of the statewide Tasmanian Health Service, worked closely with the Tasmanian Government through the Healthy Tasmania

Committee to develop a raft of initiatives outlined in the Healthy Tasmania Five Year Strategic Plan, and implemented a new award for medical professionals.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway left Tasmania for Canberra in 2016 to take up the role of Chief Medical Adviser with the Health Products Regulation Group in the Commonwealth Department of Health, but remains an Adjunct Professor in the University of Tasmania's School of Medicine.

Professor Brian Owler

Throughout his career, neurosurgeon Professor Brian Owler has combined clinical excellence with passionate advocacy for the welfare of his patients, colleagues, and the wider community.

Professor Owler has a PhD from the University of Sydney and spent 18 months performing research at the University of Cambridge's Academic Neurosurgery Unit. He is a Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Sydney, and a consultant neurosurgeon at Westmead Children's Hospital, Westmead Private Hospital, and Sydney Adventist and Norwest Private Hospital.

He first became actively involved with the AMA as a medical student, becoming a Councillor, Student and Doctors in Training representative, and a member of the Residents' and Students' Committee. During this time, Professor Owler led AMA NSW's campaign on the provider number dispute.

Professor Owler was appointed to the AMA Federal Council in 2010, and was elected AMA NSW President in 2012, and Federal AMA President in 2014.

Throughout his Presidencies and other leadership roles at the AMA, he has worked tirelessly for the benefit of doctors and patients, and made public health advocacy a priority.

He has led hard-hitting and effective campaigns on road safety, preventable deaths and injuries in children, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, fair health treatment for asylum seekers, climate change, and vaccination.

Professor Owler's tenure as Federal AMA President coincided with one of the most turbulent periods in health policy Australia has seen, beginning with the 2014 Budget and the co-payment proposal. Professor Owler fought publicly on behalf of the profession and patients against the co-payment, the Medicare rebate freeze, and inadequate public hospital funding.

As head of the AMA, Professor Owler also campaigned for the Government to increase its efforts to fight the Ebola outbreak in Africa, not only because controlling the outbreak at its source was the best approach, but because it was the right thing to do.

Their full citations are attached.

26 May 2017

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AMA ROLL OF FELLOWS FULL CITATIONS

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR TIM GREENAWAY

MBBS, PhD, FRACP

Adjunct Professor Tim Greenaway completed undergraduate medical studies at the University of Sydney and trained in Endocrinology at Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

He was awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council Postgraduate Medical Scholarship to undertake doctoral studies in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney into hepatic insulin resistance in Type 2 diabetes.

He is currently the Chief Medical Adviser with the Health Products Regulation Group in the Commonwealth Department of Health. Until August 2016 he was the Director of Clinical Endocrinology at the Royal Hobart Hospital. He is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Tasmania.

He has been actively involved in undergraduate and postgraduate medical education for over 30 years. His research interests include the pathophysiology of diabetic complications and their prevention.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway has held a number of senior positions at the University of Tasmania and Royal Hobart Hospital, including Head of the Division of Medicine at the Royal Hobart Hospital and Chair of the University's Medical Research and Advisory Committee. He has served on a number of Ministerial Advisory Committees and was, until his move to Canberra, the Deputy Chair of the Health Council of Tasmania and the Chair of the Healthy Tasmania Committee.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway was also an officer in the Army Reserves between 2002 and 2012.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway has been a member of AMA since 1994 and served as AMA Tasmania Vice President for two years before becoming President between the years 2014 and 2016. During his Presidency, AMA Tasmania became debt free and increased its membership.

He also served on the executive of the Tasmanian Salaried Medical Practitioners' Society for many years.

Adjunct Professor Greenaway was a member of AMA Federal Council for three years from 2013 to 2016, and served on the Federal Medical Practice Committee from 2014 to 2016, representing Tasmania and making a significant contribution.

PROFESSOR BRIAN KENNETH OWLER

MBBS, BSc (Med) (Hons) PhD, FRACS

Professor Brian Owler is a Consultant Neurosurgeon at Westmead Children's Hospital, Westmead Private Hospital, and Sydney Adventist and Norwest Private Hospital, where he is also Head of Department. Through these positions, he continues to promote clinical excellence in the delivery of adult and paediatric surgical care.

