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COMPUTER UPGRADE

On July 1, 1981, the St. Paul Computer Center (SPCC) will upgrade the IBM 4331 computer to an IBM 4341. The hardware changes involve replacing the CPU (central processing unit), adding memory, replacing the disk drives and installing a new telecommunications controller.

The new 4341 computer should offer about four times the performance of the 4331 computer. The new CPU will run about four times faster than the 4331 CPU. There is also a faster floating point arithmetic unit on the 4341. Real memory will be increased by a factor of four, from 1 million bytes to 4 million bytes. On-line disk storage will be increased from 640 million bytes to 1.7 billion bytes. The new telecommunications controller will increase the number of terminals that can be connected to the computer from 8 to a new limit of 256 ports.

SPCC also plans to offer many more ports during the next year. These ports will support TWX type terminals (10 cps-120 cps), IBM 3270 (or compatible) full screen terminals, or IBM compatible RJE stations.

At this time it is hard to accurately predict how much of an overall increase in total system performance the 4341 will provide, but SPCC is expecting about a 3-4 fold gain in system throughput.

COMPUTER CHARGING ALGORITHM CHANGE

The Center's computer charging rates are now being reviewed. With an approximate 4-fold increase in computer capacity, users can expect a substantial reduction in computing cost. The new rate schedule will be available around July 1.

FISCAL YEAR CUTOFF

The fiscal year cutoff will be coordinated with the installation of the 4341 computer now scheduled for June 28th. June activities will be journal vouchered promptly so it clears the Business Office before the fiscal year officially ends. All services rendered after the cutoff date will be processed at the end of July as fiscal year 1981-82 business. Users will be notified to up date account application information (Green Sheets). Any changes in user names, budget numbers to be charged, accounts to be closed, or any changes in programs and services desired should be brought to our attention as soon as possible to assure continuation of computer usage.

COMPUTER TIME-GRANT ACCOUNTS

All time-grant accounts are automatically closed at the end of each fiscal year. The cutoff date for the use of 1980-81 time-grant accounts will correspond with the installation of the 4341 computer scheduled for June 28th. Anyone requiring additional work on an existing time-grant or new work for which a time-grant is needed, must apply for a new number. Because the charging algorithm will change with the larger computer, the time-grant support dollar limitation will also change. Supply-related charges, such as paper and disk storage, will now be consistent across all time-grant types.

MUSIC

MUSIC (McGill University System for Interactive Computing) has now been installed and will soon be made available to all users. At the present time the MUSIC system contains 2 FORTRAN compilers (FORTGI and WATFIV), SCRIPT (word processing package),

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STATPAK (Statistical package with 27 different procedures), COGO (coordinate geometry package), plus many other packages, routines and utilities. Additional software will be added to MUSIC and the appropriate interfaces to existing software systems, such as SAS, DOS/VSE and EASY-TRIEVE will be added soon.

Our experience with MUSIC so far has been a positive one. Its command language is easy to use and can be easily applied to a broad range of computing requirements in both the interactive and batch environments. Look for an announcement regarding its release to users in the near future.

SAS SEMINAR

Me1 Sauve will give an introduction to the Statistical Analysis System (SAS). This series is especially useful for those who are interested in using SAS or for those who have just begun to use SAS.

SAS is an integrated system for data management, statistical analysis, and report writing. It is comprehensive and powerful, yet easy to use. SAS manuals are available in the University bookstores. The handout, "How to Access and Use SAS", is available at room 90 Coffey Hall.

The seminar schedule is shown below:

- Introduction to SAS: Tues., July 14
- SAS: The Data Step: Wed., July 15
- SAS: The Proc. Step: Thurs., July 16

All Classes will be held in the Biological Science (BSci) building from 10:30 - 12:00 AM on the St. Paul Campus, Room 18.

KEYPUNCH WORKLOAD

Our key punch workload at the moment is low. It is most difficult to predict the fluctuations we experience in key punching demands. Customers who frequently use this service are urged to submit their work as soon as possible to avoid possible delays later on when demands are high.

STATISTICAL CLINIC

Summer Hours - 1981

The Statistical Clinic in room 125g Classroom Office Building (COB), St. Paul Campus, will be open during the summer, but with reduced hours. The hours shown below will be in effect from June 15, to October 1.

Monday	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Tuesday	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Wednesday:	12:00 - 4:00 PM
Thursday	9:00 - 12:00 AM
Friday	9:00 - 12:00 AM

for further information contact Professor W. Weisberg at 373-0970.

Appointments may be scheduled by calling 376-3845 during the clinic hours shown above.