

RCN Students Committee Meeting

1st and 2nd July 2011



RCN HQ, Room 107
1st July 11.00 - 17.00
2nd July 09.00 - 17.00 (London Pride)

Notes

In attendance: Saffron Brown (SB), Alexis Mackenzie-Slight (AMS), Craig Dominique-Smith (CDS), Susan Doyle (SD), Tamara Morgan (TM), Joy Griffiths (JG), Jayne Parker (JP), Michelle Watt (MW), Stuart Young (SY), Joanne Sharkey (JS), Paul Young (PY), Juliet Adkins (JA), Sarah-Louise Dennison (SLD)

Apologies: Lisa Oluyinka (LO), Andrew Wyllie (AW), Claire Barber (CB), Phil Schneider (PS) & Joanne Sharkey (JS)

Observing: Carole Macmillan (CM)

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

11/32 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.

11/33 Declaration of Interests

None received

11/34 Communications update

Student Recruitment and Retention

JA confirmed that the student guide has been updated with the help of SY. Juliet has put together some crib cards that include conversion charts and picture communication aids etc which are a good resource for student nurses and those will be ready for Freshers' Fairs in September.

JA also confirmed that the Oxford University Handbook is nearly ready to launch. The Handbook is an introduction to patient pathways and includes advice about settling into your course which is another good resource to take to Freshers' Fairs.

Student Website

JA is currently updating the student website and hopefully will be ready to be launched in the autumn time. Within the web plan the website will be broken down into 1st, 2nd and 3rd/4th Year sections and an A-Z index will be introduced to help navigate around the site.

Communication Report

SB & CDS discussed the results of a recent communications report. Currently there are 30,000 different email addresses held on the membership database and 326 of those are inactive. Popular website page hits - Congress / Bursary / Uniform Survey / Monica Bailey / Student Information Officer.

ACTION: SB agreed to put a message on Facebook to remind people to update the RCN with any new email addresses.

ACTION: SY agreed to put a message on posters and on the website to remind members to update the RCN with any new email addresses and also to remind members to check their junk mail.

Student magazine

SB and PY are not getting copies of the student magazine.

ACTION: JAP to add SB and PY to the mailing list for Student Magazine.

Feedback on first edition of the magazine was very good and the second edition is currently in working progress.

CDS passed around the flat plan for the second edition of the student magazine that is going to be printed on the 1st August 2011, which will be ready for the recruitment process.

PY suggested putting information on membership fees and getting tax back into the 2nd edition of student magazine.

GR reminded the committee to fill in the uniform survey. Once GR has the results she will circulate them to the committee.

11/35 Student Budget

The student budget has diminished by 3% and we are now working from a zero budget system. If the committee would like to do a project/event we now have to submit a project proposal and bid against the money. This process also applies to the regional budgets as well. Can the committee let JAP and GR know as early as possible if you are planning on doing a Conference/Event.

Mobile Recruitment Vehicle (MRV) is being budgeted at the moment – researching another company. Marco trailers have provided a very reasonable quote but we need to get 3 quotes from separate company/vendor.

11/36 Education Agenda

The Education White Paper came out on Tuesday 28th June 2011. No intention to look at student fees. The Bursary will be announced w/c 11th July 2011.

The number of commissioned places is down 10.1% this year, but the number of commissioned places has gone down by 25% over the last three years.

Ieuan Ellis Chair of Council of Deans of health.

GR discussed trying to get the Education group together for an Education Scoping Review Meeting.

GR informed committee she will be the Education Advisor until April 2012.

ACTION: JAP/GR to inform committee group when the Education Scoping Review Meeting has a date set.

11/37 Annual report

SB had emailed the committee with actions they needed to do for the report and pieces they needed to cover.

SB discussed with the committee what format they would like the report to be in, SB suggested web based and having one printed in a nice quality PDF for the archives.

SY suggested including what the committee has done over the last 12 months in the annual report.

Layout of Annual Report

1. Front Cover
2. Contents
3. Introduction (SB/AS)
4. Membership of Committee & Attendance – PHOTO OF ALL COMMITTEE (PS)
5. Strategic Plan (SY)
6. Projects
 - a. Sign Off Mentors (PY)
 - b. NQN (SD)
 - c. Super Numeracy Status (AMS)
 - d. Front Line First (SY)
7. Communications (CDS)
8. Congress (JS/JG)
9. Student Engagement (All/JG)
 - a. Bus - Last Part
10. Student Information Officers (SIOs) - Thank You.
11. Regional Round Ups – (All)
12. Events - Listed
 - a. Regional
 - b. National
 - c. International
 - d. Lord Mayors
 - e. Bus Parties
13. Summary – RCN Students

Committee agreed on the planned draft layout / content of the annual report and agreed the report will be finalised by the end of July 2011 with the aim to sign off via email and launch at the September meeting.

SB suggested starting a page on wiki – what events committee members have attended.

ACTION: all committee members to complete Wiki page with events they have attended.

11/38 Future meeting venues

RCN HQ Building is having renovation carried out as of 11th November 2011. Strategy planning Weekend on 4th November 2011 is still booked at the RCN HQ. Any future meetings past 11th November 2011, we will have to pay for external venues. GR made a suggestion to use the RCN offices in all 4 countries (Cardiff, Scotland, Northern Island, RCN Direct and the Croydon office). It was also suggested to host Event/Conference after each Committee meeting to meet with Students/SIO's. CM mentioned liaising with conference services to see what special room rates they have agreed with local venues in London. Committee discussed and agreed that they are happy to travel around the country and use the offices/meeting rooms in different regions.

