

LPT. See my note on p2.

The Court Dept. has committed a sum of omission & there is some M P-W

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See p2

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Extension

Our ref AR/SCI/JML/SG

29th October, 1979

Your ref

Mr. L.P. Turnbull,
Bedford College.

Dear Mr. Turnbull,

BSc IN NURSING STUDIES

I apologise for some delay in producing draft Minutes of the meeting of the SAC in Nursing Studies on 12th October which was attended by a number of representatives of Bedford College. I am now enclosing a copy of the relevant extracts from the Minutes. As you will see the Special Advisory Committee would be prepared to support in principle the introduction of a BSc degree course in Nursing Studies at Bedford College but consider much more discussion will be necessary relating to the Nursing content of the course and that this will be dependent to a certain extent on the academic staff Bedford College will be appointing to teach and examine the Nursing units.

As agreed in our telephone discussion I would suggest that the next step is for me to seek formal Academic Council support for the proposals in principle at the meeting of the Council on 5th November. In the meantime I imagine that Bedford College will be considering the staffing position. From the discussion which took place at the SAC I would think it unlikely they would be prepared to consider the units in detail until a clear statement is available of the staff which the College will be appointing even if the vacancies are not then filled. You will also note that the SAC require considerably more detail of the content of the Nursing units ~~and meet and approve other points.~~

Further to our conversation I would suggest that you may wish to consider restructuring the four year course so that not all parts of the course over the four years are considered as course units to be assessed for the BSc degree. Only those parts with a reasonably stringent academic content could be assigned course unit values whilst other parts would be assessed for the professional qualification of SRN only. This would particularly apply to extended periods of attachment in the hospital, social services etc.

Please let me know if there is any assistance I can give as an Administrator ^{from} or my experience of seeing the Chelsea course through the SAC and University Committees.

Continued

Mr. L.P. Turnbull

-2-

29th October, 1979

There is one point on which I should be grateful for your comments before the Council meeting on 5th November. I am aware that Bedford College has sought approval from Court for additional funds and this has been agreed in principle. I imagine this may have involved some consultation with the UGC on financial implications, I wondered however whether there have been any consultations with the UGC which would have academic planning implications concerning the desirability of a new degree course in Nursing. As I think you will know the UGC expressed concern in 1976 that the rate of growth of degree courses in Nursing "should not outstrip the availability of staff, clinical facilities and funding.....Because of the implications for the Health Department, the Committee would hope to be consulted by the University before a final decision is taken on any new development in Nursing Studies."

Yours sincerely,

J.M. Longden

MRS. J.M. LONGDEN
Faculty Officer
Science and Engineering

Rang His. Longden to
say we would
expect the University
(Court) Dept to
consult UGC.

WJ
2/11

copy taken by
Secs office 2/11
(copy of
Adv. office
dated
minute)

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES
[14th October 1979]

MINUTES

Present: Professor J.H. Green (Chairman), Dr. H.R. Anderson, Professor H. Baum, Miss S. Beresford, Miss S.M. Collins, Miss M.J. Cooper, Mrs. C. Cox, Professor J. Hayward, Dr. J.W.R. Ross, Dr. J. Wilson-Barnett.

The following persons attended for the discussion of Item 6 on the Agenda: Miss E. Blake, Middlesex Hospital School of Nursing; Dr. I.F. Burton, Lecturer in Sociology Bedford College; Miss C. Chapman, member of an ad hoc committee set up by Bedford College to discuss proposals for the new degree; Professor M. Jeffreys, Professor of Medical Sociology, Bedford College; Mr. L.F. Turnbull, Registrar Bedford College.

Apologies for absence were received from: Dr. J.C. Coleman, Professor R. Goldsmith, Professor J.M. Ledingham, Mr. J. Malvern, Professor T.E. Oppe, Miss J. Radway, Professor A. Summerfield.

Minutes

Confirmed: The Minutes of the meeting on 6th July 1979.

Course Units for the BSc Degree at Chelsea College

Approved: Course units "Sociology of Health Care" and "Elements of Social Biology and Administration II (Health Care)" which had previously been approved by the Board of Studies in Social Administration and as given in Documents A.1 and A.2 circulated with the Agenda. Substitution of the title "Communication in Nursing" for the course previously approved as "Patient's Progress" (Document A.3 circulated with the Agenda) was also approved.

