TERMS OF REFERENCE

Future Directions Forum

Purpose
The Future Directions Forum is to be introduced during the second half of 2015 as part of the governance review undertaken during 2014-15. The role of the Future Directions Forum is to:

- Support the vision and objectives of the Society
- Provide input to the RSA Board with respect to the strategic direction and maximising outcomes of strategic initiatives
- Act as a conduit between all areas of the Society, strengthening communication and enhancing outcomes for all RSA members.

Forum’s structure
One representative shall be nominated by the committee of every branch, special interest group and other committees of the RSA to participate on the Future Directions Forum. Each representative will be required to represent the views of the nominating committee. When considering nomination, it is expected that committees will give due consideration to representatives who are attending the annual conference where a face-to-face meeting of the Future Directions Forum will be held as funding will not be provided.

To promote a diversity of views it is requested that committees nominate a non-RSA board director as their representative and ideally someone from their Executive team.

The Board will be represented by both the President (formerly Federal Chair) and Vice President of the Society, with the President to act as chair of the Forum or appoint a replacement to act as chair in their absence. Key service providers to the Society may also attend and participate in Forum meetings, as well as provide secretarial support as required.

Reporting
The proceedings of all meetings of the Forum will be documented and presented on the agenda of the next Board meeting.

Meeting Frequency
The Future Directions Forum will meet at least twice per annum, including a face-to-face meeting held in conjunction with the annual conference.

Authority / Decision Making
- The Forum is formed under the auspices of the Society’s Board of Directors to consider issues referred from the Board and/or recommend pursuance of new strategies
- The Forum will not have a budget however meeting expenses, including teleconference facilities, will be covered under the Society’s operating budget
- The Forum does not have the authority to execute contracts independently
- The Forum is able to make recommendations to the RSA Board in relation to initiatives both within and beyond the scope of this document though it has no authority to enforce decisions
- Process – by consensus.