

the answer

Making a difference



As members, Congress, like the RCN, belongs to you. So this is a week to exchange news and views; to debate and discuss; and to have your say

give your input on the key issues that affect you.

So whether it's your worries about the level of bursaries, your fears about job opportunities for newly qualified nurses, or your concerns about training

and mentoring, Congress is your chance to turn up, stand up and speak up.

And, for old hands like me, it's a chance to listen to and learn from you, our students. So paradoxically, as students, you have so much to teach us because, as the newest members of our nursing family, you bring fresh ideas and new ways of thinking to the work that we do and the issues that we face.

You are the lifeblood of our profession. And that's why, as the world's biggest

professional nursing union, the RCN will be there for you, from student enrolment day to work retirement day.

I'm proud that you've chosen to join our nursing family and honoured that you've chosen to join the RCN. I'm also delighted that you are giving your time and your support to our profession by being here this week. It only remains for me to wish you a productive and an enjoyable Congress.

Beverly Malone

Welcome to Bournemouth



As Chair of RCN Congress it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to Bournemouth. I am sure that you have all heard the old cliché;

that you, as nursing students, are the future of the profession. Well, that is all well and good if it is all that you want to be, but why not be part of the present? I first attended RCN Congress as a nursing student and could not believe that people wanted to hear what I had to say. Taking part in the

full range of Congress activities gave me an insight into nursing and a self-confidence that I would never have acquired elsewhere. I would not be where I am now without that first time as a student!

The main business of Congress is in the hall, where debates will be taking place all week but there are lots of other exciting things to look out for. The huge exhibition is always worth a visit; it is a great place to learn, to look for a job and to pick up a few unusual freebies! Inside and outside

the main hall there are guest speakers, seminars and professional events, which run from breakfast through to the evening, and then of course there are the social events, which provide an opportunity to build networks and friendships. Come and listen, learn and enjoy yourself, but also please do not forget that your views and contributions are an essential part of the RCN. The RCN is not a separate body, you are a very large part of it, so come and get your voice heard.

Dave Nunn

What's happening on Students' Day...

09:00–10:30 Congress debating session, Windsor Hall, BIC

11:15–12:30 Congress debating session, Windsor Hall, BIC

13:00–14:00 Student Assembly Nursing: on the brink of disaster Windsor Hall, BIC

14:30–15:30 Keynote speech Stephen Lewis, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, followed by Congress debating session, Windsor Hall, BIC

16:15–17:30 Congress debating session, Windsor Hall, BIC

18:00–19:00 Students' Day Reception [voucher provided]
Dorchester Suite, Highcliff Marriott Hotel

19:00–20:00 Dinner [voucher provided]
Pavilion, Highcliff Marriott Hotel

20:00–01:00 Students' Ball
Pavilion, Highcliff Marriott Hotel

The exhibition will be open from 09:00–17:30



ANS Executive Committee with RCN Student Advisor, Susan Watt.

Welcome from your ANS Executive

RCN Congress brings together nurses and nursing students from all around the UK and presents a unique opportunity for debate, networking and finding out about the latest developments in nursing.

As the nurses of tomorrow, we need to gain the knowledge and skills to carry the nursing profession forward. The ANS plays an active role in this objective by providing opportunities that allow nursing students to become more active in the profession. The establishment and continued success

of Students' Day is testament to the work of RCN members.

Your ANS Executive Committee has submitted resolutions and matters for discussion on your behalf for debate at Congress and action throughout the year.

My hope is that with each challenge comes a new opportunity to make RCN students better, stronger and more united. I hope our paths cross soon.

Grant Ciccone, consultant editor of *the answer* on behalf of the ANS Executive

Fighting for your future, fighting for jobs!

Never in the history of the NHS has the fight for its survival been at the fore of ANS policy.

Drastic under-funding has seen hospitals and wards threatened with closure and now jobs are at risk, so NHS trusts are able to balance their books. Secretary of State for Health, Patricia Hewitt has declared that there will be no new money available for trusts, they must give the best service on the resources they have.

And now up to 50 per cent of nursing students who are due to qualify between now and September do not have a job to go to. They are unsure of what the future holds for them.

The ANS has submitted a resolution Don't stop us working! calling on the RCN to urge the Government to

guarantee a post in the NHS for every newly qualified nurse for a minimum of one year. It is ambitious; it is challenging government to provide the NHS with sufficient funding to ensure that nurses graduating from the UK's colleges and universities can consolidate their skills to provide patients and clients with high quality care. It will guarantee the future of the health care professional workforce.