Noted: That a course proposal on "Issues in Nursing" should shortly be received from Chelsea College thus completing submission of all course units to be included in the degree programme in Nursing Studies.

Special University Lectures

Noted: (1) That Dr. R.J. Wilson has agreed to give the 1979 to 80 Lecture on 6th March 1980 at Chelsea College.

(2) That nominations for the 1980 to 81 Lecturer are required not later than 25th April 1980. Suggestions should be sent to the Secretary.

BSc in Midwifery

Noted: The position as reported in the Agenda and that it is anticipated that formal support of the BSMF will be received shortly.

BSc Degree in Nursing Studies at Bedford College

Considered: The further statement from Bedford College circulated as Document B with the Agenda and a verbal report from Dr. I. Burton.

Agreed: (a) That the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies would support in principle the proposal that Bedford College should offer a degree course with a bias towards the Social Sciences as this would appropriately complement the existing course at Chelsea College which has a bias towards the Biological Sciences. The Special Advisory Committee would consider, however, that the detailed proposals presently submitted by Bedford College could not be deemed to constitute a degree with Nursing Studies as the main field but would seem to imply rather a degree programme which might be designated as Social Sciences with Nursing Studies. Further consideration of the degree programme and course proposals should, therefore, be deferred until Bedford College has appointed to the Academic staff teachers who will be responsible

for teaching and examining the course units in Nursing Studies or until further arrangements have been made for the appointment of such persons. The next step would be for formal approval for the introduction of a degree course in Nursing Studies at Bedford College to be sought from the Academic Council and Planning Committees of the University.

- (2) That in considering further the degree programme, Bedford College might wish to take into consideration the following points made in the discussion.
- (a) It was accepted that the practical nursing content had been designed to meet the requirements of the General Nursing Council for the professional qualification of R.N. The SAC was not, however, concerned with the professional content of the course but with ensuring that the nursing content provided adequate depth of academic studies in nursing for the award of a degree in Nursing Studies.
 - (b) It would be desirable to integrate the Nursing Studies more closely with Social Studies throughout the four years of the course if Nursing Studies is to be the main field. In the proposals as presently received the Nursing Studies courses take place mainly in the third and fourth years having been built on the foundation of Social Studies rather than Nursing.
 - (c) Further consideration should also be given to the integration of teaching of practical aspects of Nursing with lectures and seminars on academic aspects. It would be desirable for the courses in Nursing Studies to be taught by Members of the Academic staff of the University professionally qualified in Nursing who should also accept responsibility for the practical teaching.
 - (d) The SAC would wish to have considerably more information on the Nursing units before they can be considered for approval, which should include the division of time between practical work on wards and theoretical work.
 - (e) From the experience of Sheehy College it would appear likely that Bedford College would need a number of Lecturers in Nursing Studies if all parts of the four year course are to be designated as course units for assessment for the BSc degree including courses during the long vacations. It was noted that the Academic Nursing staff would probably be Members of a Nursing Unit within the existing Department of Sociology at Bedford College, comparable to the Medical Sociology Unit already existing within the Department.
 - (f) Although this Nursing degree course would have a slant towards the Social Sciences it might be desirable to consider strengthening further the basic teaching in Biological/Basic Medical Sciences. It was understood that arrangements were being made for this part of the course to be taught (and pre-examined) by University teachers who are Members of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School rather than Bedford College. Some further information on these arrangements would be welcomed.
 - (g) To summarise: The SAC welcome proposals for the new degree course which they support in principle but would wish Bedford College to be informed that concern still exists on the following aspects of the proposals which will require further consideration before courses are approved:
 - (i) The academic content in Nursing Studies would still appear inadequate if Nursing Studies is to be designated as the main field.
 - (ii) Courses would not be approved until the SAC is satisfied of the numbers and academic qualifications of the staff of the Nursing Studies unit which Bedford College will be recruiting to teach and examine the courses for the BSc degree of the University of London.

- (iii) Further consideration should be given to the academic content, teaching and examining in relation to the basic medical sciences.
- (iv) If the main field is to be Nursing Studies it may be necessary to reduce the number of courses in the Social Sciences but in this respect the SAC were fully satisfied with the arrangements for teaching and examining the courses in Bedford College.