Dr Grant Raymond

RANZCO President (2022–2024)

Dr Grant Raymond served as RANZCO President from 2022 to 2024, following three years as Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer. A South Australian ophthalmologist with fellowship training in retina, Dr Raymond brought to the role a deep experience in clinical leadership, education and assessment and governance across professional and not-for-profit boards. Taking office as the profession moved beyond the most disruptive phases of the COVID-19 period, he emphasised strengthening service to Fellows, clear communication with stakeholders and delivery of a Council-approved strategic plan.

Grant was born in Adelaide, South Australia and attended Prince Alfred College for his secondary education. He entered medicine at the University of Adelaide in 1978 and graduated MBBS in 1984. During medical school he also held a vacation scholarship with the Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board in December 1980, an early experience of community health and service.

After graduation, Grant progressed through ophthalmology training and examinations, completing the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists Part I Examination in August 1987 and the Part II Conjoint Examination with the Royal Australian College of Surgeons in August 1990. During his registrar years, he developed a strong interest in retinal disease, which became the centre of a long career in medical retina. Based in North Adelaide, he practised from rooms on Melbourne Street and developed a sub-specialty retina practice as a director of Eye Consultants SA.

Grant has held major public hospital and training roles, including Head of the Medical Retina Service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Medical Retina Fellowship Supervisor. He provided long-term on-call cover for the Vitreo-Retinal Service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and advocated for appropriate resourcing to meet the rising burden of age-related macular disease and diabetes. His clinical and research interests have included age-related macular disease and diabetic retinopathy. He has also been involved in laser research using micropulse laser for diabetic maculopathy and proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

Education has been a consistent focus throughout his career. From 1996, Grant supervised retinal fellows through the South Australian Institute of Ophthalmology, training specialists from a wide range of backgrounds, including fellows from developing regions. He contributed to broader workforce education as a clinical coordinator and instructor in eye health programs for Aboriginal Health Workers and helped develop health education resources, including “Vision for Life – Healthy Eyes for Aboriginal People with Diabetes”. He also served as an oral assessor for the University of Adelaide medical student selection program.

Grant’s service to RANZCO spans clinical standards, education, governance and professional conduct. He served as a RACE examiner for ten years and was recognised

for being perceptive, encouraging and fair, with thoughtful contributions aimed at improving the examination process and supporting trainees. He served a term on the National Curriculum Committee and held multiple South Australian branch roles, including Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, before becoming Chair of the SA Branch. He later chaired the Professional Conduct Committee, a role requiring procedural fairness, sound judgement and a strong commitment to professional standards. His national leadership roles included Board Director, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer before he became President.

Beyond the College, Grant has maintained a strong record of community and governance service. A graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, he has extensive experience working with not-for-profit boards. He served as immediate past-President of the Royal Society for the Blind and continues on its Board. He has also contributed to macular disease advocacy through involvement with relevant organisations and has served on advisory boards to pharmaceutical companies. Across these roles, his focus has been on aligning clinical realities with systems, policy and resources so patients can access timely, high-quality care.

International engagement has been another feature of his work. Grant has helped train retinal specialists from Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, China, Spain, Russia and India. He has undertaken voluntary aid work in Myanmar with Sight for All, served in China as a visiting ophthalmologist for Lifeline Express and contributed in Sri Lanka as an international examiner and invited lecturer. This work reflects a commitment to building capability and improving standards in settings where specialist services and training opportunities are limited.

Grant assumed the presidency at the conclusion of RANZCO's 53rd Congress in Brisbane, succeeding Prof Nitin Verma AM. In his early remarks as President, he noted the goodwill and dedication of Fellows, the Board and staff and spoke about creating the space, time and resources for RANZCO to advance its ambitions in education, standards, equity, sustainability and collegiality. He also emphasised the importance of RANZCO being the best membership organisation it could be, providing valued services, communicating effectively and strengthening relationships with key stakeholders across Australia and New Zealand.

Grant is married to A/Prof Wendy Raymond, MBBS, MD, FRAC Path, a histopathologist and cytopathologist associated with Clinpath and Flinders Medical Centre. They have two daughters. Outside work, he enjoys golf, tennis and challenging bush walks.

Across his presidency and career, Grant's profile is that of a clinician-leader who combines sub-specialist retinal expertise with a sustained commitment to education, standards and governance, with the aim of strengthening the profession and improving outcomes for the communities ophthalmologists serve.