



COMPUTING NEWS

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Welcome to You

Welcome to campus and to a new year of computing! For those of you who are new to the University of Oregon, this newsletter will bring you brief notes on a variety of computing topics each month during the academic year. Copies are sent to all faculty, staff, and GTFs, and are available at the Computing Center free of charge. If you are not on one of the above campus mailing lists and want to receive *COMPUTING NEWS*, contact the newsletter editor for a subscription form.

If you are new to computing at the U of O, stop by the Computing Center Documents Room (described in the "Computing Library Services" article) and pick up a copy of the *University Computing General Information Handbook*. It will acquaint you with our central computing facilities and tell you how to start using them. The Documents Room and the Consulting Office next door (Room 207, x4402) are the hub of a variety of information sources designed to help you use our resources, which include the DEC 1091 and IBM 4341 mainframes, several micro labs, the Micro Support Lab, documentation, software, and short courses.

You will find additional computing facilities available through the Continuation Center (x4231) and the EMU (x4353). Check with your department as well, since several academic departments and the Business School provide computing resources for their own faculty, staff, and students.

Welcome to New Vice Provost

We'd like to welcome Larry Fincher, who arrived from North Carolina in July to assume the post of Vice Provost for Academic Administration. His areas of responsibility include institutional studies, budgeting, and coordination of computing. In an interview for *COMPUTING NEWS*, he indicated that his first priority is to "work on the U of O's computing needs." Expansion of the campus broadband network, acquisition of new hardware (see the "RFP Committees Appointed" article), and assessment of campus needs will be areas of Fincher's initial involvement in computing. Fincher will also serve as the U of O's official liaison to the Chancellor's Office for the proposed Total Information System for administrative computing.

Citing the catching up we need because of several years of limited funding, Fincher said he hopes to obtain greater future resources, as well as to integrate and improve the effective use of existing resources to meet computing

needs. He refers to himself as a "distributed-resources, network-oriented person", and would like to see the University's LAN/1 broadband network expanded to connect all areas of the campus. After familiarizing himself with several new systems here, he is interested in promoting more user-friendly and homogeneous access to existing campus facilities. He hopes to re-establish an advisory committee which would address strategic planning for campus computing.

Those of you who are regular Faculty Forum (FF) users may have already noticed that Larry is a real believer in improving efficiency by using electronic communications whenever possible. He welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding the future of computing at the U of O. You may contact him at his office in Johnson Hall (x3050), or via FF. (If you aren't familiar with FF, see "Communicate Electronically" in this issue).

RFP Committees Appointed

The four committees that will work this fall on the procurement of a new academic machine (see the May 1986 *COMPUTING NEWS*) have now been appointed by Provost Richard Hill. They are:

Management Committee:

Larry Fincher, Academic Affairs (Chair)
Gordon Ashby, Computing Center
George Bynon, Library
Eugene Luks, Computer and Information Science
Joanne Hugi, Computing Center
Peggy Nagae, Law

Technical Committee:

Rick Millhollin, Computing Center (Chair)
John Conery, Computer and Information Science
Roger Haydock, Physics
Larry Laitinen, Technical Science Administration
Jon Rivenburg, Academic Affairs
Dale Smith, Computing Center

Applications Committee:

Stephen Pruch, Computing Center (Chair)
Pat Bartlein, Geography
Margaret Graff, Physics
Mike Harris, Business
David Hulse, Architecture
Duncan Lindsey, Human Services
Virginia Lo, Computer and Information Science

Financial Committee:

Gordon Ashby, Computing Center (Chair)
 Paul Civin, Academic Affairs
 Ralph Sunderland, Management and Budget

The Management Committee is overseeing the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The other committees will advise the Management Committee and evaluate proposals from vendors.

January 2, 1987, has been set as the date to release the RFP to vendors, so contact committee members with your questions and comments during this term. Selection of a new system is to be completed by March 16 with delivery by June 15, 1987.

**Documentation Services**

New Computing Center users may be surprised to learn of the services offered by our Documents Room, located in Room 205. Our collection is not part of the University's library system. It contains the following materials, many of which are not available elsewhere on campus:

- Several hundred books on computing
- Manuals and locally prepared write-ups for the Center's DEC 1091 and IBM 4341 systems and for supported software
- Over 100 periodicals, many on microcomputers
- A reference collection of hardware and software directories, literature indexes, and software reviews
- Over 200 newsletters from educational computing organizations and microcomputer user groups
- Public-domain software for Apple Macintosh and IBM PC microcomputers that can be freely copied

The Documents Room also has an Apple LaserWriter Printer available for public use on a reservation basis. Our LaserWriter produces letter-quality output for Macintosh users and accepts single- or double-sided disks. The cost is 25 cents per page, with a one dollar minimum charge.

