

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES

The next meeting of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies will be on Friday 15 October 1982 at 2.30 pm in Senate House.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 14 May 1982

Present: Professor T E Oppe (Chairman), Dr E R Beck, Dr I F Burton, Miss S M Collins, Mrs C A Cox, Dr T R Cullinan, Mrs M Ferguson, Mr B Finn, Mrs E M Fordham, Professor M Ginsberg, Professor R Goldsmith, Professor J H Green, Professor J C Hayward, Mr S J Holder, Professor M Jefferys, Dr D R Pitcher, Dr S J Redfern, Dr J R W Ross, Professor A Summerfield, Dr J Weinman, Dr J Wilson-Barnett.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Dr H R Anderson, Professor H Baum, Professor J P Payne, Mr W L Whitehouse.

MINUTES

CONFIRMED: The Minutes of the last meeting, with the following amendments: 46

Minute 26: Delete second and third sentence and substitute:
Furthermore, it is not possible to withdraw certain elements. Closure of any of the departments teaching such elements would require modifications in the courses for Nursing Studies.

Minute 29: Delete the phrase in brackets.

Minute 32: Amend to read St Luke's, Woodside.

MATTERS ARISING

Special Lecture in Nursing Studies

REPORTED: That Dr Irene Palmer will give a Special Lecture at Chelsea College 47 at 5.00 pm on 27 May. The Committee expressed its thanks to Mr Whitehouse for his assistance in securing funds to support the lecture.

PhD Student: J A Akinsanya

APPOINTED: Mr A Beattie, Institute of Education, as the third examiner, after receiving additional information from Professor Hayward. 48

Subject Area Review Committee in the Biological Sciences

CONSIDERED: As an addendum to the Agenda, references to Nursing Studies in the second 48 report of the Biological Sciences SARC.

AGREED: (1) The Committee strongly favoured the SARC's recommendation that a Working 49 Party should be established to consider Physiology and other paramedical subjects such as Nutrition, Food Sciences, Pharmacy and Nursing Studies. Nursing Studies should ideally be represented by a member from each of the two College Departments of Nursing Studies and a third person, possibly from the professional body or the Chairman of the SAC. However, it was appreciated that full School and subject representation on this basis for all the subjects likely to be covered by such a working party, would lead to unwieldy numbers.

(2) Members were concerned that, though the SARC had admitted its lack of expertise 50 in relation to the subjects mentioned, it had still made recommendations which could adversely affect them.

(3) The only real difference between the Nursing Studies courses at Chelsea College 51 and Bedford College is one of emphasis, and they both rely on teaching in three areas: biological, social/psychological, and professional studies. It must be made clear to the University that, should one of these areas cease to be available, the whole course would be seriously affected. The SAC would seek to sustain the two courses.

(4) Although Nursing Studies is not an area directly threatened by present cuts, it 52 is necessary for its teachers to try to control development of the subject in the University, rather than merely to be affected by decisions taken for other subjects by Schools. The Working Party might provide a chance to do this. It was, however, suggested that matters were moving so quickly that important decisions might be taken before such a Working Party might be established. If this was indeed the case, it might be appropriate for the SAC to establish its own working party to report to the Vice-Chancellor.

(5) The Chairman should send a letter to the Vice-Chancellor himself, as it was he 53

who had established the Subject Area Review Committees, bringing to his notice the needs of the subject and the difficulties being faced by Nursing Studies, the support of the SAC for the establishing of a Working Party, and the representation Nursing Studies felt appropriate. A draft of the letter should be circulated to all members for comment. If it became necessary to establish a sub-committee of the SAC, a special meeting would be called.

Note: the final letter is attached as DOCUMENT A.7

- 54 NOTED: The current position of Nursing Studies at Bedford College. Dr Burton reported that a firm decision had been taken to merge with Royal Holloway College, should finances be available. The recommendation that Royal Holloway College should be the fifth centre for biological sciences within the University was to be welcomed, especially in the context of linking Bedford College in future with a strong institution. However, one of the problems of such a merger, especially for Nursing Studies, was that many of the centres of expertise are in central London. Several different approaches were being considered to cope with this; it might be that a base would be maintained in central London, perhaps in connection with a teaching hospital; the Department might move completely to Royal Holloway, but students travel to central London for nursing practice; or the Department might move completely to Royal Holloway and consider alternative arrangements with hospitals in the area. It was, therefore, extremely difficult in these circumstances, when many possibilities had to be examined carefully, to make early or definite decisions, particularly as it had to be borne in mind that Bedford College authorities were not prepared to allow individual departments to opt out of the merger.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

- 55 NOTED: The information given in the Agenda.
- 56 AGREED: That Miss Speight should be invited to become a member of the Special Advisory Committee, but that no further appointment would be considered until the new professional body has been established. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the service Miss Cooper and Miss Radway had given.

PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS 1983

- 57 NOMINATED: The Panel of Visiting Examiners given in DOCUMENT B attached.
- 58 AGREED: That it is desirable, wherever possible, on both academic and financial grounds that the same persons should act as Visiting Examiners at Chelsea and Bedford Colleges.

