



## The EANS Summer School Debate 2017

“To be is to do”—Socrates.

“To do is to be”—Jean-Paul Sartre.

“Do be do be do”—Frank Sinatra.

*“This house believes that philosophies of nursing and the reality of nursing practice are best maintained as: ‘Strangers in the Night’.”*

This year our debate title will really make us think. Last year we asked you to consider the relationship between research and nursing action. This year we invite you to consider the relationship between philosophy and nursing action.

According to many in our profession, this topic is central to professional nursing and nursing identity, i.e. what is nursing? what if anything distinguishes nursing from other health care professional practice?

The proposers of the motion may need to argue that nursing and nursing philosophies are not at all unique, but more importantly, that philosophy provides no blueprint for action, and that it is action that defines nursing and patient experience.

Those against the motion will need to think about how they identify and argue for a position where the opposite is true, i.e. that nursing is shaped by its philosophy, and its knowledge base is driven by philosophical standpoints that set it apart from other health care practices and the beliefs that drive these practices.

Both sides in the debate would be advised to use published theory, research and practice examples in their arguments.

Good luck!