

University of London

SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES

The next meeting will be held on Friday 19 February 1982 at 2.30 pm in Senate House.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 16 October 1981

Present: Professor T E Oppé (Chairman), Dr H R Anderson, Dr E R Beck, Dr I Burton, Miss S M Collins, Mrs C A Cox, Mrs M Ferguson, Mrs E M Jurdham, Professor R Goldsmith, Professor J H Green, Professor M Jefferys, Dr D R Pitcher, Miss J Radway, Dr S J Redfern, Dr J R W Ross, Professor A Summerfield, Mr W L Whitehouse, Dr J Wilson-Barnett.

Apologies were received from:

Professor H Baum, Miss M J Cooper, Professor M Ginsberg, Professor J C Hayward, Professor J P Payne.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

ELECTED: The following officers for October 1981 - September 1982:

Chairman: Professor T E Oppé (St My's HMS)
Deputy-Chairman: Professor J H Green (Middx HMS)
Secretary: Mrs J M Longden (Senate House)

The Special Advisory Committee expressed their thanks to the outgoing Chairman, Professor Green.

MINUTES:

CONFIRMED: The Minutes of the meeting of 15 May (previously circulated), with the following amendments:

PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS FOR COURSE-UNIT EXAMINATIONS 1982 (Minute 33)

Dr Dorothy Baker (Dept of Nursing, University of Manchester) should be included again as she did not examine in 1978.

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN NURSING STUDIES (Minute 35)

Paragraph (4) should read ' . . . and the Director of Nurse Education in a School of Nursing.'

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORTED: The information given in Item 3 of the agenda.

NOMINATED: To serve under (c) Other Persons:

Mr Bernard Finn of the Joint Board of Clinical Nursing Studies
Mr Stanley Holder, Director of Nurse Education, St Mary's Hospital

To serve under (d), Other Teachers of the University

Dr I F Burton, Head of Department of Sociology, BdfC

It was also suggested that a representative of Community Nursing would be a useful addition to the Committee and it is hoped that a nomination will be made at the next meeting. [The Secretary will be pleased to receive names of possible persons.]

To receive papers:

Mrs J Meerabeau, Lecturer in Nursing Studies, BdfC

PANEL OF VISITING EXAMINERS 1982

NOMINATED: Professor Margaret Stacey, University of Warwick, to replace Professor Illsley.

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC ORGANISATION

AGREED: That the Committee would not wish to respond to the Second Discussion Document of the Committee on Academic Organisation. The Committee did, however, note with satisfaction the comment of the UGC relating to Nursing Studies.

REPORTED: That Senate had approved a proposal from the Joint Planning Committee to institute Subject Area Review Committees, which would give assistance throughout the

University on 'the maintenance in straitened circumstances' of teaching and research. Three SARC's had been established which might have relevance to Nursing Studies:

Physical Sciences	under the Chairmanship of	Sir Sam Edwards, FRS (Cambridge)
Biological Sciences	"	" Sir James Beament, FRS (Cambridge)
Social Sciences	"	" Sir Alec Cairncross, FBA (Glasgow)

However, Nursing Studies as such was among a number of other subjects not specifically being dealt with at the moment. It was suggested that the SAC could either request representation on one of these SARC's or write to the SARC's giving their views, but it was decided to wait for further developments which would indicate the best course of action.

NURSING STUDIES AT BEDFORD COLLEGE

RECEIVED: A report from Mrs Ferguson.

8

(1) Eight students had started the degree course. All had reasonable A-levels and mostly at least one science A-level, the norm being a biological Science at A-level and possibly Chemistry, and Chemistry and Mathematics at O-level. Because of the problems Chelsea had found could exist when a student had no A-level science, Mrs Ferguson agreed to provide details of O- and A-level passes of those students accepted onto the course (DOCUMENT A attached).

(2) Mrs Elizabeth Meerabeau, who is a qualified Health Visitor, as well as holding the qualifications of SRN and BSc(Surrey), has been appointed from October 1981 as a Lecturer in Nursing Studies.

(3) The course at Bedford College leads at present to the award of a BSc degree in the Faculty of Economics (not a BA degree as provisionally advertised).

CONSIDERED: Proposals for second-year courses as given in the addendum to the agenda. Document D3 circulated with the agenda was replaced by a revised overall plan for the four-year course, which was tabled at the meeting and is given as the attached DOCUMENT B.

AGREED: (1) That it would be desirable to have further information concerning the nature of and hours spent in clinical attachments, which have not been specified as parts of the course-units comprising the BSc course. Since this was discussed initially changes in the programme have been introduced and members wished to have an up-to-date picture.

