

Dr. Burton
The Registrar

B.Sc. in Nursing Studies

The attached letter from the University arrived this morning. I have no idea how serious the comments of the Special Advisory Committee are, nor whether they are or not responding completely as instructed to do so by those servicing them.

The application has been complicated in that the first copy I sent to Senate House did not arrive on Mrs. Longden's desk. When the second copy was received there were a number of questions asked which mainly concerned finance. I put these into Miss Pakenham-Walsh's hands as this seemed appropriate. She dealt with them very well.

I should be grateful if you would let me know when you would be available to sit down and talk over the matter with Miss Pakenham-Walsh and myself. I will then arrange a meeting.

Met 5.8.79

17th July, 1979

L.P.T.

c.c. Miss Pakenham-Walsh.

If you would like the College to acknowledge receipt of your completed form, please enclose a stamped and addressed envelope when it is returned.

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11.6 JUL 1979

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University of London

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MALET STREET
LONDON
WC1E 7HU

Extension 358

Our ref AR/SCI/JML/LY
Your ref

12 July 1979

Dear Mr Turnbull,

BSc IN NURSING STUDIES

I am writing further to my letter of 28 June. At the time of writing I was not aware that Bedford College had already had some discussions with the Court Dept concerning the financial implications of introducing this BSc course. Following my telephone conversation with Miss Pakenham-Walsh I understand you will be writing to me further and perhaps taking into consideration the UGC Notes of Guidance dated 1976 which you had not previously seen. I am however writing without awaiting this letter (as I am about to go on holiday) in order that you may have the comments made at the meeting of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies on 6 July.

The proposed staffing arrangements at Bedford College do have considerable academic as well as financial implications, as you will see from the Minutes of the meeting of the SAC:

BSc Degree in Nursing Studies at Bedford College

Considered: Proposals to introduce in October 1980 a course leading to a degree in Nursing Studies to be offered at Bedford College in cooperation with Middlesex Hospital School of Nursing [Document D circulated with the Agenda].

- Agreed: (1) That the Advisory Committee welcomed in principle the idea of a degree in Nursing Studies in which the balance of subjects studied was different from that in the existing BSc course at Chelsea College. A degree placing greater emphasis on the Social Sciences could be of value to the nursing profession and might attract students with different interests.
- (2) A degree course with Nursing Studies as the main field should include studies in the biological sciences and behavioural/social sciences in addition to nursing but the nursing content must dominate. It was recognised that the present proposals from Bedford College represented a development of the existing "sandwich" courses for a BSc degree in Social Policy and for the professional qualification of SRN. It was not however considered that sufficient involvement was proposed to justify the new integrated course being designated as a course in Nursing Studies. It would still be more appropriate to describe the main field(s) as "Social Sciences with/and Nursing". Of the courses proposed under the general heading Nursing Studies several would be deemed to fall more appropriately in other fields, eg General and Social Psychology within the field Behavioural Sciences.

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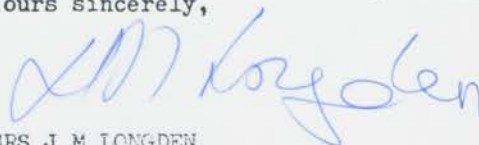
- (3) The Committee were informed that the nursing content of the proposed course had been accepted by the Royal College of Nursing as providing an appropriate background of professional training for state registration. The University would however wish to have adequate assurance that the teaching of courses in Nursing Studies would be of an academic standard appropriate for a degree and would also be undertaken by persons with appropriate academic qualifications to teach and to examine for course-units of a degree of the University of London. The Special Advisory Committee would therefore wish to seek further information concerning the arrangements which were being proposed for members of the academic staff of Bedford College to be involved in the teaching of the nursing units and the teaching of the practical content of these units on the hospital wards or of proposals which may exist for appointing staff of the School of Nursing at the Middlesex Hospital as honorary members of the academic staff of Bedford College. The Committee would stress the importance of courses in nursing being designed, taught and examined by members of the academic staff of the University.
- (4) Further discussion of the detailed proposals should be deferred until the next meeting which a representative of Bedford College and of the Middlesex Hospital School of Nursing should be invited to attend. In the meantime Bedford College should be informed that the Committee welcomed the idea of this degree course in principle but that the College might wish to give further consideration to the preliminary views before the next meeting.

As you know, the Regulations for the conduct of the BSc examinations by course-units require that College Examiners are members of the academic staff of a School of the University but there is no requirement that such members of the staff shall be Recognised Teachers nor paid by the School. It would therefore be acceptable for members of the Middlesex Hospital School of Nursing to participate in the examining of the nursing units if they are appointed honorary members of the academic staff at Bedford College but for this purpose it is likely that you would wish to ensure that their qualifications meet your own College academic requirements. From our experience of a parallel case you might also experience difficulties if there is no appropriate department of Nursing Studies of which they could be members.

The Special Advisory Committee agreed that further discussion of the detailed proposals should be deferred until the next meeting which a representative of Bedford College and of the Middlesex Hospital School of Nursing should be invited to attend. I should be grateful therefore if you could arrange for appropriate persons to attend a meeting at 2.30 pm on Friday, 12 October in Senate House and let me know the ^{names} aims of those who will be coming. I would add that the Chairman expressed apologies that it was not possible to invite a representative from Bedford College to attend the meeting last week in the short time available between receiving proposals and the meeting.

I hope that it will be possible for you to let me have comments from Bedford College on the points already raised in advance of the meeting. In the meantime the SAC asked me to inform Bedford College that the Committee welcomed the idea of this degree course in principle.

Yours sincerely,



MRS J M LONGDEN
Faculty Officer
Science and Engineering

Mr L P Turnbull
Registrar
Bedford College

A.V.C.
A. J. HEN