

Motion: NUS Conference Welfare Zone

Stop doing over our Nursing Students (327 words)

Proposer: Ruth Stone (UEA Edith Cavell society)

Second: Connor Rand (Undergraduate Education Officer)

NUS Believes

1. There are huge problems with academic failure and lack of support for nursing students, across all institutions
2. NSS scores consistently track lower for Nursing and Midwifery courses against the average
3. Many nurses and midwives are on placement for half the year and as a result they are very unlikely to be involved with their Unions, societies and sports clubs.
4. Nursing placements are often some distance from the institution therefore increasing isolation and reducing the amount of contact time for face to face support with their institution to a minimum
5. Students on nursing courses are often mature, with dependants and many institutions fail support those with these and other additional needs.
6. Nursing failure and drop-out rates are at epidemic levels
7. Whilst on placement there is the added pressure to meet the demands submitting and preparing for assessments leads to academic failure, misconduct and stress
8. Nursing students can be course terminated through the means of 'fitness to practice'.

NUS Further Believes

1. Nursing bursaries have been scrapped with barely a whimper from NUS' education zone
2. Year after year NUS passes motions on Nursing and Midwifery that never seem to go anywhere
3. The last NUS Charter for Nursing and Midwifery students was published 21 years ago
4. The NMC's standards for Nursing and Midwifery education (like the QAA for these courses) fail to mention student support, student representation or social activity
5. These students need NUS and our campaigning work now more than ever

NUS Resolves

1. That any review of NUS' governance should address nursing and midwifery students as a specific area
2. To look at integration of nursing across many Unions and their campuses to increase nursing representation
3. To work with trade unions to protect placements and future jobs for current nursing students
4. To hold a national summit on representation of Nursing and Midwifery students in conjunction with Unison, the RCN and the RCM
5. To lobby the NMC and other bodies to improve the standard of student representation, student social facilities and student wellbeing delivered by HEIs

6. To carry out research into the student experience of students on Nursing and Midwifery courses
7. To create a national charter for Student Nursing and Midwifery education