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Two new leaders for ANZCA and its Faculty of Pain Medicine

The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) and its Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) have announced two key leadership appointments.

Dr Chris Cokis, a specialist anaesthetist at Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth is the new president of ANZCA. Dr Kieran Davis, who is based in Auckland, is the new dean of the Faculty of Pain Medicine.

Dr Davis's appointment was confirmed at the FPM Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday and the ANZCA AGM on Monday. The AGMs were conducted via a video link with anaesthetists and specialist pain medicine physicians in Australia and New Zealand.

Dr Cokis was first elected to the ANZCA Council in 2016. He has held several key positions, including ANZCA vice-president, chair of the Final Exam Sub-Committee, chair of the Education Executive Management Committee and honorary treasurer. He has clinical interests in cardiac and thoracic anaesthesia, is co-head of department at Fiona Stanley Fremantle Hospital group and leads the cardio-thoracic service there.

Dr Cokis, who replaces Dr Vanessa Beavis, said: "The last two years have seen unprecedented challenges for frontline medical clinicians and health care teams. Our anaesthetists, trainees and specialist medical graduates have often worked under intense pressure in, and for, their local communities.

"During my presidency I would like to re-engage with the fellowship and acknowledge the enormous and committed volunteer workforce we have."

Dr Davis is a specialist pain medicine physician and anaesthetist at Auckland City Hospital. He has held key faculty positions including vice-dean, membership of the FPM New Zealand National Committee, and has chaired both the FPM Examinations Committee and the FPM Training and Assessment Executive Committee.

Dr Davis said: "I am incredibly proud of the achievements of the Faculty of Pain Medicine and ANZCA in weathering what we hope will be the worst of the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is more important than ever that we continue to ensure that patients in Australia and New Zealand have equitable access to pain treatment."

Both appointments run for two years.

For more information or to request interviews, please contact ANZCA Media Manager Carolyn Jones on +61 3 8517 5303, +61 408 259 369 or cjones@anzca.edu.au