

Your Ref: AR/SCI/JML/EU.

25th May, 1982.

Mrs. J.M. Longden,
Faculty Officer,
Science & Engineering Academic Department,
Senate House, W.C.1.

Dear Mrs. Longden,

S.A.C. in Nursing Studies

Dr. Burton and I have each studied your draft letter and have combined to send you our comments. There are a number of errors of fact and other points that need to be amended and we thought it best to write, setting them out.

1. The students at Bedford College are not now registered in the Faculty of Economics; at the suggestion of the SAC, they are now being registered in the Faculty of Science.
2. Both degrees are similar in having a three-part foundation consisting of the medical/biological sciences, behavioural sciences and professional studies. The main difference lies in the emphasis within the behavioural sciences, this being in Sociology at Bedford College and in Psychology at Chelsea. Because Nursing Studies is such a new subject, the SAC considers that provision must be made for more than one approach.
3. The third paragraph seems to say no more than that if an essential part of a course is not available, the existence of the course is jeopardised. This must be true for any course in any subject and there is no need for us to state it.
4. We don't understand the fourth paragraph. So far as Bedford College is concerned, Nursing Studies as such is not threatened by the cuts but its organisation may have to be modified if the College merges with another school on a different site.
5. We agree with paragraph 5, though the point needs to be made more succinctly.
6. We think that it is misleading to say that it has been a fundamental concept that the practical nursing element should take place in a University Hospital. Both courses are associated with such a hospital at present but undergraduate nursing courses in other universities are not so based. The fundamental concept is not this but where professional practice integral part of the degree, we believe it needs to be located in a hospital where both the University and the Professional Body are satisfied as to the quality of the teaching practice. The last sentence should go: "Concepts cannot be changed: what might have

to be considered is a change in the organisation of professional practice while continuing to satisfy university standards."

7. We have no comment to make on the last paragraph.

We hope that you will be able to include these amended points in the final draft of the Chairman's letter.

Yours sincerely,

Marion Ferguson,
Director of Nursing Studies.

C.C. Dr. Ivor Burton.

University of London

Telegrams UNIVERSITY LONDON

Telephone 01-636 8000

SENATE HOUSE

MALET STREET

LONDON

WC1E 7HU

Extension 358

Our ref AR/SCI/JML/EU
Your ref

20 May 1982

Dear Member,

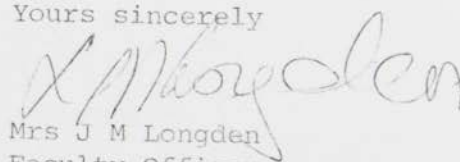
SAC in Nursing Studies

As agreed at the meeting on 14 May, I am circulating for comment a draft letter from the Chairman to the Vice Chancellor.

As Prof. Oppè is himself away until 25 May, he has asked me to write and circulate the first draft in the hope that the comments of members will be available on his return. I would emphasize therefore that this must be regarded as a preliminary draft only and has not yet been seen by the Chairman. I would myself envisage that he will wish the final version to be considerably shorter. For the present, however, I have attempted to include all those points which members might wish to be considered.

I shall be grateful if you could let me have your comments by 26 May. A telephone call to myself (extn 358) or to Mrs Hesslewood (extn 228) will suffice unless suggested amendments are very extensive.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J M Longden
Faculty Officer
Science and Engineering
Academic Department

Draft Letter to the Vice Chancellor from the Chairman of the Special
Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies

The Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies have agreed that I should write to draw your attention to a number of matters relating to Nursing Studies in the University which are presently causing concern.

As you will already be aware from the response of the Special Advisory Committee to the Reports of the Special Area Review Committees, students following the first degree in Nursing Studies at Chelsea College are registered for a BSc Degree in the Faculty of Science whereas the students at Bedford College are registered in the Faculty of Economics. These differences of registration are not simply matters of procedure within the Schools, but reflect the difference of emphasis between the two courses, that at Chelsea College being slanted towards the Biological/Behavioral science, whereas that at Bedford College is based on the Social Sciences. Teachers of Nursing Studies within the University and the representatives of the professional bodies on the Advisory Committee would wish to stress the value of courses of an interdisciplinary nature, such as those in nursing studies following a number of different approaches and this is particularly desirable for a new degree subject within the University of London therefore, we would wish to sustain the existing two courses.

The courses do however share considerable common elements since any degree course in nursing studies must include teaching in three separate areas, namely Biological Sciences, Social / Behavioral Studies, Professional Nursing Studies. Furthermore, the co-existence of the three elements is essential if the degree course is to receive professional recognition and lead not only to the award of a degree, but also to state registration as a nurse. Should any one of these areas cease to be available to a College offering a Degree course in nursing, then the continuing existence of the whole course would be jeopardized.

The UGC having recommended that the number of nursing studies in the University of London shall be maintained at its present level, it might be thought that Nursing Studies is not an area directly threatened by present cuts. It is however the possibility of teaching in one of these essential areas may cease to be available to either school presently offering the course which is causing concern to members. Because of its interdisciplinary nature, Nursing Studies has not been given detailed consideration by any of the bodies which have recently considered the future organisation of the University. The SARC in Social Studies made only a number of references to the course at Bedford College whilst the SARC in Biological Sciences made no reference to the subject in this first report.

Special in Nursing Studies
The Advisory Committee have therefore read with interest the recommendation in the Second Report of the SARC in Biological Sciences that a Working Party should be established as a matter of urgency to examine a range of problems relating to "para medical" and other subjects. The Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies wish to support strongly this proposal and would agree that it is a matter of urgency that the provision of resources in such areas should be given full consideration before they have been overtaken by events such as possible school mergers. In the latter context, the Advisory Committee would not agree with the implication of the SARC Report that the Working Party should consider the future of para medical subjects within the framework of the recommendations that the SARC in Biological Sciences was making for other subjects. Whilst concentration of Biological Sciences on five core sites might well be desirable for subjects falling wholly within the Biological Sciences, the Advisory Committee would wish the Working Party to consider urgently the desirability of retaining in the Colleges offering courses in nursing studies (which have not been proposed as "Core" Sites) the essential teaching/research in the Biological and Social Sciences and Psychology.

by the reference of

The Advisory Committee are also concerned

the SARC in Biological Sciences

to the possibility of subjects such as nursing studies existing separate from the University Teaching Hospitals. Hitherto, it has been a fundamental concept of the degree courses in nursing studies that the practical nursing element should be taught in a University Hospital. Any changes in this concept would require very full consideration, not only by the University Teachers but also by the professional bodies ^{validating} ~~agreeing~~ that the courses ^{for} state registration ^{purpose}.

We would therefore ask that you take early action to set up a Working Party to consider these and other matters. We fully appreciate that there are a number of related subjects with which the Working Party would be concerned and that many schools of the University, including the Medical Schools, offer courses in these subjects. We also appreciate that you would wish that membership of the Working Party would not be unduly large. Nonetheless ^{the} Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies hopes that it might be possible to have three representatives on the Working Party, namely one person from each of the two schools offering the course and a third person not directly concerned with either school.