

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES

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

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

TO CONFIRM: The Minutes of the meeting on 14 May 1982 (previously circulated).

2. MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO REPORT: The following changes in membership:

Dr T R Cullinan (St Thos's HMS) has replaced Dr S A Beresford as representative of the Special Advisory Committee in Biometry and Medical Statistics.

Professor C G Clark has resigned as one of the two representatives of the Board of Studies in Surgery and a replacement has not yet been appointed.

Miss I M Speight, Acting Chief Education Officer of the General Nursing Council has accepted the invitation to serve as a representative of the General Nursing Council.

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TO ELECT: A Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary for the Special Advisory Committee for the period September 1982 to September 1983.

3. NURSING STUDIES IN THE UNIVERSITY

TO RECEIVE: (i) A verbal report from Professor Oppé on action resulting from his letter of 9 June 1982 to the Vice-Chancellor (circulated as Document A with the Minutes of the May meeting).

(ii) Reports from teachers of Nursing Studies at Bedford and Chelsea Colleges.

4. COURSE PROPOSAL : BEDFORD COLLEGE

TO CONSIDER: A revised proposal for the course at Bedford College previously entitled "Chemotherapeutics and Pathophysiology".

TO REPORT: (1) As agreed at the last meeting (Minute 60) the detailed course proposal form received from Bedford College was circulated to members of the Committee for comment (under cover of a letter dated 16 July 1982). The Chairman considered that the replies indicated some differences of opinion in regard to the scope and content of the course and several suggestions were made on matters of detail. Bearing in mind the degree of urgency and the difficulties which might have beset Bedford College in the arrangement of the course and the intention to commence teaching this October, the Chairman decided that:

"The proposed course at Bedford College entitled 'S.290 Chemotherapeutics and Pathophysiology' should be approved for one year only provided that:-

(i) the number of hours is increased from 80 hours to at least 100 hours, 120

points

(ii) the title of the course is amended so as to avoid the ambiguous term "chemotherapeutics" and to replace "pathophysiology" by a more acceptable word."

(2) Whilst approving the introduction of the course for one year only with an amended title the Chairman considered that the SAC should have further opportunity for discussion before unlimited approval is given to the course. Bedford College have been further informed:

'that several members of the SAC found the Further Particulars unclear and in particular drew attention to (a) the differences in meaning which may be attached to the word "chemotherapy", (b) use of the word "paedological", and (c) to the apparent error "brought" for (?) taught in the last sentence. Also, several members seek reassurance about (a) the degree to which the students will have had sufficient preparation

in physiology and in biochemistry to benefit from the course, and (b) the standard of the teaching that will be given, and of the examination'.

5. PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS: 1983

TO CONSIDER: The appointment of an Examiner to replace Professor F H Fentem (University of Nottingham) who was appointed at the May meeting and is unable to act.

TO REPORT: Professor Fentem has previously served as External Examiner in Physiology/Pharmacology at Chelsea College and is no longer eligible to continue to act there as he has already served for four years. He is however eligible to act at another College and was therefore retained on the Panel at the request of Bedford College. Bedford College have now suggested, as his replacement, Professor Andrew Herxheimer, Dept of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Charing Cross Hospital Medical School.

(NOTE: The instructions for the conduct of examinations based on course units state that "It is expected that wherever possible External Examiners will act simultaneously at more than one School" Where timetabling makes it impossible for an examiner to act simultaneously at more than one School it is considered desirable that they should at least act at another School(s) in following years. The SAC might therefore wish to consider the possibility of the new examiner for Chelsea in this field also acting for Bedford in 1983.)

6. MPhil/PhD REGISTRATION

TO REPORT: (1) The Academic Registrar has informed Schools and Boards of Studies of a change in procedure for approval of thesis titles and entry to the examination.

Under current regulations a student must submit the title of his thesis for approval by his Supervisor. The approved title must then be forwarded to the University, through the authorities of the School, on a special form upon which the Supervisor has specified the Board of Studies to which the thesis title should be notified and which should be invited to appoint examiners. This title form must be submitted to the University not less than four months before the student submits his entry form for the examination. Upon receipt the title is recorded and the form is forwarded to the Board of Studies, thus giving the Board an opportunity to comment.

(2) These procedures have never been fully satisfactory as many title forms are submitted late, often little in advance of or even after the examination entry form. Furthermore as with Schools, Senate House is experiencing considerable staff reductions and it is considered that administrative economies can be effected by amendment to the procedures which can include the abolition of the form for notification of thesis title.

(3) Under the new procedure approval of the title will be signified by the Supervisor on the examination entry form on which he will also specify the appropriate Board of Studies. The Board will be informed of the title when the request is made to appoint examiners, and will be sent at that time a description of the content of the thesis in about 300 words. In future the entry form will be required to be submitted at least four months before the thesis.

(4) The formal date of implementation of the change is 1 October 1982 but it is expected that there will be a transition period when considerable flexibility is needed and when the old procedures will continue to be followed. It is also appreciated that when the new Regulations fully apply Boards will be notified of these titles later than occurred previously whilst examination entry forms will have to be submitted earlier.

(5) Following the old procedures the Special Advisory Committee has been notified of the following thesis title:

JULIA IRENE BROOKING (ChelC) will be submitting a PhD thesis with the following title: "Patient and family participation in nursing care: A survey of opinions and current practices, involving the development of a nursing process measuring scale". Professor J C Hayward is her Supervisor.

7. SPECIAL LECTURES

TO REPORT: Dr Irene Palmer gave a Special Lecture at Chelsea College on 27 May with the following title: "Florence Nightingale - The Myth and the Reality".

8. CENTRAL RESEARCH FUND

TO REPORT: Boards of Studies and Special Advisory Committees have been asked to draw the attention of members to the facilities provided by the Central Research Fund. Supervisors are asked to advise persons undertaking research that if they hope to obtain assistance from the Fund they should apply well in advance of their requirements. The relevant dates for 1982/83 are as follows:

| <u>Application received by:</u> | <u>Result notified in:</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8 September | mid November |
| 8 December | mid March |
| 23 March | end May |

Applications in respect of research to be undertaken during the long vacation should, therefore, be submitted by 23 March.

Further information is available from the Secretary of the Fund in Senate House who also holds information on British Academic Support for research in the Humanities and Social Sciences.