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Microcomputer Purchase Program Closes February 15

The University Computing Center has decided to close the Microcomputer Purchase Program as of February 15, 1997. We are pleased to announce that the University Bookstore expects to take over as the designated campus location for the UO/Apple Computer contract agreement as of February 24, 1997. The Bookstore also sells many other products that were available through the Microcomputer Purchase Program.

The decision has not been made lightly. We are proud of the valuable services we have offered the campus community for the last twelve years. We have provided improved access to information technology, informed and unpressured sales consultation, good products tested and selected to best address the needs of UO users and ensure campus compatibility, and low prices backed by continuing high-quality support and post-sale auxiliary services.

Unfortunately, changing external factors in the marketplace have forced us to make a prudent business decision, and we recognize that we are unable to maintain the purchase program as a self-supporting enterprise. We appreciate the patronage that has been given us and the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the university.

Luckily, campus buyers have many other options for purchasing personal computer hardware and software, and some familiar services will still be available. Computing Center technicians will continue to provide microcomputer hardware installation, repair, and upgrade services. Our microcomputer consultants will still answer questions about using hardware, software, and related technologies, including network connectivity. We've tried to anticipate your concerns by providing answers to some frequently-asked questions below:

Q: If I purchase a product, will I still be able to get help?

A: We will still provide assistance for both hardware and software issues. Computing Center technicians (108 Computing Center, 346-4403) will continue to provide microcomputer hardware installation, repair, and upgrade services. Our microcomputer consultants (202A Computing Center, 346-4412) will still answer questions about using hardware, software, and related technologies, including network connectivity.

Q: Will my warranty still be valid?

A: The warranties are provided by the manufacturer, so any warranty you have, whether regular or extended, will continue to be valid until it expires under the terms of its conditions.

PURCHASE PROGRAM CLEARANCE BEGINS FEB 3

On Monday, February 3, the Microcomputer Purchase Program begins a two-week final clearance sale! For great prices on new and used hardware and software, stop by the Microcomputer Support Center showroom in Room 202 Computing Center from 9 am - 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

The sale ends February 14. Shop early for best selection. Check *The Oregon Daily Emerald* and the Purchase Program's Web site at *http://mpp.uoregon.edu* for late-breaking details.

Practice Good Netiquette

NOBODY LIKES SPAM!

If you've ever been the victim of a junk e-mail (SPAM) attack, you know how annoying violations of network courtesy can be. Network use is increasing exponentially, and more and more people on campus are incorporating the Internet into their daily lives. With such easy online access, many users may overlook, or be unaware of, some basic rules governing network use. By way of a refresher course, a summary of the UO guidelines for acceptable use of the Internet and other computing resources provided on campus is presented below. The full text of these guidelines is available in the free handout titled, "Acceptable Use of Computing Resources," which is available in the Computing Center Documents Room (205) and online at

http://cc.uoregon.edu/acceptableuse.html

Wise Use

Given the University's limited resources, as well as the direct social costs of wasteful behavior (such as printing output that isn't needed), use computing resources judiciously:

* Refrain from using compute-intensive recreational applications, such as *Muds/Moos/Mucks/Mushes, IRC, Talk*, and online computer games when resource use is heavy. Some of these applications may be unsupported or actively discouraged, due to the demands they place on our limited modem pool, CPU, and lab resources.

* Remember that activities related to the University's scholarly mission take precedence over computing pursuits of a more personal or recreational nature (processing personal e-mail, exploring network resources, etc.)

Sharing Accounts

Sharing an account or lab pass with others is prohibited. Authorization to use University computing resources is not shareable or transferable, and could have serious legal consequences.

Conduct Code

The University Conduct Code (OAR 571-21-030) also applies to electronic forums. The code prohibits, among other things, lewd or indecent conduct, harassment, intentional disruption of University services, and illegal discrimination.

Electronic Privacy

Examples of specifically prohibited behavior include

* unauthorized interception or diversion of network transmissions

* accessing clearly confidential files that may be inadvertently publicly readable

* sharing confidential information about a person (such as their educational records) without their consent or other authorization

Purchase Program Closes, continued...

Q: **Can I place an order for products?**

A: Due to the lead times involved in ordering products, we are no longer taking orders for items we do not have in stock. Sales of current inventory will continue through February 14.

Q: **How do I purchase an Apple product if you don't have it in stock?**

A: The University Bookstore expects to take over as the designated campus location for the UO/Apple Computer contract agreement as of February 24, 1997. They also sell many other products that were available through the Microcomputer Purchase Program. Please contact Arlyn Schaufler at the Bookstore for more information.

Q: **How do I purchase a Dell product?**

A: Departments can place orders directly with Dell by calling Ed Gillespie at (800) 274-7799, extension 64313. Normal purchasing rules and procedures apply. Students, faculty and staff can place personal orders by calling (800) 213-DELL. You will receive educational pricing.

Q: **What if I currently have a product on order? When will it arrive? Will it arrive?**

A: We are currently working to establish the status of outstanding orders. If we expect your order to arrive, we will contact you when your item(s) are available to be picked up. If we find that we will not be able to receive your order within a timely manner, we will contact you.

Q: **If you have to cancel part or all of my order, do I forfeit my 20 percent deposit?**

A: No. We will provide full refunds on orders canceled due to this transition.
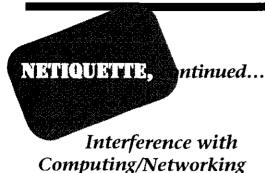
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UO Workshop Videos Air Through March

Throughout winter term, campus housing residents will be able to view a number of videotaped computing workshops on Cable Channel 14. Teaching faculty may want to mention this resource to their students.

