

Student finance survey 2007

1. Which course are you doing?

(please circle) **Degree/Diploma**

2. Which country are you studying in?

3. Year course commenced

4. Sex

5. Age

6. No of dependants

(i.e. children, relatives)

7. How do you finance yourself on your course?

(tick all that apply)

Means-tested bursary

Non means-tested bursary

Student loan

Access fund

NHS Hardship grant

Part time work

8. Do you receive any of the following allowances?

(tick all that apply)

Extra weeks

Older students

Initial expenses

Dependants

Single parents

Disabled

Two homes

Clinical placement costs

Other

9. Can you estimate the level of debt you have in any of these categories?

Amount in £

Student loan

Bank loan

Overdraft

Credit card

Loans from friends

Other debts

10. Have you ever considered leaving your course for financial reasons?

(please circle) **Yes/No**

If yes, what level of debt made you consider leaving?

(tick appropriate box)

No debt

Less than £1500

£1500–£2999

£3000 or more

11. How confident are you that you will get a full-time permanent post on qualifying? (tick appropriate box)

Very confident

Reasonably confident

Not sure

Not confident

Very unconfident

12. To what extent do you agree with these statements on student funding (tick appropriate box for each)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a. Nursing and midwifery students should be funded through the same system as all other students					
b. Supernumerary status is essential to the quality of the student learning experience					
c. The quality of education would be diminished if students became employees					
d. It is important for the professional status of nursing that students are not employees					
e. I am satisfied with the funding I receive for travel to clinical placements					
f. Nursing degree student should be funded in the same way as diploma students (England only)					
g. If I had a bursary of £10,000 I would not need to take part time work during my education					

Please return your completed form to the Student Enquiry Point.

If you are willing to be contacted by the RCN media office to discuss your experiences, please give your name, email address and mobile phone number at the top of this page. Please be assured that we would never give out your contact details to a journalist without contacting you first for your permission.

...or feeling funky?

If the first mask is a little too flowery for you, hit the dancefloor in this funky number!



FREEGRATISNADANOWTFREEBIE*

Students' Dinner

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

Venue: Majestic Hotel, Ballroom & Crush Room

From 7-8pm



Students' RECEPTION

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

Venue: Majestic Hotel

From 6-7pm



Students' Day – lunch

To collect your lunch voucher, worth £4.00, come to the main auditorium at 1pm on Students' Day.



* No catch

Congress 2007 Students' Day Special Issue



the answer

Welcome to Congress

The ANS Executive welcomes you to RCN Congress 2007. Students' Day is about the RCN's student members having the chance to voice their concerns and opinions to the rest of the College and the nursing profession.

The main Congress theme is *Changemakers: nursing in the new health age*, so this year the lunchtime Student Assembly will explore the notion of students as the 'Changemakers of the future'. Students will be speaking about their achievements whilst studying, and Peter Carter, your new General Secretary, will

be addressing you on the future of nursing and the impact students can have.

And don't forget to visit one of the largest nursing exhibitions in Europe where you can collect promotional materials (freebies!) as you work your way around the stands. Also check out the fringe events although you may have to be selective because there is not enough time to do it all!

We hope that you have a great Students' Day and look forward to seeing many of you in your masks at the



Student Ball this evening. Before dinner you will have the chance to win some great prizes at Benn's Bingo and later on the tribute band *Beatles for Sale* will have you dancing the night away.

Changemakers of the future



Firstly a very warm welcome to Congress – it is wonderful to have such a good turn out of students at Congress, and

encouraging that so many of you feel passionately about the RCN, the nursing profession and the nursing student experience.

As always, Students' Day at Congress promises to be a lively and inspiring

day, with a series of events, seminars and social functions dedicated to students and student issues.

You, the RCN's student members, are the lifeblood of nursing and the changemakers of the future. However, as we are all too aware, nursing students are facing an uncertain and difficult future during these times of NHS financial deficits and job cuts. During the lunchtime Student Assembly, I will be speaking to you

about these challenging times and will update you on what the RCN is doing to improve the situation for nursing students. Together, we can make the future brighter for students, nursing and beyond.

I look forward to seeing lots of you at the Assembly, and wish you all a rewarding and inspiring Students' Day.

What's happening on Students' Day...

