It would be an honour to serve my College of twenty-five years as President and Chair. I attach all necessary documentation to this email but will briefly outline my motivations, strengths and skills and a little of my vision below.

My drive to apply now comprises a couple of factors. I have spent many years acquiring the necessary skills, mostly from responsibilities and roles within the College, that have helped prepare me for these roles. Some of the external facing and professional roles I assumed more recently have developed other skills in a more commercial sphere, and while these continue to evolve, I believe they are of utility to the College into the future. There is a more detailed outline of some of these new forays into clinical entrepreneurship in the attached document.

My other key drive relates to better time availability. Until recently it was my priority to ensure that my children were independent enough to not be compromised by the time that needs to be dedicated to a role such as the President and Chair. As you know well, rural doctors’ families often receive the rough end of the stick when it comes to their parent’s availability – I did not want this leadership role to further impact their lives.

I have outlined my skills-match in the attached skills matrix and summarised my suitability against the key selection criteria in the attached document. In self-assessing my strengths, I would like to emphasise the following points:

1. Long history with the College comprising a very broad set of roles including teaching, course delivery, assessing, committee work and external representation;
2. More recent moves into commercialisation and business development that assist in my thinking about rural health provision, communication and actions as a leader; and
3. Well established self-management and resilience processes to assist in balancing workloads and professional and personal responsibilities.

On the matter of my personal vision for the College, I have three key desires:

1. Potential trainees better understand what Rural Generalism is, why they should strive for it and how we can get them there;
2. Governments at all levels are clear about the aims and purpose of the College as the leader in providing standards, training, assessment and policies for our rural communities;
3. Patients in our rural and remote communities have the clearest understanding of what the Rural Generalist in town can deliver, the role of the College in supporting clinical preparation, and why that’s important for the community.

The College is now in a more stable position, thanks to the vision and work of Dan and the past Presidents driving significant, incremental changes. I would see one of my key success metrics during a two-year term as finalisation and embedding of Specialist Recognition, including reimbursement structures. Another significant achievement would be moving the College towards independent Specialist College status and earlier pathway entry for candidates.

I have spent my life as a rural doctor being influenced by the wisdom of the College and its leaders. We have seen some great gains in workforce and improvement in orientation to Rural and Remote Medicine, but as always there is more to do. I would love the opportunity to be a leader in the next phase of our journey.