

Council

Date of Meeting:	23 April 2015
Title of Paper:	Report Back from the Students Governance Group
Appendices:	None
Presented by:	Ian Norris, Chair
Is a decision required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. The Group met on 4 December 2014.

Preparation for the Students Committee Meeting on 19/20 February 2015

2. We discussed the agenda for the February meeting of the Students Committee and fed in our views on the key items to be discussed.
3. We agreed that NPPC should set up a task and finish group to prepare the RCN response to the NMC Pre Registration Nursing Education Standards Evaluation and that the Student Committee should have a representative on that group. The first step will be a survey of students and Stephanie Aiken will be working with the Student Committee to agree the survey questions. The group also discussed how best to contact students to encourage them to participate in the survey.
4. An item was included on the February agenda on the financial difficulties many students were facing and we agreed that we should be including case studies from nursing students in the Pay Campaign and that this was an issue we should be asking the NUS to help us profile.

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Election of Chair for 2015

5. The Group noted the process for the election of the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Students Committee
6. We also agreed that there should be an induction meeting at the beginning of January for the five new members of the Committee. This would also provide an opportunity for the Committee to meet the new Student Member of Council before the election process for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee was opened and to discuss the arrangements for the Student programme at 2015 Congress.

National Union of Students – Next Steps

7. We received a positive report on discussions with the NUS about a partnership agreement and the RCN applying for Affiliate Membership of the NUS. The Group agreed with the Students Committee that this would be a very positive way of improving support for student nurses at both national and local levels. In particular it would provide a real focus for the Student Information Officer role in universities.
8. A draft paper will be discussed at the Student Committee meeting in February for discussion by the Membership & Representation Committee on 18 March and Council on 22/23 April 2015.

Student Events Programme

9. From 2015 there will be a free place at a number of RCN events for the student member who submits the best abstract. We will be promoting this opportunity to student nurses in the New Year.

The next Students Governance Group meeting takes place on 19 March 2015.