Workshop schedules are listed below.* These and other videotaped workshops are available for checkout or purchase from the Computing Center Documents Room (205) and at the front desk of the Knight Library's Instructional Media Center (ground floor). The videos range from 12 minutes to three hours (three one-hour tapes) in length, and may be checked out for two days at a time. Note that a photo I.D. is required for checkouts.

Workshop Video	Day	Date	Time
Computer Fundamentals	Mondays:	Feb 3, 17	6 - 8pm
		Mar 3, 17, 31	6 - 8pm
	Wednesdays:	Feb 12, 26	6 - 8pm
		Mar 12, 26	6 - 8pm
Introduction to Macintosh	Mondays:	Feb 3, 17	8 - 10pm
		Mar 3, 17, 31	8 - 10pm
	Wednesdays:	Feb 12, 26	8 - 10pm
		Mar 12, 26	8 - 10pm
UO Computing Resources Tour	Tuesdays:	Feb 4, 18	6:30 - 6:45pm
		Mar 4, 18	6:30 - 6:45pm
	Wednesdays:	Feb 5, 19	6:30 - 6:45pm
		Mar 5, 19	6:30 - 6:45pm
	Thursdays:	Feb 6, 13, 20, 27	6:30 - 6:45pm
		Mar 6, 13, 20, 27	6:30 - 6:45pm
Introduction to Windows 95	Tuesdays:	Feb 4, 18	7 - 10pm
		Mar 4, 18	7 - 10pm
	Thursdays:	Feb 13, 27	7 - 10pm
		Mar 13, 27	7 - 10pm
Introduction to Windows 3.1	Wednesdays:	Feb 5, 19	7 - 10pm
		Mar 5, 19	7 - 10pm
Introduction to Microsoft Word	Thursdays:	Feb 6, 20	7 - 10pm
		Mar 6, 20	7 - 10pm
Microsoft Excel 5.0 Fundamentals	Mondays:	Feb 10, 24	6 - 8pm
		Mar 10, 24	6 - 8pm
Getting More Out of Microsoft Excel 5.0	Mondays:	Feb 10, 24	8 - 10pm
		Mar 10, 24	8 - 10pm
Microsoft Word Advanced Formatting for Papers	Tuesdays:	Feb 11, 25	6 - 8pm
		Mar 11, 25	6 - 8pm
Getting More Out of Microsoft Word 6.0	Tuesdays:	Feb 11, 25	8 - 10pm
		Mar 11, 25	8 - 10pm

*Please Note: This schedule is subject to change. For the most current videotape schedule, check out
http://cc.uoregon.edu/ccworkshops.html

NEWS BRIEFS

NETIQUETTE, continued...

Interference with Computing/Networking

Efforts to interfere with the use or operation of computing or networking resources are prohibited. These include

* distribution of computer viruses, worms, trojan horse programs, e-mail "bombs," chain letters, etc.

* forged or counterfeited e-mail

* posting USENET News articles to inappropriate newsgroups, posting to moderated newsgroups without the approval of the moderator, or cross-posting articles to many newsgroups simultaneously (spamming)

* triggering system security features, thus denying service to other users, or intentionally misconfiguring equipment to render it unusable

Copyrights, Commercial Use

If you make materials available for others via a Web server or postings to a USENET newsgroup, etc., be sure to respect copyrights. In general, every document, image, or sound is copywritten upon creation, and may only be used or redistributed with the permission of the copyright holder.

Also be aware that copying proprietary software is theft, and use of such software could be grounds for suspension or dismissal from the University and either criminal prosecution or a civil suit for copyright infringement, or both.

Commercial exploitation of UO computing resources is prohibited.

Personal Responsibility for Online Statements

If you defame someone online or invade his or her privacy, you may be sued. Exercise your freedom to speak out, but please do so responsibly and in a way that reflects creditably on the University.

Watch for New Password Policy

To improve security on our timesharing systems, passwords on DARKWING, the Alphacluster, GLADSTONE, and OREGON will soon automatically expire every six months. If you haven't changed your password on one of these systems for 180 days, you'll be prompted to change it the next time you log in.

As an added precaution, all new users will be prompted to change their passwords the first time they log in on their new accounts. This should ensure that the passwords that are automatically created for new accounts will quickly be replaced, making them less vulnerable to attack.

SAS Hints, Samples on the Web

Want to learn more about *SAS*? Our Statistical Resources Web site can help. Check out the sample *SAS* programs, programming hints, and data files available online at

http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~robinh

You'll find helpful general hints on how to use several sample *SAS* procedures, including TABULATE, LOGISTIC, GENMOD, CATMOD, and MIXED, together with examples of how SAS treats missing data and reads comma-delimited files.

Similar tips for *SPSS* and *Splus* are forthcoming. Watch future issues of *Computing News* for details.

Get Connected to the MBONE

If you're a *Windows 95/NT* or Macintosh user and have a yen to try using multicast tools, now's your chance. The MBONE, a network for real-time conferencing that "multicasts" to a number of users simultaneously, may now be accessed from *Windows 95/NT* systems and, to a limited extent, from Macintoshes. Until recently, the MBONE multicast tool set was available only for UNIX workstations.

Details on how to install and configure MBONE video and audio playback tools on your machine, as well as pointers to additional MBONE-related resources, are available online at *http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~joelja/project/mbone.html*

Note that the MBONE is not available to off-campus, dial-in users, due to it's high-bandwidth requirements. If you have questions about MBONE, send an e-mail message to Joel Jaeggli (*joelja@darkwing.uoregon.edu*)

New URL for ALTAVISTA

The URL for our local ALTAVISTA search engine has been changed. From now on, please use

http://search.uoregon.edu

instead of

http://waterfall.uoregon.edu

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