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10th February, 1983

Ms. Marion Ferguson,
Director of Nursing Studies,
Bedford College,
(University of London),
Regent's Park,
London NW1 4NS.

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Dear Marion,

Thank you very much for sending me the examination papers for your 2nd-year students and I look forward to a happy period as one of your external examiners.

The only comments I would make about the questions, which I enjoyed reading, are as follows:

Paper S.280 ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH

1. I would suggest an alteration to the last sentence of question 1 to read "Discuss with reference to future trends".
2. No change.
3. You probably will have to excuse my ignorance on this matter, but in the context of the question I do not understand what you mean by 'role ambiguity'. Does it refer:
 - (i) to a perceived role which is therapeutic and the actual role which is custodial?
 - (ii) the discrepancy between theory and practiceor
 - (iii) loss of identity?

Have the students covered this topic in seminars or lectures and is there a lot of research evidence to support the view that many nurses are said to experience role ambiguity?

4. If the first part of the question is a fact as implied by the second sentence, you should state the source to guide the students.

I have no comments or alterations to make on S.281 CARE OF THE ADULT SICK.

I look forward to receiving the scripts and seeing you again in due course.

Yours sincerely,

C. A. Armstrong-Esther
Professor of Nursing Studies

} Adult Sick
{ Mental Health

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2nd February, 1983.

Dr. C. Armstrong-Esther,
Professor of Nursing,
University of Surrey,
Guildford.

Dear Chris,

Thank you for accepting the job of external examiner for our 2nd Year Students. As is customary at Bedford College, I am sending you examination questions for comments.

There are in fact two papers, one on Care of the Adult Sick and the other on Issues in Mental Health. Let me explain the relationship between the two papers: the one on mental health was intended to belong to the paper on nursing the adult sick in relation to psychiatric nursing experience. Administrative considerations, however, divided these two papers into separate courses; the psychiatric nursing experience was assessed on project work. What this means in practice is that issues in mental health need now to be considered as part of the general nursing knowledge and should therefore be one course. Hence I am sending this paper to you.

Thank you for looking at the questions. I should be pleased if you could send them back as soon as possible as they have to be submitted to our examinations board by February 28th.

Yours sincerely,

Marion Fergusoh,
Director of Nursing Studies.