ST. PAUL CAMPUS COMPUTING NEWSLETTER

COMPUTING NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST

The publishing of the St. Paul Campus Computing Newsletter represents a consolidated effort by all computing-related groups on the St. Paul Campus. This issue of the newsletter is being distributed more widely than usual to reach individuals who may be interested in continuing to receive it but who are not presently on our mailing list. We also ask people who receive this newsletter to pass it on to colleagues who may be interested in being added to our mailing list.

We invite anyone with computing-related material for the newsletter or suggestions for future issues to contact Mel Sauve, 27 North Hall, 373-0987.

COMPUTING CENTER (North Hall)

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   a. We are now entering our heavy computing season for the IBM 360/30. Generally the 360 system is made available for short-term computing work from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily. Lengthy computer runs normally are scheduled after 7:00 p.m. Occasionally it will be necessary to reserve the 360/30 system between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. for lengthy runs that cannot be completed during the processing day. When a major scheduling change such as this is made, it will be posted in room 22. All special requirements for scheduling computer runs should be brought to the attention of the operations supervisor, Dick Rignell (373-0987).
   b. NO SMOKING signs have been posted in the 360 computer room area recently. We ask that users refrain from smoking while reviewing output listings in this area.
   c. Beginning October 4, the operations section of the St. Paul Campus Computing Center will be open from 7:45 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Friday. With the addition of a new computer operator this fall, we plan to expand weekend and weeknight hours. The new hours will be posted.
   d. Users are invited to use the suggestion box located in the lounge area.

2. INTRODUCTORY AND ORIENTATION SEMINAR

   An introductory seminar for new and prospective users of the equipment and services available in the Computing Center is scheduled for Monday, November 1 from 3:05 to 4:30 p.m., in room 6A, North Hall. Those wishing to attend this seminar should call or write Mrs. Eva Klein, 27 North Hall (373-0987), providing her with your name, department, and telephone number.

   The subject matter of the seminar will relate to the following topics:

   Equipment
   a. IBM 360 model 30
   b. Univac 1004 terminal
   c. Teletype Terminal (MIRJE)
   d. Hewlett-Packard programmable calculator

   e. Unit-record equipment (sorters, reproducers, etc.)
   f. Keypunch equipment
   g. Miscellaneous equipment (copier, burster, decollator, etc.)

   Services
   a. Application programming
   b. Computer programming consulting
   c. Keypunching
   d. Unit-record and computer equipment operations
   e. Software available

   Miscellaneous
   a. Card and paper supplies available
   b. Magnetic tape, card, and printout storage facilities
   c. Open-shop operations
   d. Account numbers and cost of services
   e. Access to facilities and hours of work
   f. Tours, demonstrations, and short courses available

3. DATA ENTRY CONVENTIONS AND WORKLOADS

   Because invariably we have a heavy fall rush for keypunching services, we request that users submit their data as early as possible. Early submittal of work should enable the Center to meet most deadlines. This will also give data entry supervisors maximum flexibility for setting priorities and scheduling work assignments.

   Generally the Center's first priority is to keep its ongoing, recurring projects as up-to-date as possible and also to oblige the user with small amounts of data to be punched. Most of the other data entry demands fall into a first-come, first-served category.

   In submitting punching jobs to our data entry section, it is best (speedier, less apt to err, and generally less expensive) if the following rules are adhered to:
   a. The letters 'I' and 'O' should be recorded as I and $\emptyset$.
   b. The numbers one and zero should be recorded as I and 0.
   c. Dashes or lines should not be used to indicate missing data or blank columns; instead the corresponding space should be left blank.
   d. When card corrections are indicated on the card itself, they should be written on the opposite end of the card.
   e. When possible it is desirable that 40 x 80 sheets (that can contain forty 80-column card images and are available free from the Center) be utilized for recording data. These sheets are large enough so data can be legibly recorded with adequate dimensions. Using these sheets generally will effect a substantial reduction in cost to the user.
   f. FORTRAN programs should be coded on FORTRAN coding sheets when available.
   g. Data containing special characters, such as FORTRAN programs, that are to be run on the CDC equipment should be noted as such. By this, operators will be alerted to the need of using the 48-character punch codes that are compatible to the CDC equipment. Unless indicated otherwise, the 64-character punch codes (those common to IBM 360 operation) will be assumed.

4. REMOTE ENTRY 1004 TERMINAL
   a. North Hall continues to operate on an open-shop basis in room 24 and welcomes all University staff and student users.
   Operations personnel will assist any user who requests help. Please ask.
   b. Access to the terminal room and operations personnel supporting services are available from 7:45 a.m. until midnight, Monday through Friday and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. until noon. (Keys may be checked out for weekend access.) Night operators may be summoned to admit users by the night bell on the door immediately below and beside the steps leading to the Photographic Laboratories in North Hall.
   c. The keypunch equipment (three model 26's), storage facilities, and work area at the terminal site are for the convenience of the terminal users. Please keep this area neat and clear of waste cards and paper. Do not leave cards or terminal output on the work tables; please use the rightmost storage rack near the terminal for short-term storage or the storage facilities in room 14.

