



# EXAMINATIONS

## WHY SERVE ON THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS?

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Chief Examiner 2016 – 2018

The Australian and New Zealand veterinary profession needs and remains very dependent on the ANZCVS. Our profession benefits greatly from having the unique Membership examinations which allows those in practice, or on career paths to specialisation, an opportunity to motivate and be recognised for studying in their chosen discipline.

Our Fellowship examinations remain very important to allow candidates in Australia and New Zealand to become recognised as specialists in a wide variety of disciplines. Many veterinarians in our part of the world would not have the opportunity to pursue specialisation if Fellowship of the ANZCVS did not exist.

There is competition developing in this space but for now and for the foreseeable future the ANZCVS provides a unique and important service to our veterinary community by overseeing training programs and examining both at Membership and Fellowship level. The BOE is the group within the College that administers this important part of College business.

Initially I came onto the Board because I was grateful for the opportunities the College had given me. Having passed membership early in my career certainly benefited me greatly in motivation and confidence, and later passing the



Fellowship exam allowed me to become more recognised in my field. After having examined a few times for the College, I thought the next step would be to get involved in the administration of training and examining. This would allow me to assist the group to improve and keep current the core business of the College.

This is exactly what participating in the BOE has allowed me to do. Initially I served on the Training and Credentials Committee (TCC) of the BOE. The complexities of the workings of the Board and the Committee did take some time to become comfortable with but over time I felt I was part of a team which was making significant improvements to the training programs, credentialing and examinations.

Attending meetings, the examination periods at the Gold Coast and Science Weeks allowed for lots of networking opportunities. It is no exaggeration I made many friends and contacts broadly across disciplines and on many levels that it is unlikely I would have in any other

way.

Later I went on to Chair the TCC committee and then to lead the Board as Chief Examiner. During this time on the Board there was no doubt an increased time commitment, but there was great satisfaction in working with a great team of Board members as well as the office, Council members and other support staff of the College.

It was also very gratifying to work with the large numbers of volunteers, ranging from examiners, reviewers and committee members to observers and the many others who make up the College community. The ANZCVS is indeed a unique organisation within our profession and the amount of goodwill and generosity shown by so many has been astounding and gratifying to see and be part of.

On reflection, although in later years the larger time commitment to Board duties has seen relatively large impacts on my life outside of the College, I can still honestly say the College has given more to me than I have to the College.

I am very proud to have been serving the College and its members and candidates for over 10 years now and to have contributed towards the many improvements and developments that have occurred during this time.

I heartily recommend volunteering on the Board and feel sure the experience will benefit all those who chose to contribute.