Professor Owler has a PhD from the University of Sydney and spent 18 months performing research at the University of Cambridge's Academic Neurosurgery Unit. He is a Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Sydney.

His clinical achievements include: development of endoscopic transnasal odontoid resection for basilar impressions; establishment of deep brain stimulation for movement disorders; and venous sinus stenting for pseudotumour cerebri.

Professor Owler first became actively involved with the AMA as a medical student. He was a Councillor, Student and Doctors in Training representative, and a member of the Residents' and Students' Committee. During this time, Professor Owler led AMA NSW's campaign on the provider number dispute.

Professor Owler returned to the AMA NSW Council to represent surgeons in 2009. He was appointed to the Federal Council of the AMA in June 2010. Since 2011, Professor Owler has been a member of the Federal AMA Executive Council. He was also a member of the Economics and Workforce, Finance and Audit Committees. In addition, his responsibilities at a national level included his position on the COAG Expert Panel on Emergency Department and Elective Surgery Performance.

Professor Owler was elected as President of the AMA NSW on 29 May 2012. Throughout his Presidency and other leadership roles within the AMA, Professor Owler worked tirelessly for the benefit of doctors and patients. He was instrumental in the passing of legislation to change industrial representation arrangements for doctors in training in NSW and he has raised the profile of issues around access, hospital capacity and hidden waiting lists.

Professor Owler has a strong commitment to public health issues and made public health advocacy a priority in his AMA NSW Presidency. In particular, Professor Owler proposed an innovative and hard-hitting road safety campaign to the NSW Government, based on the experiences of doctors dealing with the trauma of road accidents. On the basis of his proposal, the NSW Government launched the 'Don't Rush' road safety campaign. The campaign is a jointly badged initiative between AMA NSW and the NSW Government. The campaign was highly effective in changing the views and attitudes of drivers.

Professor Owler also led AMA NSW, along with a number of key stakeholder organisations and the NSW Government, to reduce the incidence of preventable deaths and injuries in children, primarily in the areas of pool safety and falls from residential buildings in NSW. His efforts culminated in the introduction of legislation addressing the issue in NSW Parliament in 2013. He also lobbied the Federal Government to establish Australia's first shunt registry for hydrocephalus patients.

During his AMA NSW Presidency, Professor Owler was a passionate advocate for vaccination, stronger laws to minimise alcohol-related violence, and community education about the health harms caused by alcohol abuse.

Professor Owler was elected Federal AMA President on 25 May 2014. His tenure as President of the Federal AMA coincided with one of the most turbulent periods in health policy Australia has seen to date. The 2014 May Budget set the course for Professor Owler, who fought publicly on behalf of the profession and patients against the co-payment strategy. His relentless media campaign and strong media presence forced the Federal Government to re-think their health policy strategy.

Professor Owler also fought against the Medicare freeze policy and inadequate public hospital funding, challenging the Federal Government's narrative that health spending is out of control. He also championed the AMA's Private Health Insurance Report Card, which is a critical resource for patients. Professor Owler is staunchly opposed to a US-style managed health care system and during his presidency was an outspoken critic of the lobbying efforts of private health insurers.

Meanwhile, Professor Owler continued to be a powerful public health advocate and, as President of the Federal AMA, made Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health a top priority. He remains passionate about working in partnership with Governments, stakeholders and Indigenous partners to Close the Gap in Indigenous health and disadvantage.

He has also been an outspoken leader on the humane and fair health treatment of asylum seekers. He called for independent oversight of that care, and argues that doctors, nurses, psychologists and all others should be free to speak out about poor care without fear of legal threat.

As head of the AMA, Professor Owler spoke out about the health impacts of climate change, and advocated for policies to mitigate against the health effects of climate change. He also campaigned for the Government to increase its contribution to the efforts in West Africa during the Ebola outbreak – not only because controlling the outbreak at its source was the best approach, but because it was just the right thing to do.

Professor Owler has made a profound contribution to neurosurgery and the welfare of his patients, colleagues and the wider community. Over the course of his career, he has received many accolades; most recently he was presented with the AMA NSW's President's Award in November 2016.

He also made a significant and highly visible contribution to the Australian Medical Association, both at a State and Federal level.

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