5. HEWLETT-PACKARD EQUIPMENT

The operation and programming of the Hewlett-Packard programmable calculator (with digitizer and X-Y plotter) are demonstrated periodically. Those wanting a demonstration of this equipment should contact Jim Colten, consultant (373-0990), for making the necessary arrangements.

6. COMPUTER OUTPUT MICROFILMING (COM)

Are you being bogged down with computer printouts? Do you need backup copies of printouts? Are you running short of space for storing computer output? Maybe its time to consider COM (Computer Output Microfilming).

This summer, the Computer Center began COM operations on some of the high volume reports produced on the IBM 360/30. Our experiences with it have been very good. It is a reliable and economical way of handling most problems associated with large volumes of computer output.

If you have an interest in this type of technology, please contact us for more details.

MINNESOTA ANALYSIS & PLANNING SYSTEM (MAPS)

U.S. CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

The Minnesota County Preliminary Reports for the 1974 Census of Agriculture are currently available at the MAPS office. The Reports, four pages each in length, contain data for all farms with sales of $2,500 and more.

The tables include data for number of farms, farm acreage, farm operators, land in farms, size of farms, land use practices, income and sales, expenditure, machinery and equipment, livestock, poultry, crops harvested, nursery and greenhouse products, and forest products.

The State Reports will be sent to the MAPS office upon completion, probably in December. The computer tapes will not be available, however, until early in 1977.

A conference on the 1974 Agriculture Census will be held November 9 at the Marriott Inn in Bloomington. Co-sponsored by the Upper Midwest Council and the U.S. Census Bureau, the conference will cover data availability and information on agricultural trends indicated by the census.

For further information on the conference, contact the Upper Midwest Council (373-3724).

MAPS DATA FILE INVENTORY

The August 1976 issue of the Minnesota Analysis and Planning System's Data File Inventory has recently been published and is available.

The Inventory booklet contains an abstract of each data file in MAPS extensive data base, including such files as county business patterns from the Economic Development Administration and Minnesota migration, employment, and income data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Each abstract gives the file name and source of the information, the date of acquisition, a description of the file, years available, and geographic level.

For a copy of the MAPS Data File Inventory, call or write the MAPS office.

MAPS USERS SEMINAR

The MAPS users seminar has been set for the following 1976-77 dates: October 19, December 14, February 8, April 12, and June 14. With the exception of the October seminar, which will be held in room 299, Coffey Hall, the sessions will be in room 401, Coffey Hall.

The presentation has been updated recently to include information on MAPS new data files, such as those from the Minnesota Information Services Division and the 1974 Agriculture Census.

To register or for additional information, call the MAPS office (612) 376-7003. There is no charge for the seminar which runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

DATA ACQUISITION PROJECT COMPLETE

The data acquisition project, which entailed the copying of a number of computerized data files from the Information Services Division (ISD), Minnesota State Department of Administration, is now essentially complete.

The project, funded by a grant from the Intergovernmental Information Systems Advisory Council (IISAC), makes available for public and private research and planning some 40 data files at MAPS.

Data files were transferred from the Department of Education, Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Highway Department, Department of Public Safety, and the Revenue Department.

Each of the files transferred has been documented. Confidentiality of the data was carefully checked because the funding agreement specified that MAPS would not receive or accept any confidential data.

For further information on the files that are available, including school fall reports, the state outdoor recreation facility file, and accident records, contact the MAPS office.

MINNESOTA ECONOMIC DATA PUBLICATION

The state's employment picture between the years 1969 and 1973 is presented in the September 1976 issue of Minnesota Economic Data, Counties and Regions (MED).

The picture that is drawn from data obtained from the Minnesota Department of Manpower Services and the Bureau of Economic Analysis covers such aspects as participation rates, population estimates, and type of employment in 1969 and 1973.

CLASSROOM OFFICE BUILDING COMPUTING FACILITIES

Extensive facilities for computing and consulting are available to the St. Paul Campus community in room 125, Classroom Office Building. The facilities available and their schedules are as follows:

INTERACTIVE COMPUTING LABORATORY

Room 125E houses the St. Paul Campus Instructional Time Sharing Laboratory, sponsored jointly by the University Computer Center and the Department of Applied Statistics. The lab has 12 terminals offering hard-wired and dial-up connections to the MERITSS CYBER 72 computer, and the MECC Univac 1110. A variety of terminals are available including an APL/graphics terminal (Tectronix 4013), several 132-character per line printing terminals (Decwriters, TTY38 and a DI/AN 9030), and two Hazeltine CRTs (with hard copy capability).

