

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS LEADING TO DEAF PEOPLES' ACCESS TO (MENTAL HEALTH) NURSE EDUCATION IN THE UK

This is an outline of the events, and may not be wholly accurate.

The events here are only in outline. I would like to add to the content. If you would like to add other information, such as personal involvement, other meetings etc. Please email me at d.j.wright@shef.ac.uk

December 1992

Letter from Deaf Professionals in Mental Health requesting David Wright (DW) attend a meeting to discuss Deaf people's access to Nurse Education.

February 1993

DW's First meeting with Deaf Professionals in Mental Health.

April 1993

Met with Deaf Professionals in Mental Health to discuss the idea of deaf people accessing mental health nurse training.

May 1993

Short discussion paper submitted to Dean of the Sheffield and North Trent College of Nursing and Midwifery (SNTC) [now the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sheffield].

June 1993

Discussions with Dean and Director of Academic Affairs (SNTC)

August 1993

First meeting with English National Board (ENB) and Director of Academic Affairs (SNTC)

Visits to the specialist units to discuss training, placement and registration issues. ENB request a proposal for consideration.

September 1993

Working group (David Wright, representatives from specialist units and SNTC) established for development of proposal for ENB, arranging visits to the specialist units meetings to discuss content/issues.

October 1993

Meeting between SNTC and TRHA

October 1993 to February 1994

Visits to specialist units in preparation for developing proposal to ENB

December 1993

Draft proposal prepared - meeting to discuss content.

November 1994

Meeting between SNTC and TRHA Regional Nurse (Education).

January 1994

Further questions for proposal sent to specialist units

Proposal (Deaf persons' access to Nurse education) sent to Trent Regional Health Authority (TRHA) and invited to discussions re: funding of places.

March 1994

Proposal (Deaf persons' access to Nurse education) for ENB compiled. Following meeting of representatives from specialist units, SNTC, TRHA.

April 1994

British Deaf News publish news item (Deaf people to qualify as nurses) prematurely.

May 1994

Proposal (Deaf persons' access to Nurse education) forwarded to ENB [following review by the specialist units and Director of Academic Affairs].

June 1994

Response to British Deaf News news item published.

July 1994

ENB National level discussion and response to proposal (Deaf persons' access to Nurse education). Request for further information in support of project - deaf people in Higher Education and deaf people as nurses/health care workers/professionals.

September 1994

David Wright (SNTC) & Joe Kellett (SNTC) present Issues arising from a proposal for deaf persons to have access to nurse education at the British Society for Mental Health and Deafness conference Progress through equality, Manchester.

Further meeting with ENB York (Specialist Education Officer, Mental Health).

October 1994

Meeting at Bournville College, Birmingham to discuss European funding.

April 1994

European partners not found for European funding - no bid submitted.

April 1994

Sheffield and North Trent College of Nursing amalgamate with the University of Sheffield, Faculty of Medicine as the School of Nursing and Midwifery. Slowing down of projects and developments during transition.

September 1994

Discussion with University support staff to clarify position of University in supporting project and looking at differences between University and health trusts admission policies.

November 1994 to February 1995

Discussions between ENB, School of Nursing and Midwifery and University

May 1995

Further evidence of deaf people's fit for purpose sought. Questionnaire published in British Deaf News and on Read Hear (BBC 2 Ceefax 710) and a number of letters to specialist units, DPMH and individuals.

September 1995

Report - Deaf people's access to nurse education completed and sent to ENB for consideration.

November 1995

Report to be discussed at ENB meeting. Several meetings postponed.

February 1996

Meeting with Alice Thacker, members of the specialist units and St. George's Hospital Medical School, University of London to discuss funding issues and possible ways forward.

June 1996

National ENB meeting (London) agreed to support project.
News item appears in Nursing Times 92(28) 6

July 1996

Meeting with ENB and School of Nursing and Midwifery planned to discuss way forward.

August 1996

Discussions with administrators to work out costings and meetings with to November '96 International Department with regards to EC funding.

November 1996

Costings of access formulated by University.

December 1996

'Training Consortium' meeting to discuss funding of students and programme access.

1997

Several meetings between School of Nursing and Midwifery, the International Department (University of Sheffield) and the Training Consortia.

Funding is not realised.

1998

DW undertakes study leave for PhD project and is unable to continue with Deaf Peoples' Access Project.

1998-1999

Meetings continue between ENB and the National Centres for Mental Health and Deafness and other interested parties.

April 99

ENB announces Educational Opportunities for Deaf People in the ENB News.

January 2000

Salford University advertise for lecturer to undertake project development.

September 2000

Salford University to take six deaf students into their mental health nursing programme.