

University of London

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES

The next meeting of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies will be held on 14 October 1983 at 2.30 pm in Senate House

MINUTES of meeting held on Friday 13 May 1983.

Present: Prof T E Oppé (Chairman), Dr E R Beck, Dr I F Burton, Miss S M Collins, Mrs M Ferguson, Mrs E M Fordham, Professor M Ginsberg, Professor R Goldsmith, Professor J H Green, Professor J C Hayward, Mr S J Holder, Dr S J Redfern, Dr J R W Ross, Dr J A Weinman, Dr J Wilson-Barnett.

Apologies were received from: Dr H R Anderson, Professor H Baum, Mr M R Bury, Professor Baroness Cox, Professor J P Payne, Dr D R Pitcher, Miss I M Speight, Professor A Summerfield, Mr W L Whitehouse.

Minutes

Confirmed: The Minutes of the Special Meeting on 18 March 1983. 32

Membership

Noted: (1) That Prof C Wastell (Westminster MS) has been appointed to SAC as the second representative of the Board of Studies in Surgery. 33

(2) That Dr J L H O'Riordan (Middx HMS) has the Conferred Title of Professor of Metabolic Medicine with effect from April 1983. The SAC requested the Chairman to write to Professor O'Riordan conveying their congratulations. 34

Elected: The following Officers of the Board for the academic year 1983/84: 35

- Chairman: Professor T E Oppé
- Deputy-Chairman: Professor J Green
- Secretary: Mrs J M Longden

Working Party Report on Nursing Studies

Reported: A summary of the main responses to the Report had been included in the agenda. The Chairman also reported that the University was taking immediate steps to establish a Working Party as recommended in the Report and accepted by the Academic Council to undertake a study of the possible development of degree courses in other areas of the Health Sciences. Specific proposals have already been made by individual Schools for degree courses in Physiotherapy and in Chiropody. The Chairman had received a request from the Principals of King's, Chelsea and Queen Elizabeth Colleges to seek comments from the SAC on proposals for a degree course at Chelsea associated with Physiotherapy training but it was his view that those proposals and any others not directly associated with nursing studies should be referred to the Working Party in Health Sciences. 36

Agreed: That the SAC would welcome the establishment of the new Working Party to consider the wider field of Health Sciences, and would hope to make an input particularly in relation to nursing studies. The SAC wished to emphasise that they saw the recommendations of the Working Party on Nursing Studies as the framework on which Nursing Studies should develop in the next few years notwithstanding the outcome of any recommendations that might be made by the new Working Party for the longer term development of nursing degree courses within or independent of the wider concept of the Health Sciences. 37

BSc Courses at Bedford College

- 38 Noted: The interim report on the course 'Therapeutics and Pathology' and the response of Bedford College (circulated as Document C.1 with the Addenda to the Agenda). In the light of the difficulties experienced in 1982/83 and the fact that the lecturer will not be available, the College will not be seeking approval for the course to be repeated in 1983/84. Although, therefore, the examination paper will be circulated to members for information, as previously agreed, the earlier decision of the SAC that renewal shall be considered by a small working group during the vacation may now be rescinded. It was accepted that the weaknesses of the course as indicated by the interim test will hopefully have been remedied during the teaching of the second part of the course and may possibly have been attributable to weaknesses in the science background of the first intake of Bedford students. The College are now negotiating with another institution for the teaching of an equivalent course in 1983/84 for which proposals would be submitted to the Chairman for consideration during the Long Vacation in consultation with other members.
- 39 Approved: The following new course proposals (of which details were circulated in Document C.2 with the Addenda to the Agenda):

S380 Issues in Maternal, Child and Family Health  
S302 Research in Methods of Nursing  
S326 Health Care in Britain

It was also agreed that Course S401 'Extended Essay in Nursing' should be approved when the course proposal form is received from the College.