The lab will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on MWF, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on TTh, and from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Undergraduate consultants will be on duty for approximately 50 hours per week including all evening and early morning hours; the consultants' schedule will vary slightly from quarter to quarter and will be posted in the lab.

The interactive lab may be reserved by instructors for classroom use by calling S. Weisberg, 373-1068. Please note that classes will not be scheduled in the lab for consecutive hours, so that not all hours will be available. Students or faculty members can reserve individual terminals in advance for times when no class is scheduled by signing up in the reservation book in room 125E.

For after hours use, a key to the lab may be signed out overnight or for the weekend in room 352 before 4:15 p.m.; students will be required to leave their student I.D. card to check out a key.

REMOTE ENTRY

A Univac 1004 terminal permitting communication with the University's CDC CYBER 74 computer is located in room 125G. Two model 026 keypunch machines are also available for short-term use. For consultants, hours, and keys, see the interactive lab information above.

STATISTICAL COMPUTING CONSULTANTS

As a service to the St. Paul Campus community, the University Computer Center and the Department of Applied Statistics provide statistical computing consultants. These consultants, graduate students in the School of Statistics, can provide assistance in the use of most of the standard statistical computing programs available at the University including SPSS, BMD, OMNITAB, IMSL, UMST, SNAP, ISIS. In addition, some advice on data management, tape handling, etc., will be available.

Consultants' hours vary from quarter to quarter and will be posted on the door to room 125C.

Any questions or problems concerning statistical computing consulting should be directed to S. Weisberg (373-1068).

THE STATISTICAL CLINIC

The Statistical Clinic is supervised and scheduled by the Statistical Center, the consulting arm of the School of Statistics. The Clinic is a service available to the entire University community, especially graduate students with problems that arise in their research. Frank Martin (373-1048) is a source of further information on this service. The Clinic is staffed by statistics graduate students and should be the first place to turn for statistical advice. Hours vary from quarter to quarter and can be obtained by calling 373-1037.

If substantial need can be established, students and faculty who regularly require access to the Classroom Office Building computer facility outside scheduled hours may obtain a key from the Applied Statistics secretary in room 352.

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 5:00 p.m. People wishing to use the terminal after this time should contact Nancy Hartung (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. Users are asked to furnish their own cards.

MAILING LIST CHANGES

If you want to make changes on our newsletter mailing list, please check the appropriate box, print your name, address and department, then return this section to Mrs. Eva Klein, 27 North Hall, St. Paul Campus.

☐ Remove the following name(s) from the mailing list.

☐ Add the following name(s) to the mailing list.

☐ Make the following corrections.

Name_____

Department_____

Campus Address_____

Name_____

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GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COMPUTING EQUIPMENT BY LOCATION

Equipment Type	Location	Hours of Service	Key Staff Personnel	Telephone
IBM 360/30 computer	22 North Hall	8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Dave Schempp (consultant)	373-0987
		7:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (M-F)	Key Punch Supervisors	373-0992
		8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Secretary (Account clerk)	373-0990
		7:45 a.m.–Midnight (M-F)	Operations staff	373-0990
		8:00 a.m.–Noon (Sat)	Operations staff	373-0990
Univac 1004 terminal	24 North Hall	8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Jim Colten (consultant)	373-0987
		7:45 a.m.–Midnight (M-F)	Operations staff	373-0990
		8:00 a.m.–Noon (Sat)	Operations staff	373-0990
MIRJE teletype terminal (for research use only)	24 North Hall	8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Jim Colten (consultant)	373-0987
		7:45 a.m.–Midnight (M-F)	Operations staff	373-0990
		8:00 a.m.–Noon (Sat)	Operations staff	373-0990
Hewlett-Packard 9100B	20 North Hall	By arrangement	Secretary or Operations staff	373-0990
CDC 200 terminal	415 Coffey Hall	7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Tom Ehlen	376-7003
		7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Elaine Greenfield (office supervisor)	376-7003
		7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F) (after hours use by arrangement)		
MIRJE teletype terminal (for research use only)	415 Coffey Hall	7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Tom Ehlen	376-7003
		7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Elaine Greenfield (office supervisor)	376-7003
		7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F) (after hours use by arrangement)		
Univac 1004 terminal	125G Classroom Office Building	8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. (MWF)	Consultant	373-0829, 376-3846
		8:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m. (TTh)	P. Haswell (secretary)	373-1037
		9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. (Sat)	S. Weisberg	373-1068
Interactive instructional lab	125E Classroom Office Building	8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. (MWF)	Consultant	373-0829, 376-3846
		8:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m. (TTh)	P. Haswell (secretary)	373-1037
		9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. (Sat)	S. Weisberg	373-1068
Univac 1004 terminal	257 Biological Science	9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (M-F)	Nancy Hartong	376-3067