NURSING STUDIES AT BEDFORD COLLEGE

- 59 CONSIDERED: Proposals for the second-year Psychology course, tabled at the meeting as Document B.1. Continuing reservations relating to the content of the course were expressed by several members and by Professor Summerfield on behalf of the Board of Studies in Psychology. The members from Bedford College emphasised their intention that the course at Bedford should differ in emphasis from that at Chelsea College and that a number of different approaches are used to introduce Psychology into medicine. The Bedford course is planned to introduce nursing students to a range of theories spanning the whole of human experience. After discussion it was agreed that the course should be approved for one year only, subject to a change in title from 'Psychology' to 'Human Relations', it being considered that the latter title more correctly reflected the content.

- 60 REPORTED: (1) The Pathopharmacology course is still under discussion, as arrangements for teaching have not yet been finalised. A detailed proposal cannot, therefore, yet be submitted. It was agreed that, as the course is to be taught from October 1982, the proposal should be circulated to members of the Committee for comment, when available.

- 61 (2) That Chelsea College would be pleased to collaborate with Bedford College in providing assistance with teaching in the Biological Sciences.

- 62 (3) The overall plan of the course as given in Document B.2, which was tabled.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN INNER LONDON: THE ACHESON REPORT

- 63 NOMINATED: Dr Wilson-Barnett as the representative of the Committee at meeting between the Boards of Studies and Special Advisory Committees in Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy and General Practice, to consider how the University can best contribute to Primary Health Care in Inner London.

DATES OF MEETINGS FOR THE SESSION 1982/83

- 64 AGREED: That the meetings in the session 1982/83 should be held on:

Friday 15 October 1982, Friday 18 February 1983, Friday 13 May 1983.

Letter of 9 June from the Chairman of the SAC to the Vice-Chancellor:

Dear Professor Quirk,

NURSING STUDIES

The members of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies have asked me to draw your attention to certain matters within their purview that are causing some anxiety. We are of course, pleased that the UGC have recommended that the number of nursing students in the University should be maintained at its present level but we are concerned about the profound effects on nursing studies which may flow from the forthcoming reorganisation and restructuring of the Colleges and Medical Schools. It appears to us that the subject of nursing studies has not been looked at in detail by any of the SARC's nor by the JMAC: however we have noted with approval and we support the recommendation of 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 certain other subjects.

In the case of nursing studies, there are three essential elements which must be present in a satisfactory course that leads to a degree in nursing studies:

- (1) Appropriate teaching in relevant aspects of the biological/medical sciences.
- (2) Appropriate teaching in relevant aspects of the behavioural/social sciences.
- (3) Sufficient instruction in the practice of nursing for professional recognition (SRN) to be granted to the graduate.

The academic strength of a course and the robustness of a department of nursing studies depends not only on the existence of these elements but also on the manner in which these interdisciplinary elements are organised within the course, and the SAC believes that there is scope for diversity as is exemplified by the two courses of nursing studies which exist at present in the University. They wish this to continue.

The course at Chelsea College/St George's Hospital tends to emphasise the biological/medical science component and the teaching of behavioural sciences is based largely on psychology; whereas the Bedford College/Middlesex lays greater emphasis on the behavioural sciences with sociology as the predominant discipline.

As understood by the SAC, neither Bedford nor Chelsea College has been identified as a "core" site for the Biological Sciences and there is some doubt about the viability of Behavioural and Social Science departments at Chelsea. At the same time the possibility of a merger on the Egham site between Royal Holloway College and Bedford College would create difficulties about the provision of clinical nursing training for students distances from a department of nursing education attached to a Medical School.

We 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, participate 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 hope 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.

I will, should you feel it to be useful, be pleased to have the opportunity to discuss these matters with you at any time.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Thomas E Oppé
Chairman
Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies

PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS IN NURSING STUDIES FOR COURSE-UNIT
EXAMINATIONS 1982

Chairman: Professor J H Green (Middx HMS)

- Anderson, Prof J A D (Guy's HMS)
Armstrong, Dr D (Guy's HMS)
+ Baker, Miss Dorothy E, SRN SCM BSc(Soc) PhD, Dept of Nursing, Manchester University
+ Boore, Dr Jennifer, Inst Nursing Studies, Hull University
+ Crow, Dr Rosemary, MA SRN SCM HV, Director, Nursing Practice Research Unit,
Northwick Park Hospital and CRC
+ Duberley, Miss J D, SRN RSCN NSC DIP ADV NURS STUD, Dept of Human Biology and
Health, Surrey University
+ Faulkner, Miss Anne, Dept of Nursing, Manchester University
+ Fentem, Prof P H, MSc MB ChB, Dept of Physiology and Pharmacology, University
Hospital and Medical School, Nottingham
+ Hawthorn, Dr Pamela, SRN SCM, Dept of Nursing, Manchester University
+ Hildebrand, Prof H P, Dept of Psychology, Brunel University
Jeffrys, Prof Margot (BdFC)
+ Luker, Karen A, BNurs PhD, Dept of Nursing, Manchester University
+ McFarlane, Prof Baroness, MA MSc DSc BSc(Soc) SRN SCM FRCN, Dept of Nursing,
Manchester University
+ Mitchell, Prof G D, MBE BSc(Econ), Dept of Sociology, Exeter University
Robinson, Dr B V (Guy's HMS)
Segal, Dr M B (St Thos's HMS)
Stockdale, Dr Janet E (LSE)

+ denotes an Examiner external to the University