Panel of Visiting Examiners in Nursing Studies, 1984

- 40 Nominated: The following Panel of Examiners:

Chairman: Professor J H Green (Middx HMS)

(C)	Battersby, Mrs J	Dept Life Sciences, Liverpool University
(B) (C)	Boore, Dr Jennifer	Inst Nursing Studies, Hull University
(B)	Carrier, J W	LSE
(C)	Davis, Dr Bryn	Dept Nursing, Edinburgh University
(C)	D'Mello, Dr A	LHMC
(C)	Faulkner, Miss Anne	Dept Nursing, Manchester University
(C)	Hockey, Dr Lisbeth	Dept Nursing, Edinburgh University
(C)	Jeffreys, Prof Margot	BfdC
(B) (C)	Luker, Dr Karen A	Dept Nursing, Manchester University
(B)	MacDonald, Prof J S	ChelC
(B) (C)	McFarlane, Prof Baroness	Dept Nursing, Manchester University
(B)	Mitchell, Prof G D	Dept Sociology, Exeter University
(C)	Oppé, Prof T E	St My's HMS
(C)	Segal, Dr M B	St Thos's HMS
(C)	Stockdale, Dr Janet E	LSE

The College to which a Visiting Examiner is to be assigned has been indicated by (B) - Bedford, (C) - Chelsea.

Appointment of Higher Degree Examiners and Notification of Thesis Title

- 41 Appointed: Professor E Paykel (St George's HMS) and Dr M Johnston (RFHSM) as Examiners for MPhil candidate Miss Dinah Gould (ChelC).

Proposed MSc in Nursing

- 42 Considered: Draft proposals for an MSc degree course in Nursing at Chelsea College for which information is given in Documents B.1, B.2 and B.3 circulated with the Agenda.
- 43 Agreed: That the SAC would strongly support, in principle, the introduction of an MSc course in Nursing in 1984 and that in the light of comments received Chelsea College should submit more detailed proposals to the SAC at its next meeting. The following points were made in the discussion:

(i) Since the course content is designed to be at genuinely postgraduate level there would be no duplication with the BSc course nor would there be any substantial overlap with existing Advanced Diplomas in Nursing.

(ii) Initially, Chelsea College would wish to restrict entry to graduates in Nursing or in related subjects with professional nursing qualifications and believe that there would be no shortage of well qualified applicants for a part-time course in the London area. Subsequently, it might be desirable to widen the entry qualifications and in any case University Regulations presently provide for applications for Masters courses from exceptionally well-qualified non-graduates to be considered individually by the Academic Council.

(iii) Suitably qualified Midwives and Health Visitors would be eligible and the professional qualifications for entry would be amended to refer to those whose name is included in the Single Professional Register.

(iv) Initially, the intake of students is likely to include recent graduates and persons with extensive clinical experience. It is anticipated that much of the teaching will be on a seminar basis and the approach of the course may well change after experience has been gained.

(v) It was appreciated that students following a part-time course over 2 years might wish to take the examination in two parts, with some written papers at the end of the first year. They would not however, by that time, have reached the full MSc standard and consideration should be given to deferring at least one written paper until the second year.

#### Primary Health Care in Inner London

Reported: That the Working Party on Primary Health Care in Inner London to which the SAC had nominated Dr Wilson-Barnett as their representative (14.5.82) would be holding its first meeting on 13 June 1983. 44

#### Dates of Meetings 1983/84

Approved: Meetings in 1983/84 will be held on the following dates: 45

Friday 14 October 1983  
Friday 17 February 1984  
Friday 11 May 1984

MSc in Nursing in the Faculty of Science - (Draft Regulations)

Additional Entry Requirements:

A degree in Nursing Studies or a related subject (such as a biological or social science) and a professional nursing qualification of S.R.N., S.E.N., or R.M.N.

Curriculum

All candidates take the following courses in the first year:

Course I. Theory, Research and Practices

Nursing models will be reviewed, applied in care planning and evaluated for their use in research. Relationships between research and knowledge and the nature of nursing knowledge will be discussed.

Course II. Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice

This course will build on previous nursing experience. Recent advances in nursing practice will be assessed. Innovative roles, new methods of evaluating and organising care in hospital and community and for implementing and monitoring change, will be studied.

Course III. Research Methods and their Application in Nursing

A range of research approaches and techniques will be related to nursing problems, including descriptive and experimental methods, action research and use of inference from observations. Students will be encouraged to draft research proposals, select and practice suitable methods of analysis and presentation.

Project work in the second year is designed to give practical research experience, linked with student's clinical work, where possible. Seminars and tutorials will provide group support and individual supervision.

Duration

Part-time: 2 Calendar years.

