

Brief Biography: Professor Chris Peck



Professor Chris Peck
Dean-Designate
Faculty of Dentistry
National University of Singapore

Professor Chris Peck has spent the past two decades at the University of Sydney where he has had several leadership roles including Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, and Vice Chancellor's Delegate for the Westmead Precinct, Australia's largest health precinct.

As Dean, Prof Peck focused on unifying strategies in research and education including integrating the faculty's fundamental, clinical and population health research to deliver positive impact to local and regional communities. Importantly, the faculty prioritised rapid translation of research findings through its education programmes, which were reformed to include short courses embedded within formal degrees. As Vice Chancellor's Delegate, Prof Peck was responsible for leading the development and implementation of the University's academic strategy, and was the lead academic for the design and construction of a new hospital, that were the first phases of its new campus in Western Sydney. The focus was on improving health and wellbeing through community and industry collaboration with health and non-health disciplines.

Prof Peck's leadership has extended to Chairing the Board of Directors of the Australian Dental Council, which accredits Australia's dental courses and assesses dental practitioners. During his term, he led the revision of dental practitioner competencies, including importantly a focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, priority populations, and interprofessional collaborative practice; established academic partnerships; and grew the Council's international activities. Prof Peck has also helmed a state ministerial taskforce into dental health services that created a decadal dental strategy for Australia's largest state, and has led the development of a state-wide dental specialist services plan. He has chaired the Australasian Council of Dental Schools and successfully led the representation of dental schools to state and federal governments to improve resourcing for clinical activities within academia.

Prof Peck is an internationally renowned clinical pain researcher who works closely with fundamental researchers to help understand better the underlying mechanisms of persistent pain. He has been funded over the past two decades through Australia's National Health and Medical Research Council and has co-developed models explaining the impact of pain on normal function, brain mechanisms underlying persistent oral and facial pain, and a standardised international classification of orofacial pain. He continues with international collaborations across Europe, Asia, and North and South America. This work is supported and

disseminated through his clinical activities as an orofacial pain clinical expert where he works in interdisciplinary teams to help patients manage pain. He has led international research and clinical groups including the International Network for Orofacial Pain and Related Disorders and the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Orofacial Pain, resulting in improved research outcomes and clinical management.

Prof Peck has engaged extensively with the community to improve health and wellbeing. This has included working with local and regional disadvantaged communities to improve access to oral health care through student and clinician outreach services as well as mentoring and training community members.

Prof Peck graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Dental Surgery (1988), Master of Science in Dentistry (1995), and Graduate Diploma of Science in Medicine (Pain Management) (2002). He obtained his PhD from the University of British Columbia (2000).