ACTION: GR and JAP to look into venues for future meetings.

11/39 Congress Update

Congress 2011 was a huge success and committee thanked Gill for all her hard work. SY wanted to pass thanks to Laura King and Lisa Cork. There has been great feedback from student members and council members. Committee said well done to Jayne on her item at Congress.

PY approached by someone at congress to ask if it was possible as a qualified nurses to drop in and speak to students members at next years Congress 2012.

Ian McGregor held a seminar last year and has agreed he would be happy to come and speak at future events.

Students Day at Congress

1250 students attended Students Day but no more than 400 students engaged with us by picking up t-shirts and Student Magazines.

1100 booked for dinner and 400 turned up for dinner so it has been decided that we will not be providing dinner for students in the future.

Going to Harrogate next year for Congress 2012 and from previous experience cannot get more than a few hundred in at a time.

GR discussed changing the way we do students day at the next Congress.

GR suggested to the committee on changing Students Day to provide Students @ Congress over 3 days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) providing a similar programme each day with slight variation over the 3 days for Student Nurses and Health Care Assistants (HCAs). GR asked the committee for new ideas and thoughts.

PY had concerns over the costs for students to get time off if attending 2 days at congress.

JG said this year did not get a chance to network with students, so good idea to spread over 3 days to get chance to do a lot more networking.

JP said it will be good to be spread out over a few days so committee members can get to the student events if attending the main hall at Congress.

SY agreed and said it would give the students opportunity to get into the main hall.

SB suggested that Students attend the main hall for the Key speaker at 11.45am each day at Congress – advertise as Students Hour and do a small session before 11.45am each day to explain what the key speakers are going to speak about etc.

Suggestions for Names for the Students Congress 2012

- Students @ Congress

ACTION: All to send other suggestions to JAP.

After discussion Committee agreed to do Students day differently next year as suggested to see if it works and then re-evaluate after congress 2012.

ACTION: GR and JAP to organise.

11/40 RCN Students Committee Projects; discussion and workshops **Discussion around any further work from Congress etc 14.20** **Image of Nursing (GR)**

What to do next....

- Engage with the midwives
 - Royal college of Midwives (RCM)
 - Joint working group/ link with RCN/RCM
 - Help with recruitment and common issues
- NMC - Fresh Eyes
 - GR due to meet with Rita Newland (NMC) in 2 weeks, so she will raise then

- Front Line First
 - Re-engagement
 - Conference 18th July 2011

- Nursing politics "bite size"
 - What things mean FAQ's "In a nutshell" e.g. no confidence
 - In the Bulletin/RCN students magazine but would be easier to put in the e-zine
 - NHS Pensions and NHS Reforms
 - One paragraph

- Committee in all countries
 - Pre - Committee SIO / Student Meeting
 - Involve meetings
 - "An evening with"
 - Need an educational slant
 - Student Surgery
 - RCN Direct focus
 - Voxpops

- Go into Universities
 - Membership Recruitment Vehicle (MRV or Merve), Quoted at £38,000 with any driver and will be ready from 6 Weeks of submitting order, so it will be ready to use in Freshers' week. The HCA team interested in using it as well. Project Plan needs to be signed off. One more vendor to get quote from. Takes up 2 to 3 parking spaces once opened out.
 - To use at Careers Fairs & Freshers' Fairs

ACTION: All – discussion page set up on the WIKI - please post ideas of where the MRV could be used to help with project plan sheet.

- Resolution
 - Going to council
 - Publicising when areas are doing well / good practice

- Diversity and inclusivity
 - Everyone not just "minority groups"
 - Reality / image of nursing

ACTION: GR to get someone to come to the next committee meeting to discuss / talk about Reality of Nursing.

- Mary Seacole

- Presidents charity of the year

- Badges of the languages you can speak

- Links with Maltese students

11/41 Feedback from Recent Events – to note

Papers on the wiki

11/42 Regional and Council Committee Reports – to note

Committee agreed there are no burning issues
 Council meeting on 21st July 2011

11/43 ICN report and discussion

International Conference of Nurses

SB attended ICN 5th – 8th May and picked up student agenda items but they were not very student focussed (Student assembly, nursing student & preceptorship in other countries).

Preceptorship - don't get registration until after 1st year / more structured in other countries. Everyone is struggling financially and with jobs. SB presented on student policy – was received very well. Peter presented front line first, everyone loved it and all in all was a very successful event.

People were not pleased about the quality of the agenda.

11/44 Council Report

After the council meeting the report will go onto the Wiki.

11/45 Pearson Publishing

Pearson publishing has been approaching people and asking people to get involved in reviewing their books.

GR informed Committee that they are free to do anything as individuals and as a student reviewer but definitely not on behalf of the RCN (Personal review).

11/46 Trade Union Governance Group representative

Trade Union Governance Group is looking for a representative. They would like someone from Student Committee to sit on their Committee.

JP expressed interest but would like to know a little bit more about it before putting herself forward.

SB was approached at congress by education forum committee member asked if a student committee member will attend the education forum. MW put herself forward for sitting on this forum.

ACTION: GR to contact MW with projects from education forum and provide JP with more info.

11/47 Any Other Business

JG is concerned because her degree is marked on only the academic content of the course with no consideration of practical ability.

ACTION: GR to speak to the Council of Deans about the grading and why practical ability is not graded in some areas.

11/48 Date of the next Business Meeting

Friday 9th September (Final dinner 8th September)