Examination

Candidates enter the examination in two parts: Three 3-hour written papers, course assessment of six pieces of course work (2 essays, 2 seminar papers, 2 research proposals) at the end of the first year; examination of project report and oral examination at the end of the final year.

Any candidate failing the first year examination may be allowed, at the discretion of the examiners, to proceed to the second year of study but in this case will be required to take all written papers at the end of the course.

Dates of Examination

Written papers: June of the first year  
Project report: by 1 September of the final year  
Oral: September of the final year.



Proposals for an MSc in Nursing - Additional Information1. Justifications for an MSc in Nursing

- 1.1. There is a need for more able researchers to evaluate nursing practice to develop a more scientific base for the discipline (Briggs Report 1972)
- 1.2. There are many nurse-graduates seeking further study and research opportunities in London (300-400 graduates qualify from shortened nursing courses for graduates or from nursing degree courses each year). At present MSc courses in allied subjects particularly sociology and education attract these students. (Hayward 1982)
- 1.3. There is only one similar course in Great Britain, at Manchester This caters for senior professionals who are not necessarily graduates.
- 1.4. Nurse training in general is requiring a greater appreciation of the contribution of research. Basic (UKCC) and post basic, (JBCNS) curricula include research modules and research based teaching. However tutors lack a sound understanding of research methods and nursing research studies, necessary for such teaching. (UKCC 1982 Proposed Curriculum)
- 1.5. As funding for full-time postgraduate studies has been reduced (D.H.S.S. Nursing training fellowships have been discontinued) a part-time research and professional course would seem a logical development.
- 1.6. In order to bridge the gap between academic pursuits and nursing practice a course is needed. Clinical, practice research is seen as relevant to most nurses and current nursing thinking will be reflected in the content and debates of this course. (Roper 1977)

- [ Briggs Report (1972) Committee on Nursing. HMSO  
 Hayward J. (1982) Universities and nursing education. Journal of Advanced Nursing 7 371-377.  
 Roper N (1977) Justification and use of research in nursing. Journal of Advanced Nursing 2, 365-371.  
 United Kingdom Central Council (1982). Proposed curriculum for general nurse training. ]

2. Purpose of the Course

The course aims to:

- 1). Provide an evaluation of the body of research in nursing, its relationship to knowledge and the development of theory.
- 2). Give a comprehensive review of research techniques and their applications in nursing.
- 3). Prepare students to initiate and undertake research.

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Students will gain advanced theoretical and applied knowledge in nursing and research methods. They will also develop skills in reviewing literature criticising research reports and in presenting and defending their own ideas for research.

As numbers will not exceed 12 each year most of the sessions will be of participative seminar type. Hours of self study will be expected to equal hours of teaching.

Year 1 will consist of 40 days teaching at the college, students attending an Easter and Summer School of one week each, planned for research exercises with practice in statistics and computer use.

Objectives: on completion of year 1 students will be able to:

- 1) present clear and critical accounts of most established nursing models.
- 2) use theoretical ideas to generate research questions and plan nursing care.
- 3) Assess the relationship between research findings and knowledge in several areas of recent progress
- 4) Plan and present research proposals, choosing appropriate methods of data collection and analysis.
- 5) Justify ideas for improving care through use of research findings.

#### Year 11

Each student will have a supervisor for a research project of their own design which involves empirical work in a clinical or work setting of their choice. Projects should reflect the use of theoretical models for design of the question, critiques of related work and choice of data collection methods and analysis.

Students will have 12 months for project work. Fortnightly seminars will be held for presentation and group discussion on students practical research problems and advanced statistics.

30 days of study in Year II will be scheduled for project work, which includes, seminar and tutorial time. This may appear over generous, but empirical work is very time consuming in social and clinical work and in fact this is a shorter period than that allocated for many undergraduate projects. The Easter and Summer schools will be devoted to advanced statistical sessions, some philosophy lectures and to research presentations by staff (these will not be examined separately).

Objectives: 1) Students' project work should demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of theory to a research question, project design and execution.

- 2) Practice with data collection and analysis should give a working knowledge of most problems relevant to nursing research.

#### 5. Student's

Up to 12 part-time "day release" students will be selected from nurse-graduates working within Greater London.

