example, est-ce que les patients ont pratiqué les exercices respiratoire-
re? Semblaient-ils moins tendus après l'opération? En d'autres ter-
mes, les objectifs du programme ont-ils été atteints? et surtout
avaient-ils été clairement définis?

Il est commun d'entendre dire que le nursing a peu de contenu
théorique. L'évaluation des effets d'une intervention semble être un
élément de base dans la poursuite d'une action nursing rationnel.

RESPONSE TO "THREE PATIENT CONFERENCES"
JEAN GODARD*

There is a growing concern on the part of all social researchers,
nurses included, that their work should contribute to the solution of
practical problems. Accordingly, Ms Choi-Lao has attempted to pro-
vide for improved patient education both pre-operatively and post-
operatively through the use of group discussion methods.

The problem as stated was "to find a different approach to that
of traditional bedside teaching so that the needs of both the patient
and the nurse might be better satisfied." Ms Choi-Lao attempts to
utilize her prior knowledge of the values of group discussion in such
an educational situation, but the question as put is difficult to answer.
It is relatively non-specific and difficult to answer on the basis of
knowledge alone, as it involves values as well, i.e. how is "better
satisfied" to be defined and quantified? This paper, in fact, is a
description of the vicissitudes found in an attempted introduction of
change. It is difficult to see where it is more than a presentation of
the values of group discussion in problem-solving for a very specific
group of patients.

The author offers little description as to the planning done with
the patients, if any; no attempt is offered in describing how the
patients saw their needs or would attempt to solve their problems.
The behavioral descriptions are non-specific, not quantified, and
relate almost totally to the students and their evaluations — little
validity is offered as to the value of group discussion in patient
teaching of surgical patients. The statement is made, "special attention
was paid to both content and method of presentation to ensure
patient-centredness." Unfortunately, no specifics of description are
offered the reader either as to patient participation in planning or
implementation. We are told that the ward staff are consulted as to
time of presentation, but no mention is made of consulting the pa-
tients. The lack of attention to patient care and consultation is

* Jean Godard taught at McGill University School of Nursing until 1973.
epitomized by the neglect in the physical comfort offered to patient
group members with varicosity problems.

In a review of the bibliography, I found little support in the litera-
ture for methods of change innovation, which is the essence of this
report.

The design as a research paper appears non-specific, and methods
of data collection and statistical verification are not described so that
one cannot review how appropriate they are to the problems being
studied; nor are the limitations of this study discussed by the author.

The statement on page 23 that such conferences satisfied simul-
taneously the needs of both patients and students leads one to ask
"what needs? which students? and which patients?"

---

**QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY**

is accepting applications for two faculty appointments in
the School of Nursing. Desired qualifications: competence as clinician and teacher in nursing of children or
psychiatric nursing, a good foundation in the life
sciences, experience in community health nursing, mas-
ter’s degree required. Rank and salary commensurate
with qualifications, Send resumé and references. Dean,
School of Nursing, Queen’s University, Kingston, Onta-
rio, K7L 3N6.

---

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING**

invites applications for faculty positions in

MEDICAL/SURGICAL NURSING
MATERIAL AND CHILD NURSING
PSYCHIATRIC NURSING

Master’s or Doctoral Degree, with Clinical Nursing ex-
perience, Curriculum Development, and Research to teach
in Baccalaureate Program.

Rank and Salary commensurate with education and
experience.

Appointment — July 1, 1976.

Apply to: Mr. Donald E. Ayre
Secretary of the University
Lakehead University
THUNDER BAY, Ontario
P7B 5E1