Anyone is welcome to use our collection and borrow items. Books, newsletters, and file materials can be checked out for one week. Back issues of periodicals and public-domain software may be kept for two days.

Please call 686-4406 if you have questions or better yet, drop by for a visit! We are open 9:30 am - 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday during each academic term, with reduced hours between terms.

Communicate Electronically

The Computing Center offers a variety of ways for you to communicate electronically with colleagues locally, nationally, and internationally:

BITNET

If you're not already acquainted with BITNET, it's an international communications network linking us with over 700 universities and other institutions of higher learning. You can use BITNET to exchange messages, data, and manuscripts, if you have a CMS account on the IBM 4341. A growing number of journals, societies, and granting agencies encourage use of BITNET for submission of articles and grants.

If you haven't investigated BITNET yet and are interested in communicating with someone out there, we'd encourage you to do so. A new BITNET write-up introduces BITNET features, outlines what you need to know to use it, and steps through a typical BITNET session. New and old users can pick up a copy in the Documents Room for \$1.00.

FF

Faculty Forum (FF) is a computer conferencing system provided free of charge to University faculty and staff. We can also arrange membership for colleagues at other institutions of higher learning in and out of state.

Use FF to eliminate "telephone tag," get information to colleagues in a timely fashion, keep up to date on campus computing, ask other FF members for help or advice, and facilitate committee or other group discussions. FF allows both private and public communication on any topic.

If FF sounds like it would be useful to you, contact Rich Haller (x4394, via MAIL 106 on CMS, or MAIL/TO: R HALLER on the DEC 1091), or pick up an application in Room 108 (8-12 and 1-5 weekdays) or the Documents Room.

BB

While FF membership is limited to faculty and staff of the U of O, BB is an electronic conferencing system that is open to students and the community as well. However, messages on BB are restricted to microcomputer topics. Applications for BB membership are available in Room 108, Monday-Friday, from 8-12 and 1-5 and in the Documents Room.

UUCP

The UUCP network (also called "USENET") connects thousand of computers running UNIX and other operating systems at universities and corporations worldwide. You can send messages to people at UUCP sites using the DEC's MAIL program if you have a DEC 1091 account. Type `HELP UUCP` and `HELP NODES` on the DEC for more information.

Education Program Offerings

A free Computing Center short course on transferring information between IBM PCs or compatibles and Center mainframes will be held Friday, October 24, from 9:30 to 11:00 am in Room 245. Call x4394 to pre-register.

An 8-session course on using SAS on CMS will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5 beginning October 14. Participants must preregister and pay a \$35 fee. Call x4394 for more information.

A series of free presentations for Macintosh users will be offered on Wednesdays from 7:30 - 9:00 in 138 Gilbert. No registration is required. Pick up a Macintosh course flyer at the Computing Center for a list of topics.

Free hands-on Macintosh orientations will be offered biweekly this fall. These sessions are aimed at new Mac owners, although any U of O faculty, staff, and students are also welcome. Call x4394 for dates and times, and to preregister.

University instructors may schedule DEC, SED, CMS, and/or XEDIT short courses for their classes. These 90-minute classes provide hands-on experience and are held in Room 202 of the Computing Center. Course outlines are available for purchase in the Center's Documents Room. Instructors may also reserve Room 202 for their own introductory classes. To schedule a class or reserve Room 202, call Pam Prichard (x4394) at least a week in advance.

MICRO SCOPE

Micro Purchase Plan Changes

New products and prices are available to University faculty, staff, and students wishing to purchase microcomputers for personal use. Better product availability and faster delivery characterize both Apple and IBM offerings this fall. Contact the Computing Center's Micro Support Lab (Room 105, x4412) for information on the U of O Micro Purchase Plan. Eligibility requirements, price lists, demonstration equipment, and consulting are available in the lab from 1:30 - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday.

New IBM offerings include the PC Convertible, which is available for demonstration in the lab; the PC/1G, which provides graphics on a monochrome monitor; and the new PC/XT Model 286. Come to Room 105 for a new IBM price list showing all the options.

The Apple Hard Disk 20SC that attaches to the SCSI port on the Macintosh Plus is now available through the Purchase Plan. Prices for the Macintosh, Macintosh Plus, and LaserWriter have dropped, and some options for buying Apple products on credit are available. Contact the accounting office at the U of O Bookstore after mid-October for information on those credit options.

IBM Presents...

