

University of London

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Our ref AD/SCI/JML/JFH
Your ref

8 October 1980

Dear Mrs Ferguson

I am writing at the invitation of the Chairman, Professor J Green, to invite you to attend the meeting of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies which will be held in Senate House at 2.30 pm on Friday 17 October. In the hope that you will be able to attend, I will send you a copy of the agenda and papers as soon as these are ready.

I rather assume you will have already heard from Dr Burton of this committee, which is the body responsible in the University for considering proposals falling within the subject Nursing Studies. I enclose a copy of its terms of reference and constitution. As you will see, its membership includes all Appointed or Recognised Teachers in Nursing Studies and you would, therefore, be a member ex officio if at a later date you become recognised in the subject. The Committee has, however, previously agreed that persons appointed to posts in the subject Nursing Studies at Chelsea College should be invited to attend all meetings of the Committee pending their recognition as Teachers of the University in Nursing. I would, therefore, anticipate that the Committee will agree that you should similarly be so invited.

I understand that the Registrar of Bedford College has already discussed with Dr Burton the possibility of a report being made at the meeting on developments at Bedford. We are, therefore, including in the agenda an item under which a verbal report may be made, and the Chairman very much hopes that you will be prepared to speak to this item. *give your views on how you see the course developing.*

I should perhaps mention that the degree course at Bedford College was last discussed by the Committee at a meeting on 12 October 1979, when it was agreed that further consideration of the degree programme and course proposals should be deferred until Bedford College had appointed staff who would be responsible for teaching and examining the course units in Nursing Studies. I enclose a copy of the minutes of the meeting recording the full discussion.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J M Longden
Secretary, Special
Advisory Committee in
Nursing Studies

Mrs M Ferguson
Department of Sociology
Bedford College

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Your Ref: AD/SCI/JML/JFH

Our Ref: MF/LC

10 October 1980

Mrs J M Longden
Secretary, special Advisory Committee
Senate House
Malet Street
London
WC1E 7HU

Dear Mrs Longden

Thank you for your letter inviting me to a meeting of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies on Friday 17 October at 2.30 pm, in Senate House.

As you will probably know I have only been in this post since October 1 but shall be pleased to give a brief report up-to-date.

Yours sincerely

MARION FERGUSON
Director of Nursing Studies

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES
[12th 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 G. 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.P. 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. K.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.

MSc in Midwifery

Noted: The position as reported in the Agenda and that it is anticipated that formal support of the B.M.F. 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: (1) 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 need 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 SRN. 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 the wards and theoretical work.
 - (e) From the experience of Chelsea 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 presumably 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.

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- (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.

Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies

Terms of Reference and Constitution

Terms of Reference

1. To consider and initiate proposals for securing the most advantageous use of the resources of the University and its Schools in the field with which the Committee is concerned.
2. To be informed of all proposals submitted by Schools or otherwise under consideration for courses of study which fall within the purview of the Special Advisory Committee and if it so desires to offer advice to Schools upon such proposals.
3. To approve the scope and value in Course-Units of courses devised by Schools under the appropriate Regulations for degrees based on Course-Units.
4. Where the planning of courses of study is the responsibility of the Special Advisory Committee to advise the Academic Council on the approval of syllabuses and of regulations concerning courses of study, the examinations and the award of the degree, diploma or certificate concerned.
5. To advise the Academic Council on the appointment of persons to serve as members of Boards of Advisors for the appointment of Professors and Readers.
6. To advise the Academic Council upon the appointment of examiners in Nursing Studies when requested to do so.

Cont'd.....

7. To advise the Academic Council on any matters within the competence of the Special Advisory Committee.
8. To exercise such executive functions as may be delegated to it by the Academic Council.
9. To advise the Senate, its Standing Committees and any other Committee appointed by the Senate on any matters referred to it by any of these Bodies.
10. To advise any School which so requests on any matter within the field of study with which the Special Advisory Committee is concerned.

Constitution

- (a) Appointed and Recognised Teachers in Nursing Studies
- (b) Representatives of the following Boards of Studies and Special Advisory Committees (numbers shown in brackets):
 - Biochemistry (1)
 - Biometry and Medical Statistics (representative to be a Teacher in Statistics as applied to Medicine) (1)
 - Community Medicine (1)
 - Electrical Engineering (1)
 - Human Anatomy and Morphology (1)
 - Medicine (representatives to include teachers in Psychiatry, Paediatrics and Geriatrics) (4)
 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology (1)
 - Pharmacology (1)
 - Physiology (1)
 - Psychology (representatives to be teachers in Clinical Psychology) (2)
 - Social Administration (1)
 - Sociology (1)
 - Surgery (representatives to include a teacher of Anaesthetics) (2)
- (c) Other Persons (to maximum of 10) qualified to assist in the work to include representatives from:
 - (1) Advisory Committee on the Nursing and Sister Tutor's Diploma (University of London - Extra-Mural Diploma)
 - (2) Royal College of Nursing
 - (3) General Nursing Council
 - (4) The NHS (Nursing and nursing education)
 - (5) Regional Nursing Officers
 - (6) University Teachers of subjects other than those covered under (a) and (b) above (e.g. Biology etc.)