



Royal College of Nursing  
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## Council

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>8 December 2016</b>
<b>Title of Paper:</b>	<b>Report from the Students Committee</b>
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Presented by:</b>	<b>Sylvia Duval, Chair</b>
<b>Is a decision required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b>	

1. The Committee met on 23 September 2016.

### **Student Debate as Part of the 2017 Public Lecture Series**

2. We have agreed to organise a student debate as part of the public lecture series in 2017 funded by the RCN Foundation. It is planned that this will take place in October 2017 at a venue outside London.
3. We are currently discussing possible topics.

### **Student Information Officer Project**

4. We received an update on the project to provide a development opportunity for all SIOs across the UK.
5. We also discussed the future professional offer for students and what this should look like.

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### **RCN Services for Student Members**

6. We reviewed the content of the student support services flyer.
7. As part of that discussion we asked countries and regions to do more to encourage student participation in country and regional events.
8. We would like to see CPD and engagement events organised by country and regional branches mapped with a view to achieving consistency across the UK of provision of local events relevant to student members.

### **European Nursing Student Association (ENSA)**

9. As a Committee we feel it is very important for the student nurse voice to be heard in Europe. We discussed whether membership of ENSA was the best way to achieve this.
10. We agreed that Emillie Miller, Committee member for the Northern region, would attend the ENSA AGM in October 2016 to inform that decision. Emillie will be reporting back against a set of objectives we agreed.
11. A report will be prepared to the subsequent meeting of the International Committee. This will also review other ways we could engage with nursing students in Europe.

### **Mentorship Toolkit**

12. We identified members of the Committee to assist in the review of two RCN publications - 'Guidance for Mentors of Nursing Students and Midwives' and 'Helping Students Get the Best from Their Practice Placements'.

### **Stress Management and Resilience Building**

13. We were joined at the meeting by a member of the Member Support Services Team to discuss their self-care project which is intended to ensure individuals in the nursing community are equipped to handle the pressures of the modern nursing environment.
14. We discussed how we could assist with the project and agreed that it would be helpful to include a session for new Committee members on self-care/ resilience at our meeting in January 2017.

### **National Union of Students (NUS) Executive Council Feedback**

15. We received feedback from the NUS Executive Council meetings that had taken place in July and September 2016 and discussed our role at those meetings. A member of the Committee will be attending the next

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NUS meeting in December and we agreed to invite the NUS to send an observer to a future meeting of the Students Committee.

### **Congress 2016 and 2017**

16. We reviewed student arrangements for Congress 2016 and discussed plans for 2017.
17. We have requested that consideration be given to organising a 'what to expect at Congress' session for students in 2017 and would also like to set up a buddy system for Congress first-timers.
18. Additionally, we would like to hold an RCN Q&A session for students as part of the student welcome event and will look at organising a joint event with the NW region to showcase the city of Liverpool.

### **Updates to the Committee**

19. We received an update on the government's plans to reform healthcare education funding and its proposals on public sector apprenticeship targets.
20. We also received a presentation on the centenary project 'Celebrating Nursing Practice: Showcasing the Nursing Contribution to High Quality Care' and discussed how we might publicise the project amongst our student networks.
21. Finally, we noted country and regional updates from Committee members and discussed the process for inducting new members and electing the new Committee Chair and Vice Chair in January 2017.

**The Committee next meets on 28 February 2017.**

**There is an induction/ development session for new members on 17 January 2017.**