

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES

The next meeting of the SAC in Nursing Studies will be held on Friday, 11 October 1985 at 2.30 pm in Senate House.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 24 May 1985.

Present: Prof T E Oppé (Chairman), Mr A Beattie, Mrs J L Brooking, Dr R T Cullinan, Mrs M Ferguson, Mrs E M Fordham, Prof M Ginsburg, Prof J G Grudzinskas, Mr S J Holder, Prof P H Millard, Prof J P Payne, Dr S J Redfern

In Attendance - Mr P Burt-Jones (Dept of Extra-Mural Studies)

Apologies were received from: Prof H Baum, Prof I F Burton, Mr B Finn, Prof J C Hayward, Prof J O'Riordan, Dr J A Weinman, Miss A E While

The Chairman welcomed Prof P Millard and Prof J Grudzinskas to their first meeting. Mr P Burt-Jones (Dept of Extra-Mural Studies) was also welcomed to the meeting as an observer.

Minutes

Confirmed: The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 1985. 57

Matters Arising

Membership

Reported: (1) That Mrs J L Brooking was now a Recognised Teacher (Board of Studies in Psychology) and so would become a member of the SAC. 58

(2) Prof P H Millard, Dept of Geriatric Medicine, St George's HMS, has accepted an invitation to join the SAC and his appointment had been approved by the Academic Council Standing Sub-Committee in Science and Engineering. 59

(3) The Board of Studies in Pathology had nominated its Vice-Chairman, Prof J H L Playfair (MiddxHMS). This nomination would be considered formally by the Academic Council on 3 June. 60

Considered: Suggestions for potential members in the following categories: 61

- i. Industrial and Occupational Nursing
- ii. Psychiatric Nursing
- iii. Senior Nursing Administration/Management
- iv. Specialist in control of infection
- v. Community Nursing

Agreed: (1) That the following should be invited: 62

- Category (i) Mr P Holgate, Principal Lecturer, Royal College of Nursing
- Category (ii) Mr R Combes, Principal Nursing Officer (Education), Maudsley Hospital

(2) Not to fill Categories (iii) and (iv) at this stage. 63

(3) That Mr Burt-Jones would kindly suggest possible names for Category (v). 64

Royal College of Nursing Commission on Nursing Education (Minute 39 refers)

Reported:(1) The main recommendations of the Commission are: 65

- (i) to switch the present hospital-based education of all nurses to higher education. Students to be financed through a system of bursaries;
- (ii) the establishment of a three year programme of studies leading to the award of a Diploma in Nursing Studies, to be validated by CNAAS;

(iii) an increase in degree provision from the present 2% to 5%;

(2) (i) that the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting consultation paper on professional education/training courses had recently been published and Mr Holder agreed to send a copy to the Secretary;

(ii) copies of the RCN and ENB documents were available from the Secretary.

66 Agreed: That in the context of the recommendation for an increase in the number of graduates from 2% to 5% (currently 1.9%), it remained a matter of continuing concern to the SAC that the University had been unable to increase the intake to the Chelsea course as had been recommended in the Le Quesne report.

150th Anniversary of the University (Minute 34 refers)

67 Reported: The Principal has passed on the suggestions made by the SAC to the organisers of the 1986 celebrations.

Officers for 1985/86

68 Elected: The following Officers to serve for the 1985/86 session:

Chairman:	Professor M Ginsburg (ChelC)
Deputy-Chairman:	Prof J Hayward (ChelC)
Secretary:	Dr E W Thompson (Senate House)

69 The SAC expressed its deep appreciation to Professor Oppé for the contribution he had made as Chairman for the past four years.

Nursing Studies at Chelsea College

70 Reported: A Working Party, under the Chairmanship of Sir Frank Hartley, had been reconvened to consider as a matter of urgency a proposal from the UGC that the University should consider accommodating the Chelsea College (KQC) Department of Nursing Studies within the unallocated space at St George's HMS, together with the Department of Pharmacy.

71 Agreed: (1) Having noted the concern of the Chelsea members of the SAC, that it was primarily a matter for KQC to put its academic case against such a move to the Working Party.

