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DEC. 13 1993

SCHOOL OF NURSING
400 Hal Greer Boulevard
Huntington, West Virginia 25755-9500
304/696-6750

TO: Dr. Bertram Gross
Faculty Senate President

FROM: Dr. Lynne B. Welch
Dean *Lynne Welch*

DATE: December 9, 1993

RE: Intent to Plan a Collaborative
Associate in Science Degree in Nursing

Attached is an intent to plan a collaborative Associate in Science degree in Nursing. It is my understanding that this will go through the Faculty Senate process and then be sent on to the President.

/mc



SCHOOL OF NURSING
400 Hal Greer Boulevard
Huntington, West Virginia 25755-9500
304/696-6750

TO: WV University System Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Lynne B. Welch
Dean, School of Nursing

DATE: December 9, 1993 *Lynne B. Welch*

RE: Intent to Plan a Collaborative
Associate in Science Degree in Nursing

The Marshall University School of Nursing is asking consideration for approval of an intent to plan an associate in science degree in nursing program collaboratively with St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing. The St. Mary's Hospital diploma nursing program would become an associate in science degree in nursing program in the School of Nursing at Marshall University. A letter of agreement to establish such a collaborative program has been signed by the CEO of St. Mary's Hospital, Mr. J. Thomas Jones, and the President of Marshall University, J. Wade Gilley.

It is projected that a full proposal would be submitted to the Board of Trustees in July, 1994 for a projected implementation of the program with the first class of approximately 70 students entering in the Fall of 1995.

- A. The educational objectives of the collaborative nursing program are to provide an associate degree in nursing curriculum that:
1. Facilitates the achievement of program objectives for the traditional and non-traditional student.
 2. Permits the graduate to seek licensure to become a registered nurse.
 3. Prepares a graduate nurse who functions as a beginning staff nurse in acute, intermediate ambulatory and long term health care settings.

The objectives of the collaborative program are congruent with Marshall University's commitment to undergraduate education as well as the commitment to society through service to the public sector.

St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing has been in existence as a diploma nursing program for 67 years and has a strong reputation for academic excellence in preparing students for the role of registered nurse.

St. Mary's is the only remaining diploma nursing program in the State of West Virginia. The faculty and administration of St. Mary's have determined that graduates of the program should have the benefit of an associate in science degree in nursing upon graduation in order to facilitate educational mobility into baccalaureate programs in nursing.

St. Mary's School of Nursing has affiliated with Marshall University since 1966 for the provision of the non-nursing support courses required in the curriculum. It is appropriate that St. Mary's should seek a collaborative associate degree program with Marshall University as opposed to an arrangement with any other public or private college or university.

- B. The St. Mary's/Marshall University collaborative ASN curriculum plan will be based on the following considerations:
1. The current St. Mary's curriculum will be revised as necessary to meet the NLN criteria for accreditation of ASN programs.
 2. All nursing courses will be offered at St. Mary's School of Nursing facilities by St. Mary's faculty. These courses will go through the usual Marshall University approval process.
 3. All non-nursing courses will be selected from the current course offerings at Marshall University.
 4. The curriculum will prepare graduate who meet the requirements to seek licensure to become a registered nurse.
 5. Marshall University will be responsible for academic policies, procedures, and degree granting functions.
- C. St. Mary's School of Nursing has been an NLN accredited diploma program for over thirty years. The state board passage rate has been between 90 to 100 percent over the past ten years. The quality of the new collaborative program will be evaluated by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses which must grant approval of the planned program prior to implementation. Upon graduation of the first class from the program, accreditation from the National League for Nursing will be sought.

- D. There is not a similar collaborative program in nursing in West Virginia. Marshall does have a cooperative Radiologic Technology program between the Community Technical College and St. Mary's Hospital. There is no associate in science in nursing degree program in the greater Huntington area. There are currently nine associate in science in nursing degree programs in West Virginia.
- E. The majority of students enrolled at St. Mary's School of Nursing are non-traditional students from the tri-state area, working class, with a mean age of 27 years. A significant number of the students are single parents, wives of unemployed spouses, and LPN's returning to a RN program. The collaborative ASN program offers the student who is bound to the community by family and financial responsibilities, the choice of a two year associate degree nursing program with strong academic and clinical components.

In 1993 St. Mary's School of Nursing rejected over 200 qualified applicants to the diploma program. This trend is anticipated to continue as the demand for registered nurses increases.

- F. Faculty rank for the faculty at St. Mary's will be in accordance with the WV University System policies and procedures and Marshall University policies.
- G. This collaborative program will not require any additional resources from Marshall University or the State of West Virginia. St. Mary's Hospital will continue to provide the facilities and be responsible for the financial support of faculty and staff, and student support services necessary to implement the program.

/mc