Don't stop us working! We want to help to ensure the future of the NHS.

Don't stop us working! We are the future face of the NHS.

Don't stop us working! We are the future of the RCN! We are the voice of nursing.

**Support YOUR resolution today!
Support the UK's nursing students!**

Today's *Nursing Standard* seminars

Alongside the exhibition there are over 100 free seminars supported by *Nursing Standard*.

All sessions, unless stated last for 45 minutes and cover a wide range of clinical issues, career progression and personal development. Make the most of your time at Congress and expand your knowledge – for full details of seminar locations please refer to the *Congress handbook*.

10–10.45am

- Developing your skills as a political leader
- Competence and you
- Violence and aggression in the workplace

10.30–11.15am, 12.30–1.15pm

and 3.30–4.45pm

- Where do drugs come from – The British Pharmacological Society celebrates its 75th anniversary

11–11.45am

- RCN Publishing – dream job – how to get the job you want

- Consent and confidentiality: sexual health of young people, the law and you the nurse
- School nursing
- The diversity masterclass

12.00–12.45pm

- Intermediate care – snakes and ladders
- The only limits in life are self imposed
- Engaging nurses in practice-based commissioning
- Health and safety risk assessment

1pm–1.45pm

- Promoting continence and managing continence in older people (this session finishes at 2.45pm)
- Sleep
- School nursing in 2006 – is school nursing a career for you?
- Knowledge and skills framework (this session finishes at 2.45pm)

2pm–2.45pm

- Parkinson's disease

3pm–3.45pm

- Essence of care: benchmarking for continence
- Challenges of teaching ethics to multi-cultural student groups: ethical imperialism or professional universalism?
- Assertiveness skills for nurses

4pm–4.45pm

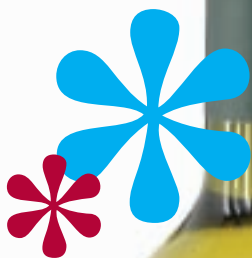
- Student debt and alternative sources of income
- Working alongside people with dementia and their family carers
- The diversity masterclass

5pm–5.45pm

- Assertiveness skills

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Students'
Day
Lunch



Students'
reception



Students'
Dinner
RECEPTION



* No catch

Coming soon

the new RCN STUDENTS website including your chance to win an iPod nano!

Over the last few months we have been busy working on a new student website to replace the current Student Zone. The student site will be a new online resource giving you access to everything you need as a student member of the RCN. Featuring the latest news and events it will be your gateway to the RCN, giving you easy access to everything the RCN has to offer.

It will also help you get the most out from your copy of *the answer*, giving you exclusive content and links relating to feature articles. To be among the first students to know when the new site is launched and to be entered into a prize draw to win an iPod nano, simply send an email to students@rcn.org.uk – remember to

put 'student zone' as the subject and include your name and email address*.

*see www.rcn.org.uk/students for terms and conditions, by entering this competition you agree to the RCN contacting you by email about the launch of the new students' website.



Enter the prize draw to win an iPod Nano >> students@rcn.org.uk, put 'student zone' in the subject.

Students to support orphans of nurses in Africa

This year RCN President, Sylvia Denton's Congress charity will be an International Council of Nurses' project to support the education of children who are the orphans of nurse parents, which reflects the theme of Congress: Nursing the world.

In recognition of the UN's Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015, the Girl Child Education Fund is concentrating on 40 girls across Kenya, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia. The ICN is working closely with national nursing associations in these countries to identify individual girls in need and to provide for the cost of their primary or secondary schooling, including fees, uniforms and books. The project provides practical life-enhancing support to severely disadvantaged children of nursing colleagues who have died.

Collections are planned for the conference hall today and you can make a donation online by visiting the RCN Congress website.

Donate at the conference hall >> or visit www.rcn.org.uk/congress

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Students' Dinner RECEPTION

Exchange this voucher for refreshments to a maximum of £4 at Congress on Students' Day at any of the catering retail outlets within the Bournemouth International Centre. Additional costs should be met by individuals and no change will be given.



Students' reception

Exchange this voucher for one drink (glass of wine or soft drink).

Venue: Dorchester Suite, Bournemouth International Conference centre 6-7pm



Students' Day Lunch

Exchange this voucher for your evening meal plus one drink (glass of wine or soft drink).

Venue: The Pavillion From 7-8pm



* No catch