72 (2) That the SAC would however wish to bring the following two points to the attention of the Working Party:

(i) that in reaching a decision, the SAC hopes that academic considerations would take priority;

(ii) the SAC reaffirms strongly its support for paragraph 4.4 of the report of Le Quesne Working Party on Nursing Studies (February 1983), which states:

"Such an integrated course makes it possible to treat with equal emphasis both the basic academic studies and vocational nursing skills, giving the students a wider and deeper understanding of the scientific basis of patient care and the role of nursing in society than that provided by the non-integrated courses. At the same time the integrated course provides a broad education, a critical approach to nursing problems and a training in nursing skills. The Working Party is convinced that this broad education is best obtained by basing the course on a multifaculty School, rather than a single faculty Medical School."

BSc in Nursing Studies: Chelsea College

73 Approved: A proposal from Chelsea College to change the method of assessment in the half unit Psychiatric Nursing (0746) from three to two essays.

Working Party on Health Studies

- Reported: (1) The first report of the Working Party has been submitted to the Academic Council. The Council has agreed that the report should be considered in detail by the Academic Advisory Boards in Science and Medicine, and a special meeting of the AAB in Science is being arranged at 2.30 pm on Friday 5 July. 74
- (2) Professor Ginsburg, a member of the Working Party, reported that the Working Party had been impressed with the Chelsea Nursing Department and recommended that the degree course continue in its present four-year integrated form even though for new developments in the health sciences field the Working Party favoured a 3+1 structure. A major recommendation of the Working Party was the establishment of a three-year degree in Health Sciences which would not be linked to any specific health profession. 75

Extra-Mural Diploma in Nursing

- Considered: A report from the Working Party set up by the SAC at its meeting on 12 October 1984 to consider the standards and status of the University of London Extra-Mural Diploma in Nursing. 76
- Reported: (1) The main recommendations of the Working Party are: 77
- (i) successful completion of the Diploma at a satisfactory standard (defined as grades predominantly in the A and B range) should confer eligibility for entry to degree level studies in nursing. One year of full-time (or two years part-time) should lead to an ordinary degree in Nursing and two years of full-time study (or 3 or 4 years part-time) should lead to an Honours Degree.
 - (ii) possible models put forward for this degree top up included entry with advanced standing to the existing Chelsea course, or a specially designed variant of it, the University offering distance learning packages, possibly through the External Council, or the Extra-Mural Department undertaking the validation of "top up" degree units at a small number of institutions around the country.
 - (iii) the working Party hoped that in discussing its recommendations, the SAC would bear in mind two distinct aspects of the problem. Firstly, the need for the University to make a general statement on the standard of its Diploma in the interest of students taking it, in terms of the level of exemption it would gain towards a degree. Secondly, whether the University of London itself should offer a degree top up and, if so, in what form.

The following were among points made in discussion:

- (1) The majority of students on the diploma/^{course}would have considerable professional nursing experience. For this reason, entry to a later stage of an integrated degree course such as that at Chelsea would not be particularly appropriate. It followed that it would be necessary to offer a specially designed top up course, which would concentrate on those "academic" aspects in which the diplomates might expect to be weakest. 78
- (2) Although there were models in education for honours degrees being longer in time than ordinary degrees, there were no precedents in the Faculty of Science, where all degree courses were honours. The SAC was not therefore convinced by the model given in paragraph 6.1 of the paper and after discussion, it was agreed that it might be possible to devise a one year full-time or two year part-time top up honours degree with entry restricted to the best diplomates (ie those with predominantly A and B grades). It was recognised however that such a proposal would need to be very persuasively argued if it was to overcome the present University Advanced Standing Regulations which require a minimum of two years full-time study for the award of a degree of the University. Nevertheless, the SAC encouraged the Working Party to look in detail at the possibility of designing a one year course. 79
- (3) The SAC felt that there was merit in the Working Party pursuing with the Secretary for External Students, the possibility of offering a top up degree through the External System. 80