#### 4. Resource Implications of an MSc in Nursing

##### Teaching Staff

One of the great attractions of this course is the availability of interested and expert lecturers. All lecturers in nursing studies at Chelsea have research degrees and have expressed their willingness to contribute to the course. Therefore only one additional member of staff would be needed for lecturing for the following additional duties.

- 1) Co-ordination and planning of the teaching sessions.
- 2) Liaison with the District Health Authority Nursing Officers in regard to students research projects.
- 3) Selection of students.

Non nursing lecturers would also be requested to make a contribution. These include philosophers of science and statisticians, as well as some biological science teaching on laboratory research techniques.

##### Lecture Rooms and Space

A new departmental building in progress will provide excellent seminar and study areas for students.

##### Library

Research journals and nursing texts are available in the library. A fund for obtaining copies of unpublished research reports may be attracted from outside sources.

#### 5. Sources of Funding

District Health Authorities have already been approached with a view to sponsorship of post graduate nursing students for this course. Course fees and necessary study have been promised for at least 6 students from 2 D.H.As.

A pump priority fund may also be granted by one of the DHA's for a full time lecturer for this course.

The Royal Marsden Hospital has also given the services of their Director of Nursing Research for some teaching as an honorary lecturer.

#### 6. Examination

75% of last year marks will be derived from written examinations and 25% from course work.

Proposed MSc in Nursing - Detailed curriculumYear 1

Course I - Theory, Research and Practice - 20 days - Lectures, followed by seminars. Nursing and related models will be reviewed and evaluated for their power to generate research questions and their application in planning and administering care. These include Orem's self care model, Roy's Adaptation model, Rogers Science of Unitary man, King's Interactional model, Erickson's Developmental model, Maslow's Need hierarchy, Satir's communication model. Models using Activities of Daily Living, General Systems theory and Change theories applied to nursing.

Basic disciplines will also be explored for their greatest contributions to nursing. Psychology, sociology and biology topics and theories will be presented by staff and students in order to demonstrate their application in nursing. Choice of disciplines will be influenced by the mix of students' first degree subjects (other than nursing).

Course II - Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice - 10 days -- Student presentations and seminars. Current advances and issues in nursing will be debated and selected by students. Examples might include: Clinical Specialisms in nursing, or alternative roles in nursing, evaluation in practice. Monitoring nursing performance, audit and quality control procedures. Trans-cultural aspects of nursing. Patient-dependency assessments as a guide to nurse allocation. Nursing contributions to influencing policy - focus on methods and routes. Legislation changes for nurse education, alternative models for education. Clinical supervision, challenges and value. Professional development in nursing.

Course III - Research Methods and their application in Nursing

20 days (including 2, 5 day practical sessions)

- Lectures followed by seminars & practice sessions.

Research approaches will be reviewed, using a problem solving approach, related to nursing. Stages in the research process will be taught and criticised. Topics will include: Designing a research question, defining an area of investigation, reviewing evidence, planning and justifying research activities, ethical consideration for researchers. The wide range of research methods will be studied including descriptive techniques, experimental or evaluative methods. Advantages and disadvantages of qualitative and quantitative data will be debated. Principles of measurement and scale construction will be taught in conjunction with appropriate modes of statistical analysis. Ways of presenting data with graphic illustrations will be demonstrated.



Advanced statistical analysis will be taught in two study weeks in Easter and Summer in Year 1.

In the third term students will be encouraged to design and present ideas for research projects in seminars (with full documentation). Suitability and style of presentations for different audiences and for dissemination and use by the profession will be discussed.

#### Year 11

#### Course IV - Research Project

Project work will continue for 12 months with 30 days assigned for contact with academics. Additional time will be needed for data collection in the course of the student's work. Relevant expertise of both students and supervisors will determine the nature of projects. Careful design and measurement will be emphasised, rather than representativeness or the quantity of data collected. It is intended that students will spend the first term designing the study and selecting instruments, the second for data collection and the third for analysis. Writing-up would be done during the 3 Summer months.

Seminars and tutorials each fortnight are designed to encourage and support students during this time, as well as, giving academic supervision. Presentation of ideas for the projects and research problems encountered by all students will be discussed during these sessions.

A continuation of the statistics "workshops" will occur in the Easter and Summer school. A computer-use class will be incorporated.

Research reports should be of adequate length to demonstrate the theoretical context, evaluation of previous research and the presentation of the study. This will be examined and a viva conducted for each student before grading the work.