1989

Deans Meeting (4-10-89); Series I; File 62

Juanita Hunter

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March 31, 1989

Lucille A. Joel, EdD, RN
President
American Nurses’ Association
2420 Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

Dear Lucille:

On behalf of the NYSNA Board of Directors, I wish to convey our Board’s expressed concerns about the February 16 letter sent to you by the Council of Deans of Nursing: Senior Colleges and Universities in New York State and your response to that letter. The Board has several concerns related both to the letter and your response.

Specifically, I did not have an opportunity to discuss the issues discussed in the letter with you before you accepted the invitation to attend this meeting. I believe this procedure to discuss politically sensitive issues with states before accepting invitations is now established ANA policy. Secondly, a discussion of the letter and the appropriateness of your attendance at this meeting could have prevented concerned responses to your acceptance of this invitation. And third, the potential for even greater misunderstanding, negativism and conflict between our organizations could have resulted from such a meeting with explosive agenda items not generated to all parties involved.

Now that this letter and the purpose of the meeting have been reviewed by the NYSNA Board, the Board affirms that discussion of a new organization by this group would be premature and inappropriate at this time. I will come prepared to discuss NYSNA’s position on the membership issue and the Board’s response to the COAR recommendations. I trust that you can appreciate the sensitive nature of the letter and the response of our Board. I trust that now our meeting will be productive.

Sincerely yours,

Juanita K. Hunter, EdD, RN
President

cc: Lucille Joel
March 31, 1989

Judith A. Ryan, Ph.D., R.N.
Executive Director
American Nurses' Association
7420 Pershing Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64108

Dear Dr. Ryan:

The Board of Directors of The New York State Nurses Association has asked that I communicate to you this Association's concern about recent communications between ANA and the Council of Deans of Nursing: Senior Colleges and Universities in New York State.

As I understand the direction of the ANA House of Delegates, invitations to the ANA President to participate in an official capacity in meetings within states would not be accepted until consultation with the State Nurses Association of that state had been made. In the instant case, such an invitation was made to the President of ANA to meet with the Council of Deans. The letter of invitation itself revealed that the proposed agenda of the meeting included consideration of possible means to establish another organization of nurses in this state, and further indicated that this request arose from certain concerns and dissatisfactions of the Council of Deans with The New York State Nurses Association.

Regrettably, no consultation with NYSNA concerning acceptance of this invitation occurred. In fact, Dr. Joel's planned participation in this meeting was not even listed on the printed notification of the President's calendar, nor was a second scheduled visit to one of this Association's constituent district nurses associations listed. That this communication gap occurred is particularly problematic since the proposed agenda of the meeting differed substantially from that communicated by a separate letter to the President of NYSNA.
Judith A. Ryan  
March 31, 1989  
Page Two

I spoke with Linda Shinn about this situation and was advised that the gap in communication was a product of oversight, not intent. However, it should be made clear that a procedural error has in fact generated a difficult and potentially even more divisive situation for all concerned. On other occasions, copies of members' letters to ANA officials have been shared with us, providing an opportunity for the Association to address difficult problems outside of the context of a public meeting.

I sincerely hope that this incident will prompt a careful review of ANA's internal procedures needed to avoid any similar oversights.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Orr
Executive Director

March 14, 1989

Loren J. McClean, Ed.D., R.N.
Dean
School of Nursing
SUNY, Stony Brook
Stony Brook, New York 11790-8240

REGARDING: 4/10/89 MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF DEANS

Dear Loren:

I read your memo to Council of Deans membership concerning the meeting with Dr. Lucille Joel, President of the American Nurses Association and the next joint council meeting scheduled for October 10, 1989. Enclosed in the packet were copies of letters sent by you to Dr. Juanita Hunter, President of the New York State Nurses Association and to Dr. Lucille Joel, President of the American Nurses Association. Due to scheduling conflicts and my inability to rearrange an important conference to take place on April 10th, I regret that I will be unable to attend the Council meeting.

Although I was not present for the afternoon session of the last Council of Deans meeting, I was very dismayed by your letter to Dr. Joel and I want you to know that I am not interested, as a member of both the New York State Council of Deans and the New York State Nurses Association, in starting another organization to affiliate with the American Nurses Association. I am also very concerned about the separation between the New York State Nurses Association and the Council of Deans.

I would appreciate a telephone call from you, in order to discuss this matter. I feel that you should be aware of my concerns about the content and tone of your letter to Dr. Joel. I think it is so negative for the NYSNA, that it can only serve to widen the gap between the two organizations instead of moving towards mutually accepted goals.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kira Bella Weizmann, Ed.D., R.N., D.A.A.A.
Dean and Professor

cc: Caryle G. Kolahan, Ed.D., R.N.
TO: Executive Directors
State Nurses' Associations

FROM: Cheryl Bevel
Director
Office of Constituent Relations

DATE: February 3, 1989

RE: ANA's Intent to Visit States in Quarter 1, 1989

At its December, 1988 meeting, the ANA Board of Directors adopted the following protocol proposed by the Constituent Forum:

ANA elected and appointed officials and staff who travel to a state, in their official capacity, to accept an invitation extended by an organization other than the SNA will communicate with the appropriate SNA headquarters office in advance concerning the appearance, unless the visit is considered to be confidential, e.g. visits related to ANA accreditation, etc.

Attached is a listing of 19 visits to states to be made by ANA officials and staff in the first quarter (January-March) of 1989. In the future, this information will be provided along with the quarterly notification of ANA's intent to contact SNA members. Note that the information included in this listing addresses visits to states made in response to invitations that did not come from the SNA; for example, an invitation to participate in a meeting sponsored by a specialty nursing organization.

The next quarterly notification, covering visits to states planned for April-June 1989, will be sent to you in March, 1989.

int 3
State of Destination and Dates of Visit

ILLINOIS -- Chicago; 3/16/89

MARYLAND -- Bethesda; 1/24-25/89

NEW JERSEY -- 3/30/89

NEW YORK -- Brooklyn; 3/2/89

NEW YORK -- New York; 3/22/89

NEW YORK -- Orangeburg; 3/28/89

PENNSYLVANIA -- Philadelphia; 1/31/89

RHODE ISLAND -- 1/7/89

ANA Official/Staff Member and Purpose of Visit:

Lucille Joel, ANA President and Judith Ryan, Executive Director, will participate in a joint meeting with ANA officials.

Lucille Joel, ANA President; and Judith Ryan, Executive Director; Ethel Wake Dumas, AAN President; Ethel Moore Shaw-Nickerson, ANF President; and Eleanor Sullivan, Chairperson, Cabinet on Nursing Research, will participate in the National Center for Nursing's Nursing Research Roundtable.

Lucille Joel, ANA President, will participate in the New Jersey Nursing Students Convention.

Lucille Joel, ANA President, will present the keynote address as Distinguished Lecturer, at the State University of New York Health Science Center.

Lucille Joel, ANA President, will meet with the Occupational Health Nurses' Association.

Lucille Joel, ANA President, will meet with Zeta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

Linda Shinn, Deputy Executive Director, will meet with Tishman Speyer Mediq.

Lucille Joel, ANA President, will participate in the University of Rhode Island Nursing School graduation.