A microcomputer show for U of O students and faculty

November 4-5

9 am - 4 pm

Room 167 EMU

See and try 11 IBM PC systems

PC Convertibles • PC/1Gs for graphics

A voice recognition system

PC/AT • PC/XT Model 286 • Printers

STAT CORNER

SAS/PC Now Available

The Computing Center now has the popular SAS statistical program for the IBM PC/XT and compatible machines. We have both SAS/Basics and SAS/Stat. Together they feature the full SAS language, a large variety of reporting and utility routines, descriptive statistics, correlation, regression, analysis of variance, non-parametric statistics (including log-linear models), and a wide variety of multivariate analyses, such as factor, cluster, and discriminant analysis.

Faculty, staff, and students at the University of Oregon are eligible to use SAS/PC. We have a University of Oregon site license, renewable yearly. The Computing Center will distribute copies of the program to interested individuals or departments for a rental fee of \$100 per copy per year. Updates, bug fixes, and full support are included in this price. Payment may be made at the Computing Center accounting office. Call Patrick Holleran at x4394 for more information.

To use SAS/PC, you need an IBM PC/XT or compatible machine with at least a 10-megabyte hard disk and 512K of memory. If you plan to use the package for statistical analysis, we recommend the 8087 or 80287 numeric co-processor. If you are contemplating purchasing a machine for use with SAS, consider a microcomputer in the PC/AT class, as the additional speed and capabilities of these machines are very useful.

BMDP Changes

The new 1985 version of the BMDP package has been installed on the IBM 4341's CMS operating system. New features of this release are documented in the May 1985

edition of *BMDP Communications* (available in the Documents Room). Specify NEWS in the PRINT paragraph of your BMDP run for more documentation. Note that the new BMDP line editor is not yet supported. If you use it, your run will terminate. A fix from BMDP is expected.

The 1983 release of BMDP has been installed on the DEC 1091. This release is fully documented in the *BMDP Statistical Software* manual. Note that the 1983 and 1985 printings of this manual are essentially identical.

Statistical Package News On-line

Remember to check the on-line statistical bulletin boards periodically for more information on statistical package updates. Type DO STATS on the DEC 1091 or HELP UO4341 STATS on CMS.

DEC 1091 NOTES

New DEC Operating System

The new version of TOPS-10, the DEC 1091 operating system, which was installed during the summer has quite a few new and useful features. Perhaps most helpful are the commands that allow you to edit previous commands. So, when you've typed a long line and made a mistake somewhere, you don't have to retype the whole command. Type `HELP AGAIN` on the DEC for details on using this new feature.

Type `HELP NEW` for a short summary of all the new features and directions for getting more information on those that interest you.

IBM 4341 NOTES

New IBM Operating System

VM/SP Release 4 has been installed on the IBM 4341. This version is upwardly compatible with the old, so you should not have to make any changes. You will notice some new screens and messages. Enhancements and changes are documented in the *VM/SP Release 4 Guide* (SC24-5248). Complete IBM manuals are available in the Documents Room. If you have developed any HELP files, consult the *VM/SP CMS User's Guide* (part 4), for changes in the HELP facility.

New CMS FORTRAN

VS FORTRAN (Release 4) is now available on CMS. This new compiler and library feature support for both FORTRAN 66 and 77, together with a number of improvements over the old FORTRAN G1. FORTRAN G1 will probably be discontinued in the near future, so we urge you to give VS FORTRAN a try and report problems as soon as possible to the Center's Consulting Office (Room 207, x4402.)

Two EXECs, FORTLINK and FORTLOAD, are available to issue the appropriate VS FORTRAN GLOBAL commands for link and load modes of operation. The FORTRAN Interactive Debugger does work with VS FORTRAN. Consult the IBM manuals available in the Documents Room for further information.

More Memory for OS/VS1 Jobs

To accommodate the increased memory requirements of some software, there are now fewer but larger partitions for OS/VS1 batch jobs on the IBM 4341. Two 1024K-byte partitions run class-A jobs. Four 2048K-byte partitions are available for class-C jobs that require operator assistance. Class-B jobs, which run longer than the default two minutes for class A, can be run in two of the larger partitions.

For jobs requiring more than 2 megabytes, use class E. Class-E jobs run in 3392K-byte partitions at night when requested. Type `HELP OSVS1 JOBS` on CMS for more information on job classes.

OS/VS1 Support Dying

OS/VS1 users should be aware that IBM has been effectively discontinuing support for this system. New releases of IBM software, such as VS FORTRAN and VS COBOL, will not be supported on OS/VS1. Fixes for known bugs in the system are still being distributed, but may be discontinued before long. We urge you to convert your work to CMS, if possible, to take advantage of future IBM software enhancements.

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