The exhibition will be open from 09.00-17.30

- 09.00-10.30** **Congress debating session**
Main auditorium, HIC
- 11.15-12.30** **Congress debating session**
Main auditorium, HIC
- 13.00-14.00** **Student Assembly 'Changemakers of the Future'**
Main auditorium, HIC
- 14.30-15.15** **Student seminars**
Queens Suite, HIC (see page 4)
- 14.30-15.45** **Congress debating session**
Main auditorium, HIC
- 16.15-17.30** **Congress debating session**
Main auditorium, HIC
- 18.00-19.00** **Student Reception, including Benn's bingo and quiz**
Lounge, Ballroom and Crush Room, Majestic Hotel (Voucher provided)
- 19.00-20.00** **Students' Dinner**
Lounge, Ballroom and Crush Room, Majestic Hotel (Voucher provided)
- 20.00-01.00** **Students' Ball, featuring the tribute band 'Beatles for Sale'**
Ballroom and Crush Room, Majestic Hotel

Entertainment and disco are open to all delegates

10 top tips to get the most out of the day!

ANS Executive member Iain Kightley gives advice to ensure your Congress experience is an unforgettable one:

1 Attend the Student Assembly – this is the main focus of Students' Day, where you have the chance to meet with your student executive and listen to inspiring speakers. This year, we hear from nursing students on how they are trying to change the student experience for the better. Come to the auditorium between 1.00 and 2.00 pm, and make sure you attend to get your FREE lunch voucher.

2 Speak up at a debate – the main business of Congress is setting the RCN's future objectives and work for the year ahead, which is decided through debates on current issues that affect nurses. These always inspire lively and passionate discussions, so come along and listen or, if you're feeling courageous, stand up and have your say – make sure the student voice is heard loud and clear!

3 Follow the Exhibition Trail – take full advantage of one of the largest nursing exhibitions in the UK. Visit the various stalls, collecting information and promotional materials on your way. Take part in the Exhibition Trail and collect a free gift at each of the stalls.

4 Make two new friends – whilst at Students' Day, it's great to catch up with friends but it's also a chance to meet new people and make friends from across the UK. You will be surprised how many friends can be made in such a short space of time.

5 Drop in on a fringe or seminar – in addition to the debating sessions there is a packed calendar of professional and

educational events and seminars, some focussed specifically on student issues. Take time out to attend one and see what they are all about – for full details see page 4 and visit the poster at the Student Enquiry Point.

6 Don't dehydrate – you will find yourself getting involved in lots of different things during the day, so make sure you have a bottle of water all the time – you will be surprised how thirsty you get!

7 Say hello to your ANS representative – the ANS Executive Committee will be around all day (we are the ones in the bright pink 'future nurse' t-shirts), so why not stop one of us, and find out what we're doing for students.

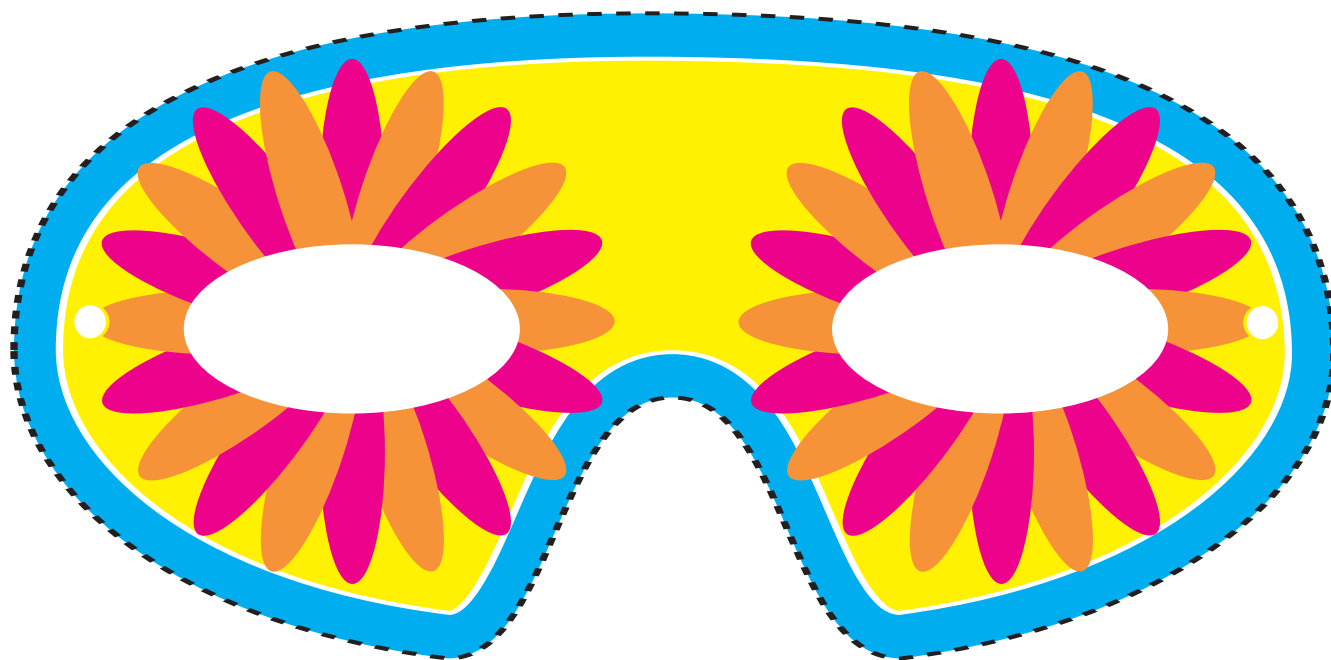
8 Tell us about you – on page 5 is a questionnaire about students' financial situations. Please take a few minutes to complete it and return to the Student Enquiry Point, so we can ensure we know exactly what the situation is out there and can plan our future work.

