

# RCN Students Committee Meeting

## 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September 2011



RCN HQ, Room 107  
8<sup>th</sup> September 11.00 - 17.00  
9<sup>th</sup> September 09.00 - 17.00

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## Notes

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**In attendance:** Saffron Brown (SB), Alexis Mackenzie-Slight (AMS), Craig Dominique-Smith (CDS), Joy Griffiths (JG), Jayne Parker (JP), Michelle Watt (MW), Stuart Young (SY), Joanne Sharkey (JS), Paul Young (PY), Andrew Wyllie (AW), Claire Barber (CB) & Joanne Sharkey (JS) & Diana Clarke (DC)

**Apologies:** Phil Schneider (PS), Tamara Morgan (TM), Susan Doyle (SD) & Lisa Oluyinka (LO)

**Staff:** Julie Pritchard (JAP) Notes, Gill Robertson (GR)

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### 11/49 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed the committee to the meeting. Apologies were received as noted above.

The notes of the last meeting were approved.

### 11/50 Declaration of Interests

None received

### 11/51 Student Budget

Budget is healthy, Gill asked committee if they could let us know if they would like any funds to do any regional student events.

Mobile Education and Recruitment Vehicle (MERV) will probably now be ordered for next March/April 2012.

Gill agreed that there would be £750 available for the Student Conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 being held in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Gill suggested to the Committee that we should set up a programme of webinars for students – the numbers could be limited and we would ask students to book in. This will be very interactive and will allow students to suggest what topics/subjects they want to find out about and would like covered.

### 11/52 Newly Qualified Nurses (NQN's) – receiving communications

Gill has contacted Kim and asked her to add the committee onto the mailing list.

Claire suggested sending communications to a wider group of newly qualified nurses – Gill agreed that it is worth looking into.

**Action GR & JAP** to investigate sending comms to a wider group of NQN's.

### **11/53 Annual report**

Agreed one person should go through each report and format it so that they all look the same.

**Action SB** to look at all the reports and format them into the same style and return to JP.

Use the picture of the wheel from Congress in Liverpool and try and photo shop Stuart and Lisa's heads into the picture to put onto the front of the Annual Report.

### **11/54 Future meeting venues**

HQ Re-plan project - Refurbishment has been delayed but this does not really affect any RCN Student Committee Meetings. We still have to move around into the four countries.

The proposed plan is to go to the following places for the RCN Students Committee Meetings:-

- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> & Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012 – RCN HQ
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2012 – RCN Direct Cardiff
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> & Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2012 – Edinburgh office
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> & Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – Belfast office
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2012 – London Cavendish Conference

There will not be a committee meeting at Congress 2012 next year because it is a month later than usual.

### **11/55 Congress Resolutions 2012**

The committee discussed preceptorship packages and how they differ from place to place.

The Committee suggested Preceptorship packages should be mandatory and should be standardised and rolled out nationally.

Michelle shared with the group Preceptorship in Scotland. It is a 1 year online programme but only available for NHS employees.

The Committee discussed the issues with bank staff nurses not being offered preceptorship.

The Committee put a few ideas forward for Congress Resolutions.

- Jayne suggested cubicle curtains on wards that are not long enough to close completely – patient dignity.
- CQC - fit for purpose – independent sector
- Alexis suggested an issue with English speaking nurses – for patient safety
- Patient nutrition – meal environment
- Should we be a royal college by definition of the other Royal colleges? i.e. shut wards down etc. (find out about the whole process)

**Action All – to submit agenda items for Congress 2012, please see the wiki for details.**

**Action GR & JAP** to contact GMC and ask someone to come and speak at the committee.

## **11/56 Council Report**

Meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2011

- Priorities were discussed and approved
- Looked at risk register
- Approved changes to prescription rates
- Knowledge and skills framework will be ready in October

**Action SB** to put council report on the wiki

## **11/57 Induction of the new committee**

### Suggestions from the Committee

- Create a cheat sheet with abbreviations and explain acronyms
- Committee suggested having a jargon monitor for in the committee meetings **Joy Griffiths** put herself forward.
- How to write your regional report
- Governance structure
- Business of where we are up to – current business
- 30 minute ice breaker session at the start of the first meeting (Nov 2011)
- New Committee member to be put in contact with a named buddy from existing committee. Also have contact details of buddy so they can get in touch via Facebook.
- Buddy member to meet new committee member at tube station or reception of RCN HQ
- Book Busaba Eathai for the Friday evening and swap places every time you finish a plate of food to get new and existing members to get to know one another.

## **11/58 Other activist roles in the college**

Diana Clarke the Learning and Development facilitator from the Bolton Office, kindly offered some of her time to come and talk to the Student Committee about other activist roles in the college. Thank you Diana it was very informative and helpful.

The RCN currently has approximately 5000 accredited reps. RCN try to match a rep to an area of interest.

There is a lot more information on the RCN website if you are interested in becoming a rep or alternatively speak to Julie or Gill if you have any questions.

## **11/59 Any Other Business**

### Nursing Standards Awards 2011

Stuart Young asked the Committee to encourage nursing students to apply for the student category in nursing standards awards 2012. The closing date for all entries is 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

### AGM 2011

The 2011 RCN Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 October 2011 at the Royal College of Nursing Headquarters, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN. Voting papers and information on how to attend the AGM has been posted out to all members. If you have not received your AGM pack and proxy voting forms, please email your name and membership number to [governance.support@rcn.org.uk](mailto:governance.support@rcn.org.uk) asking for a new voting pack.

### Evidence based Nursing Journal

Saffron asked the committee who would be interested in being involved in creating evidence based nursing journal /student log. A snippet of the E-zine could go into the evidence based nursing journal. Student committee were encouraged to write something for the Journal. The Journal would be published quarterly – Alison is the editor of the journal.

### E-zine

Kim Bell has emailed Craig to poll opinion to gather thoughts on the e-zine.

**Action All** to feedback opinion to Craig.

### SIO Events

Jayne suggested inviting students from the London Region universities to attend an event and discuss preceptorship at student forums. Jayne suggested using a lecture theatre in the universities and then it will be a good opportunity to sign the students up to be SIO's at the end.

### Student Governance Group

Student governance group has not yet gone to council for formal ratification. This will be discussed at the next Council meeting in November.

### ENSA conference

Saffron informed the committee that the ENSA meeting has now changed to the 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> November being held in Copenhagen, there is a proposal to find someone to go from the Committee. Gill will be attending.

**Action All** - Gill said if you are interested let Gill know. Craig, Joy and Jayne expressed their interest to attend.

### Student Information Officers

Gill is closing the Wiki – instead there will be an Ezine which is called SIO Update SIO update will come out once a month

**Action All** - send pieces to Gill each month for the SIO update.

After the first SIO Update has been sent out the wiki will close the following week.

**Action JAP** - to get another certificate of attendance printed for congress 2011 and send to Paul Young.

**11/60 Date of the next Business Meeting**  
**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November**