- 81 (4) The Health Studies Working Party had recommended that the University should give sympathetic consideration to proposals which might arise from Schools for taught Master's degrees and necessary qualifying examinations [ie for those with professional qualifications] within the health sciences field. This approach might be considered by the Working Party as a possible alternative to a top up first degree.
- 82 (5) The SAC could see major problems in the suggestion that a top up degree might be validated by the Department of Extra-Mural Studies in a small number of institutions.
- 83 Agreed: (1) To thank the Working Party for its report which had resulted in a useful initial discussion of a very complex issue.
- 84 (2) To encourage the Working Party to explore further the points raised in discussion and report back to the SAC in due course.
- 85 (3) That until this further report it was not possible for the SAC to make a general statement for external consumption on the standing of the Extra-Mural Diploma.
- 86 (4) To welcome the increased links between the SAC and the Extra-Mural Advisory Committee for Nursing of which this Working Party was an instance, and to express the hope that these links would be increased through increased cross-membership between the two committees, as recommended in the Le Quesne report.

Panel of Visiting Examiners for Course-Unit Examinations in 1986

- 87 Considered: The nomination of a Chairman and Panel of Visiting Examiners for the BSc Course-Unit Examinations in 1986 and their allocation to Schools.
- 88 Agreed: That the 1985 Panel be approved for 1986 only with the addition of Dr Penny Roy, Centre for Clinical Communication Studies, City University, notwithstanding that several members would have served for more than the normal four years. The 1986 Panel is attached as Annex A.

Academic Standards

- 89 Considered: A letter from the Academic Registrar (3 April 1985) and the accompanying papers on External Involvement in the Maintenance and Monitoring of Academic Standards and Postgraduate Training and Research (Documents E.1, E.2 and E.3) of the Agenda). These papers have been prepared by the CVCP, and the Academic Council has asked for the views of Boards/Committees particularly on the proposals for the final examination (Sections 19-22) in the Postgraduate paper.
- 90 Agreed: In relation to paragraph 19 of the Postgraduate paper, that there was merit in the recommendation that the Supervisor should not be an Examiner, but might attend the examination provided the candidate agreed.

Planning for the Late 1980s

- 91 Noted: The information in the Agenda.

Dates of Meetings in 1985/86

- 92 Agreed: Dates of meetings for next session, as follows, all at 2.30 pm:

Friday 11 October 1985
Friday 21 February 1986
Friday 23 May 1986

PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS IN NURSING STUDIES : COURSE-UNIT EXAMINATIONS 1986Chairman: Professor T E Oppé (St My's HMS) (1985)

- (C 84) +Battersby, Mrs Joan L., Nursing Studies Unit,
University of Liverpool
- (B 82) +Boore, Prof Jennifer, Dept of Nursing Studies,
New University of Ulster
- (B 84) (C 84) Carrier, J W., LSE
- (C 84) D'Mello, Dr A., LHMC
- (C 84) +Davis, B D., Nursing Research Unit, University of Edinburgh
- (C 83) +Faulkner, Mrs Ann, Dept of Nursing, University of
Manchester
- (B 84) +Hildebrand, Dr H E., Adult Dept, Tavistock Centre,
London NW3
- (C 84) +Hockey, Dr Lisbeth, Dept of Nursing, University of
Edinburgh
- (B 82) +Luker, Dr Karen A., Dept of Nursing, University of
Manchester
- (B 84) MacDonald, Prof J S., ChelC
- (C 85) +Miller, Mrs Audrey, Dept of Nursing, Welsh National
School of Medicine
- (B 82) +Mitchell, Prof G D., Inst of Population Studies,
University of Exeter
- (C 84) Oppé, Prof T.E., St My's HMS
- (C 86) +Roy, Dr Penny., Centre for Clinical Communication Studies,
City University
- (B 84) (C 81) Segal, Dr M B., UMDS(T)
- (C 82) Stockdale, Dr Janet E., LSE
- (C 85) +Turton, Miss P., Dept of Nursing, University of Manchester

B = Bedford College

C = Chelsea College

+ = External Examiner