9 You shall go to the ball – the Student Ball is your chance to let your hair down! After a delicious buffet-style meal at the Majestic Hotel, you will be serenaded by tribute band Beatles for Sale followed by a disco until the small hours. Make sure you wear your mask though...

10 Enjoy yourself – most importantly enjoy yourself and try to make students' day as professionally, educationally and socially rewarding as possible!

Feeling groovy...

Make an entrance and keep your fellow students guessing at the 'masked' Student Ball tonight. Pick which one of these groovy masks best matches your outfit (see page 6 for the alternative) before stepping out in style...



FREEGRATISNADANOWTFREEBIE*

Students' Day – lunch

To collect your lunch voucher, worth £4.00, come to the main auditorium at 1pm on Students' Day.



Students' RECEPTION



Students' Dinner



* No catch

Today's seminar programme

Alongside the exhibition there are various free seminars, some specifically tailored for RCN student members

Unless stated, all sessions last for 45 minutes and cover a wide range of clinical issues, career progression and personal development, and they are all being held in the Queens Suite of the Harrogate International Centre. Make the most of your time at Congress and expand your knowledge – for full details of seminar locations see the poster at the Student Enquiry point.



10.30–11.15 am

- The case for HPV vaccination
- One for all, all 4 one – altogether now: active engagement with people with learning disabilities, carers and professionals to build a brighter future by changing services
- Communicating with people with learning difficulties
- Choosing an insulin regimen – health care professional habit or patient choice?
- Childhood diabetes for the terrified

12.30–1.15 pm

- Practical dermatology – an interactive seminar
- NHS deficit strategies for RCN representatives (this session finishes at 2.30pm)

1.00–2.00 pm

- The continuing effect of the Tsunami

1.30–2.15 pm

- A radical development in the treatment of status epilepticus
- Working with young people: a challenge for all

2.30–3.15 pm

Student seminars:

- Legal issues for nursing students
- 'Make me stand out from the crowd' – a guide to CV and interview techniques
- Learning Zone – how it can help you!
- From student to staff nurse
- Sexual health and the student

3.30–4.15 pm

- Adolescence, boundaries, connections and dilemmas
- Communicating with people with learning difficulties
- Nurses living with HIV
- The Mental Capacity Act

Keeping us in the loop

you by visiting MyRCN.

MyRCN also allows you to join our new email service.

If you opt in to this service

you will start to receive your regular newsletters and

correspondence electronically, as they become available. We also let you know about all the RCN's latest campaigns and activities – so you will always get RCN and nursing news as it happens.

All you need to do to register is enter your membership number and create a password.

MyRCN is clearly available, with a link at the top of every page on the RCN website or you can go straight to

Whilst you're studying you can find yourself moving house a number of times. As well as trying to find enough cardboard boxes to transport your belongings you also have to remember to change your address with an endless list of companies.

To make life a little easier, at the RCN we've recently introduced a new online service, which enables you to check and update your details securely at the touch of a button. Whether you've changed your name, your address or even your job, you can ensure we have the most up-to-date information on

www.rcn.org.uk/myrcn The system is easy to use and compatible with most browsers – all you need is a computer and a reliable internet connection.



Log on and check your details today in the Cybercafé, on the level 5 foyer >>

www.rcn.org.uk/myrcn