(2) That the Committee would comment as follows on the proposals for second-year courses (although Professor Ginsberg was unable to attend the meeting, he sent comments on these course proposals which were taken into consideration):

PHARMACOLOGY ($\frac{1}{2}$ cu)

It is at present proposed that the course should be taught by an Appointed Teacher at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School. The details on clinical attachments (see (1) above) would indicate where teaching of Pharmacology would occur in other parts of the four-year course. Every nursing unit will include some teaching of the effects of drugs, but the Pharmacology unit in itself is intended as an introduction to the subject. It was suggested that 'drugs' might be replaced by 'medicine'. It was felt that the course should include some reference to the limitations and costs of medicine. It was not intended that the course should provide a depth of knowledge in Pharmacology per se, but rather provide the pharmacological basis of a therapeutic superstructure of knowledge. It was agreed that Professor Oppé should discuss the course in detail with Mrs Ferguson before formal course proposals are submitted.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY ($\frac{1}{2}$ cu)

The course should provide the background to clinical demonstrations, which, Mrs Ferguson assured members, would be provided under the heading 'seminars'. The course would also be followed up by case studies and linked with the course on 'Nursing of the Adult Sick'. The course should emphasise changes in metabolism with age.

PSYCHOLOGY ($\frac{1}{2}$ cu)

Members sought assurance that the course would not lay too much emphasis on analytic theoris but would emphasise the critical approach. It should include reference to stress (including a nurse's own experiences). It was suggested that the second objective 'to develop supporting mechanisms in relation to their patients' needs' might be more explicit and that there should be a clear indication that the course would include training in social skills.

Arising from the discussion on this particular course, members stressed the emphasis that they would put on the overall course providing the development of an experimental/critical approach which might be expected in a degree course, and which should

differentiate the BSc course in Nursing Studies from SRN training. Teaching in the College should counterbalance the attitudes of conformity which the students might meet in clinical practice. It was suggested that inclusion of experimental work should be explicit in some courses, in order to ensure that it does not become overlooked. Seminars in which students would be discussing their practical experience would not fully compensate for the absence of experience in developing a critical approach, although it was appreciated that the Research Methods course would provide some opportunity for experiment.

ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH (½cu)

This course would be the back-up to the practice unit in Psychiatric Nursing. It was queried whether the first term of the second year is really too soon for teaching of psychological medicine and whether it is desirable for the practice and teaching to be more or less concurrent. It was noted, however, that on the Welsh degree course in Nursing it has proved a satisfactory time, providing the students have adequate support and guidance and that they have had a certain amount of other practical experience before commencing Psychiatric Nursing.

NURSING THE ADULT SICK (½cu)

The course would be a ½cu and would build on the first-year course in surgical nursing and the second-year Pathophysiology course.

(3) It was suggested that further consideration might be given to integrating two half-unit courses into a single course-unit, in order to reduce the number of examinations. A final decisions on the courses was deferred, pending receipt of the detailed information on practical nursing attachments (paragraph (1) above) and further discussion within the College, taking into account the above points.

NURSING STUDIES AT CHELSEA COLLEGE

RECEIVED: The following report from Chelsea College:

11

(1) The first group of eleven students had graduated, of whom one had gained a First-Class degree, six had gained Upper Seconds and four had gained Lower Seconds. All intended to pursue a career in nursing.

(2) This year an intake of 25 students had been accepted and, for the first time, it had been unnecessary to make use of the UCCA clearing system, so that it is clear that a degree in Nursing Studies was the first choice of every student admitted, and it appeared that the majority of those unable to gain admission to a university course in Nursing would be taking SRN training.

(3) The College had asked for a minimum of 7 UCCA points and had offered places to ninety students in order to obtain twenty-five firm acceptances. From the first intake in 1977 to 1981 students on each intake had averaged 9 - 10 UCCA points.

(4) In the last two years no students had applied to transfer to the BSc in other fields of study, but the College considered it essential to have a mechanism for such transfer. In the first two years five students had transferred to other BSc courses, but there was no indication that these were the students of above-average ability in comparison with those who had continued with the Nursing course.

(5) Apart from the fact that the first intake represented an exceptionally good group of students, the good degrees which they obtained might also be attributed to the fact that students on vocationally-orientated degree might be expected to be well motivated.

SPECIAL UNIVERSITY LECTURES

REPORTED: The information given in the Agenda. The Committee expressed its regret 12 at the demise of the Special University Lecture system. It was felt that such lectures were particularly valuable to a new discipline. It was agreed that, if funds could be obtained from elsewhere, Bedford College would be able to mount a lecture, and that enquiries would be made concerning possible sources of finance.

MPhil REGISTRATION: CLARE MARGARET MOYNIHAN

AGREED: That this application should be a matter for the Board of Studies in Sociology.

13

REVIEW OF EXAMINATIONS

REVISED REGULATIONS FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS PROCEEDING TO THE DEGREES OF MPhil and PHD
SECOND PHASE OF NEW STATUTES
CENTRAL RESEARCH FUND

REPORTED: The information given in the Agenda.

14

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

REPORTED: The next meeting of the Special Advisory Committee will be held on Friday 19 February at 2.30 pm in Senate House.

Bedford College

(University of London)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Head of Department
Dr. I. F. BURTON

REGENT'S PARK LONDON NW1 4NS

Telephone: 01-486 4400

Telegrams: Edforcoll London NW1

Analysis of O and A level qualifications of Bedford College 1981 intake

1. All students have the following relevant subjects at 'O' level : Maths, Chemistry, and at least one other science.
2. All students have Biology at 'A' level except for one. That student has Chemistry and Maths at 'A' level.
3. The average 'A' level score is 7.1
4. We are satisfied with the subject qualifications of the intake but we look for an improvement in the 'A' level performance of the next intake.

I.F. BURTON
