

cc: Dr. Manson Meads, *Vice Pres.*
Dr. Richard Janeway, *Dean*
Dr. Nathaniel Smith (all: *Assoc. Dean*) Bowman Gray School of Medicine
300 South Hawthorne Road
Winston-Salem, N. C. 27103

April 10, 1978

Dr. Keith D. Blaney
Dean, School of Public and Allied Health
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University Station
Birmingham, Alabama 35294

Dear Dr. Blaney:

At its next meeting, the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation will consider approval of provisional accreditation for a Physician's Assistant Program at Catawba Valley Technical Institute in Hickory, North Carolina.

Attached are several documents, including a resolution passed by the Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society on April 17, 1977. This resolution remains as the official position of the Society on this matter.

I would also like to call to your attention the fact that, contrary to implications that an affiliation exists between Bowman Gray School of Medicine and this program, such an affiliation does not exist. I believe that you will have available copies of a contract, between CVTI and Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Please note that this contract provides consultation services only. This contract involves services by two members of the Bowman Gray faculty, for a limited period of time, and for a limited sum of \$5,000 per year. These services terminate in November 1978, with no mention of renewal. There is no implication of an institutional responsibility for selection of students, content of curriculum, use of Bowman Gray faculty in teaching within the program, or standards of student performance. Conversations with institutional leaders at Bowman Gray confirm that the Bowman Gray School of Medicine does not assume these obligations.

We hope that you will take these facts into account in considering the application for accreditation by this institution. These same facts have been pointed out to Mr. L. M. Detmer. It was his opinion that the Joint Review Committee for Physician's Assistant Programs does not have the prerogative of directly contacting Bowman Gray regarding this contract and its interpretation by that school, but I am sure that they would be glad to clarify this relationship if you should contact them.

With best regards,

Very truly yours,

E. Harvey Estes, Jr., M.D.

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL SOCIETY,

ADOPTED April 17, 1977

The Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society applauds the concern which caused the Board of Education, the Pitt County and Catawba Valley Technical Institute, and the State Office of Emergency Medical Services to propose creation of physician assistant programs at Greenville and Hickory to solve perceived programs in access to health care at the local level.

The Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society further supports the concept of regionalized education for health professionals, in order to make educational programs available and accessible to residents of smaller communities, particularly in the eastern and western parts of the state. The Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society also encourages the effort to involve private practitioners in their communities in the education of health professionals, acknowledging that their perceptions and orientations to health care can make a major contribution to the educational process that is difficult to achieve in the medical center setting. However, the Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society wishes to express its concern on several points, and to make positive suggestions which we feel will enhance the effort already undertaken and insure success of achieving the goals established.

First, there is no adequate justification of the need for the two new programs. In the past decade, a number of approaches and programs have already been instituted in North Carolina to deal with the problem of access to care. These include, but are not limited to, the new medical school at East Carolina University, P. A. Programs at Duke and Bowman Gray, Nurse Practitioner Programs at Greenville, Chapel Hill and Asheville, the AHEC Program, and the Rural Health Program. The impact of these existing programs has not been fully documented, but preliminary data and anecdotal evidence suggest improvement in access. The Council acknowledges the difficulty of needs assessment, but feels strongly that increased effort is necessary to document need before further training programs for health professionals are established.

Second, the Council believes that all training programs for physician's assistants should have a specific and defined relationship to an institution of higher learning, approved for the granting of the M.D. degree. The relationship might be in one of two formats: (1) direct sponsorship of the training program by the medical school; or (2) specific articles of affiliation between the regional program and the medical school.

In summary, the Executive Council does not feel that it can approve the proposed programs at Catawba Valley or Pitt County Technical Institutes until formal affiliation with a medical school, and full certification of the program by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs for Physician's Assistants Programs is accomplished.

It is further resolved that copies of this policy statement be sent to Pitt County and Catawba Valley Technical Institutes, to the Accrediting Agency, to the State Board of Medical Examiners, to the Department of Community Colleges, and to the Office of Emergency Medical Services.



MEDICAL CENTER

Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest University
North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, Inc.

Dr. Carter
file B65M

Office of the Director
Telephone: (919) 727-4301

October 18, 1976

Dr. Harvey Estes, Jr.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Community Health Sciences
Post Office Box 2914
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina 27710

Dear Harvey:

I have your letter regarding the Physician Assistant program at the Catawba County Technical Institute. Bowman Gray is not sponsoring this program. Emery Miller and Jim Leist have given me the following information:

- The proposed program is to train physician assistants for emergency rooms, and they expect to enroll the first class of students in December. It is not known if they have obtained "provisional approval" from the Board of Medical Examiners if such is required.
- The program is funded through the State Office of Emergency Medical Services.
- State funds from this source also funded in part, the development of our self-instructional texts with which you are familiar. We understand the Technical Institute has adopted these texts, as they have now been published by the Year Book Medical Publishers.
- Several faculty members in our Division of Allied Health have been asked to serve as consultants to the program.
- The Northwest AHEC was asked to help support salaries of teachers and refused. AHEC, however, agreed to place some materials in our base medical library at Catawba Memorial Hospital as a regional resource for all PA's in a multicounty area, including any students from the Technical Institute or other PA programs.

October 18, 1976

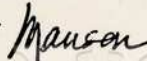
Dick Janeway and I fully agree with your concerns. We agree with the Association of American Medical Colleges that the core training of a Physician Assistant should be in an Academic Medical Center and the total program under its direct supervision. As you know, there is no way we can control what programs a state agency decides to establish in a Technical Institute or Community College. I expressed my concern about the proposed Catawba program at least a year ago when it was reported as information at an AHEC steering committee meeting. It was my hope at the time that it would receive the attention of the Board of Medical Examiners.

I was not aware of the Pitt County program. I brought up the matter of the supply of, and demand for, PA's and FNP's in the state at a meeting of the North Carolina Joint Conference Committee six months ago. Bill Anlyan indicated that you had a grant to begin such a study and I hope you have been able to get it underway.

We still strongly support the Physician Assistant concept and the type of program being conducted at Bowman Gray; however, I sense that the medical profession and third party payers are getting restless mainly because of circumstances occurring after we graduate our students which are beyond our control. Your Institute of Medicine study is very timely, and I hope we can have an opportunity to talk further on this matter.

My best regards,

Sincerely,



Manson Meads, M.D., Director and
Vice President for Health Affairs

MM/lis

CC: Dr. Richard Janeway