

Your Ref: AR/SCI/JML/MH.

29th March, 1983.

Mrs. J.M. Longden,
Faculty Officer, Science & Engineering,
Senate House,
Malet Street,
London WC1E 7HU.

Dear Mrs. Longden,

Report on Nursing Studies

Please find below my comments on Document A:-

7.1.(i) Agreed.

7.1.(ii) It is agreed that at present the faculty of science is the faculty in which the B.Sc. in the field of Nursing Studies is awarded. The notion of "should" is the debatable point.

7.1.(iii) As an immediate expedient, the development of a single strong department of Nursing Studies is accepted as an object for the University, notwithstanding the fact that what constitutes strong is debatable. If alternative models are no longer offered, then perhaps consideration should be given to those for development inside one department. However, the possibility for alternative perspectives to be able to develop and given free rein within one umbrella department is extremely remote due to an inherent fragility of any emerging perspective which needs time and resources of its own to surface.

Additionally to point 4.9 (p.7 of the report), the report suggests that opportunity to acquire particular skills in either the social or medical aspects of nursing must be left to postgraduate experience and training. I wish to counter this on the basis that the tools of a basic SRN/B.Sc. nurse must include the ability to handle both social and medical aspects of nursing. These tools are too valuable to be left to postgraduate training which anyhow is only pursued by relatively few people and is and should be concerned with the learning of research skills.

Yours sincerely,

Marion Ferguson,
Director of Nursing Studies.

University of London

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22 March 1983

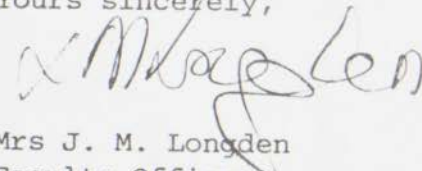
Dear Member,

Report on Nursing Studies

As agreed at the Special Meeting on 18 March, I am enclosing with the Minutes a draft letter to the Vice-Chancellor conveying the comments of the SAC on the Report of the Working Party on Nursing Studies.

Could you please let me have your comments by not later than Wednesday 6 April in order that an agreed version can be sent to the Vice-Chancellor by 11 April? Telephoned comments will suffice (if they are of a minor nature).

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J. M. Longden
Faculty Officer
Science and Engineering

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Encl.

Extension

Our ref
Your ref

DOCUMENT A

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

I am writing to convey the comments of the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies on the Report of the Working Party on Nursing Studies which was considered at a Special Meeting on 18 March.

The Special Advisory Committee welcomed the setting-up of this Working Party last summer following their own request and generally supported the recommendations contained in the Report. We would, however, wish to comment on the detailed recommendations as follows:-

7.1 (i) Fully supported.

7.1 (ii) It is agreed that the Faculty of Science is presently the faculty in which the BSc in the field of Nursing Studies should be awarded. The Committee considers, however, that in the longer term it might be desirable for the University of London to award a degree in nursing studies in a faculty other than science, or in more than one faculty.

7.1 (iii) It is accepted that the development of a single strong department of Nursing Studies should be the immediate object for the University. The Committee considers, however, that there are very real advantages in offering to nursing students within the University of London more than one type of degree programme. It is suggested therefore that consideration be given to offering a range of courses within the single department, if alternative models are no longer to be offered through the existence of more than one department.

Whilst the Committee would hope that a second department might be established within the not too distant future, it would be undesirable for this to happen until it is clear that the School(s) concerned would have the financial and other resources for a department of sufficient size, including an adequate number of suitably qualified academic staff.

7.2 (i) The Committee accept with regret the Working Party's recommendation for closure of the Bedford course. The Committee hope, however, that the initiative of Bedford College in establishing a strong element of the social sciences within a nursing course will not be lost.

- 7.2 (ii) The Committee assume that any increase in the annual intake to the nursing course at Chelsea College will be accompanied by an appropriate increase in resources. The Committee was informed that the General Nursing Council, while approving the recommendations, had expressed the opinion that additional clinical placements would also be needed, probably by inclusion of a second Health District.
- 7.2 (iii) The Committee agree that such an aim is desirable, whilst recognising that it may be sometime before the University can achieve student numbers of this order (see also under 7.2 (ii) above).
- 7.3 The proposal that the University should undertake a study of the wider field of Health Sciences is welcomed. The University should undertake such a study before any decisions are reached concerning the acceptability of other subjects such as Physiotherapy and Chiropody for degree studies.
- 7.4 The Committee would welcome a closer association between the Special Advisory Committee in Nursing Studies and the Extra-Mural Department Advisory Committee. It is recognised that in the past the Extra-Mural Diplomas in nursing have played a significant role in the post-basic education of non-graduate nurses, particularly at a time when the University of London Diplomas provided the sole opportunity for advanced qualifications in nursing. It is, however, desirable that, in future, the University's contribution to nursing studies should be considered as a whole.

Yours sincerely,

Professor T E Oppé
Chairman
SAC in Nursing Studies