

Bedford College

(University of London)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Head of Department

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7 July 1982

Professor T.E. Oppe
Department of Paediatrics
St. Mary's Hospital Medical School
London W2 1PG

Dear Professor Oppe,

Thank you for your letter of the 28th. The form has been correctly completed since no medical school will as such be involved in responsibility for the course. We are in the process of appointing a visiting lecturer and so the responsibility for the course will be confined to Bedford College. The same procedure operates, of course, for the half-unit in Human Relations approved at the last SAC.

I take your point about seeking the blessing of the Boards of Studies in Physiology and in Pharmacology as well as the approval of the SAC. My own view has always been that one should go to the Board which has responsibility for that subject in the University. Following that policy, I would go to the SAC only for courses in Nursing where it is the only committee competent to speak. However, under Professor Green, the SAC took the view that, since it contained representatives from all appropriate Boards of Studies, it should have all courses sent to it, and I have followed that practice, although to my mind it was academically undesirable. Are you now saying that the policy has changed? Or only that it might be politic to inform the Boards of Studies? What I must avoid is being caught in a dispute between Boards, for it is quite impossible to satisfy two masters with different horizons in these matters.

Finally, in confidence between ourselves: I am very anxious that Nursing Studies at Bedford College is not used as a pawn in an endeavour by Chelsea to overturn the Biological Sciences SARC recommendation that Royal Holloway College be the site of the fifth science faculty in the University to the exclusion of Chelsea. The proposition at the last meeting that clinical practice for nursing studies students must take place in a teaching hospital appeared designed to serve that purpose since it happens that this is not universal practice in other universities in the U.K. Perhaps, the proposed merger between Kings, Chelsea and QEC will make the issue redundant, but I thought I ought to mention my anxieties in confidence. Professor Hildebrand, with whom I have been in touch concerning Human Relations remarked that, in stressful situations such as we are all going through, paranoia creeps out from underneath the stones.

Yours sincerely,

Ivor Burton

DEPARTMENT OF PAEDIATRICS

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28th June, 1982.

Dr. I.F. Burton,
Department of Sociology,
Bedford College.

Dear Dr. Burton,

S.A.C. in Nursing Studies

Many thanks for your letter of 18th June and for the copy of the course-unit proposal form. I have noted that it is proposed to combine the two half unit courses in pathophysiology and in pharmacology to form a one unit course. I have also noted that item 14 in section three of the form has not been completed although your letter suggests that a Medical School other than the Middlesex Hospital Medical School will be involved in the proposed course.

I understand fully the urgency arising from the immediate need to begin teaching the proposed course next session, however I feel that at some stage it would be prudent to seek the blessing of the Boards of Study in Physiology and in Pharmacology in addition to the approval of the S.A.C.

When completed the proposal will be circulated to the members of the S.A.C. in Nursing Studies as requested at the last meeting, and I hope that the advice received will enable me to take action.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Thomas E. Oppé

Thomas E. Oppé

all (Dictated by Professor Oppé and signed in his absence).

cc Mrs. Janet Longden.