

Duke University Medical Center

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA  
27710

PHYSICIAN'S ASSOCIATE PROGRAM  
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MEMORANDUM TO: Thomas K. Kinney, M.D.  
FROM: D. Robert Howard, M.D.  
SUBJECT: Development of the Bachelor of Health Sciences Degree  
DATE: December 13, 1971

Prior to 1969, two attempts were made to gain academic recognition at the baccalaureate level for various Medical School programs. One proposal submitted to the University by the Medical School around 1965 was to establish an independent degree. A second proposal initiated around 1967 by the Department of Radiology was to establish a new major in Radiology Health Safety for the existing Bachelor of Science degree granted by Trinity College. Both of these proposals were turned down somewhere along the way. I am unfamiliar with the details as these efforts were made prior to my coming to Duke.

In September, 1969 the Department of Community Health Sciences made a formal proposal to the Medical School to establish a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences degree. This was proposed as a means of providing students enrolled in the P.A. Program with academic recognition and was deemed more functional than seeking a new major for existing degrees in Trinity College. The lack of appropriate academic credentials was a primary factor in not receiving federal support.

When the proposal for the new degree was brought to Provost Marcus Hobbs' attention, he decided that the possibility of a cooperative program with Trinity College should be explored first and directed the matter to the Policy Committee of the Undergraduate Faculty Council who met on February 10, 1970.

Because of the complexities of the issues involved an ad hoc Advisory Committee with representation from the Curriculum Committee, Policy Committee, and an Undergraduate Faculty Council as a whole was developed to study the matters further. This Committee met on February 24, 1970 and recommended that the proposals submitted by the Department of Community Health Sciences and the Department of Radiology be rewritten as new majors for existing degrees and be submitted to the Curriculum Committee. The approval process for the new majors was to be first by the Curriculum Committee, then by the Policy Committee, and finally by the Undergraduate Faculty Council.

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On March 14, 1970 the Curriculum Committee considered these proposals as they did again on March 17th, 24th, 31st and April 7th. The issues were subsequently discussed with other members of the ad hoc Advisory Committee and on May 4th the Curriculum Committee recommended to Dr. Hobbs that because of the professional nature of the programs involved it would be best to have a new degree established which could be administered by the Medical School.

On the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee, Dr. Hobbs appointed a University Committee on June 15, 1970 to develop and recommend details of the new degree. Dr. Hobbs appointed Dr. Terry W. Johnson as the Chairman of the Committee and Drs. James Bonk, Clark Cahow, Kathryn Crossland, Harvey Estes, Robert Howard, Clark Havighurst, Richard Lester, Gregory Lockhead, and John McKinney as members. This Committee met on several occasions throughout the summer months and developed a proposal for a new degree, called Bachelor of Health Sciences, which would be granted by the University and administered by the Medical School. The final recommendations of the Committee were unanimously approved on August 21, 1970.

In accordance with the "Procedures for Approving New Degrees", adopted by the Faculty on June 2, 1961, the proposal was submitted to the Medical School and the Academic Council for approval. Both of these groups approved the recommendation and statements of nihil obstat were received from Provost John Blackburn and President Terry Sanford.

After distribution the proposal was approved by the university faculty at its fall meeting held on October 29, 1970 and submitted to the Board of Trustees where it received its final approval on December 12, 1970.

*Bob*

D. Robert Howard, M.D.

DRH:lf

CC: Dr. Roger Bulger

*VA - Policy - 1/2 M  
1/4 as Ego point*

*Approved on Policy Committee  
Somm. 1970 -*

*Openly Committee  
Approved Dec 1970 -  
Bulger  
Lambert*

*Same letter as other statement on Chem*