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S.T. PAUL CAMPUS COMPUTING NEWSLETTER

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University of Minnesota

26 North Hall
St. Paul Campus
373-0987 - 0990

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. MERITSS Users Association Spring Meeting on Campus

The Applied Statistics Department will host the Second Annual Spring Meeting of the MERITSS Users Association in the new Classroom Office Building, St. Paul Campus, on Saturday, May 11. MERITSS (an acronym for Minnesota Educational Regional Interactive Time Sharing System) is the time sharing network in which the University participates. The MERITSS Users Association helps further the diverse interests of the various users of the system. Particularly useful are efforts facilitating the exchange of information about available programs and new developments. The program for the meeting is uncertain as yet, but will likely have several demonstrations and/or tutorial sessions on programs of general interest. All users of MERITSS are encouraged to mark the day on their calendars and plan to attend. The full program will be published in the MERITSS newsletter.

COMPUTING CENTER (North Hall)

1. WEATHER DATA FILE AVAILABLE

A cooperative effort by Computing Center personnel and Dr. Donald Baker and his staff in soil science has produced a weather data file containing daily weather information (maximum temperature, minimum temperature, and amount of precipitation) for 10 Minnesota weather station locations. Although there is an occasional daily weather data record missing from some locations, all records are available for all stations in the 30-year period from January 1, 1941 to December 31, 1970.

The table below indicates the inclusive dates of the daily weather information records that are available by location.

Station name	Inclusive dates	Total weather records available
Bird Island	01-05-1901 - 12-31-1970	25,249
Cloquet	04-01-1911 - 12-31-1970	21,758
Crookston	01-01-1890 - 12-31-1970	24,295
Grand Rapids	06-01-1915 - 12-31-1970	20,277
Itasca	01-01-1912 - 12-31-1970	21,023
Minneapolis	01-01-1891 - 12-31-1970	27,668
Morris	01-01-1886 - 12-31-1970	30,817
Pine River	01-01-1901 - 12-31-1970	25,482
Waseca	01-02-1915 - 12-31-1970	20,409
Worthington	01-01-1894 - 12-31-1970	27,174

Researchers wishing to use the weather data file should contact Dr. Donald Baker in soil science (373-1356), so that proper arrangements may be made with Computing Center operations.

2. FORTRAN PROGRAMMED INSTRUCTION COURSE

The Computing Center has FORTRAN Programmed Instruction courses available (self-taught computer programming courses) that may be loaned out or purchased. If you are interested in learning to program a computer, these manuals will be of great benefit to you. To obtain manuals, please contact our secretary, Mrs. Eva Klein, 26 North Hall.

MINNESOTA ANALYSIS AND PLANNING SYSTEM (MAPS)

1. SPECIAL FIFTH COUNT CENSUS DATA

1970 Census of Population Fifth Count Data are available at Block Group and enumeration district levels. These same data were previously available only by zip code areas and not for geographic areas as small as Block Groups and enumeration districts. Socioeconomic characteristics were not previously available from published reports or summary tapes.

2. SIXTH COUNT CENSUS DATA

Extensive crosstabulations of housing and population data are now available from newly developed files based on the Sixth Count of the 1970 Census of Population. Geographic areas represented include SMSA's, central cities, places of 50,000 or more, metropolitan counties, nonmetropolitan counties of 50,000 or more. Data can be displayed for total, Negro, Spanish American populations and households.

3. MAPS USERS SEMINAR

The MAPS Users Seminar will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on April 2, 1974, in 401 Coffey Hall. The user may schedule additional consultation time with an appropriate MAPS staff member to learn about MAPS and its services in meeting specific needs.

The users seminar is a shortcourse to acquaint both current and potential MAPS clientele with our data base and services. The seminar is led by MAPS staff members David Nelson and Tom Ehlen in an informal atmosphere.

The morning will be used to acquaint participants with the general background of MAPS and the 1970 Census. The census data, its organization, and its availability are discussed. Sample output is provided from actual client usage. Participants are encouraged to ask questions of specific interest.

The afternoon will be used to acquaint participants with the supporting services that MAPS is able to provide. Information systems and data processing are given general descriptions. The MAPS library of data files, other than census files, is described and is used to introduce Qwick Query as a usable data information and retrieval system. The potential use of Qwick Query is described.

The general intent of the seminar is to bring the participant to the point of taking full advantage of the services and data that can be provided by MAPS.

4. XEROX COPY SERVICE

Copy your computer printout at MAPS. Facilities allow continuous feed of printout. Do not burst. 8½ x 11 inch copies are available from the 11 x 15 inch printouts. Charges are 2 to 3 cents per copy with a \$1 minimum charge.

5. FEDERAL STATISTICS USER'S CONFERENCE

MAPS is now a member of the Federal Statistics User's Conference (FSUC). Conference objectives are to obtain improvements in federal statistics, secure effective use of collected data, seek broader development of regional and area data from existing efforts, and work against duplication in statistics program. Direct suggestions to help meet these objectives to MAPS.

Topics at the 9th Annual FSUC Conference March 5, 1974, Washington, D.C., included the economic report of the President, the annual report of the Council of Economic Advisers, and the budget of the U.S. for fiscal year 1975. Contact MAPS for the proceedings of the meeting.

CLASSROOM OFFICE BUILDING COMPUTING FACILITIES

The MERITSS Lab and the 1004 terminal in 125 Classroom Office Building will be open on a reduced schedule during the quarter break. The hours for spring quarter will be approximately the same as for winter quarter. When the new schedules are known, they will be posted. Similarly, the hours of Statistical Computing Consultation and the Statistical Consulting Clinic will be posted when known. See the last Newsletter for the current hours.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES COMPUTING FACILITY

The Biological Sciences computing facility (253 Bio Center) will be open 24 hours a day. The building will be locked, however, after 6:00 p.m. People wishing to use the terminal after this time should contact Howard Meyer (Office 256) or Ralph Comstock (Office 274) for temporary use of a building key. Users are asked to turn off equipment when finished after 4:30 p.m. A limited supply of cards is available (users are asked to furnish their own cards for large jobs).

GENERAL INFORMATION OF COMPUTING EQUIPMENT BY LOCATION

Equipment Type	Location	Key Staff Personnel	Hours of Service	Telephone
IBM 360/30 computer	22 North Hall	Dave Schempp (consultant)	7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	373-0987
		Operations staff	7:00 a.m.—Midnight	373-0990
		Key punch supervisors	7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	373-0992
		Account clerk	7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	373-0990
Univac 1004 terminal	24 North Hall	Jim Colten (consultant)	7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	373-0987
		Operations staff	7:00 a.m.—Midnight	373-0990
CDC 200 terminal	415 Coffey Hall	Dave Nelson	7:45 a.m.—9:30 p.m.	376-7003
		Tom Ehlen	7:45 a.m.—9:30 p.m.	376-7003
		Elaine Greenfield (principal secretary)	7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (after hours use by arrangement)	376-7003
Univac 1004 terminal	125G Classroom Office Building	Consultant	8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Mon, Fri	376-7087
		L. Viemeister	8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Tues, Thu	373-1037
		C. Bingham	8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. Wed	373-0988
			9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon, Sat	
Interactive instructional lab	125E Classroom Office Building	Consultant	8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Mon, Fri	373-0829
		L. Viemeister	8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Tues, Thu	373-1037
		C. Bingham	8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. Wed	373-0988
			9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon, Sat	
Hewlett-Packard 9100B	125A Classroom Office Building	L. Viemeister	By arrangement	373-1037
Univac 1004 terminal	257 Biological Science	Howard Meyer (consultant)	8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	376-3067

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