

COMPUTER RESOURCES



Newsletter

VOLUME 1

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PERSONNEL

Computer Resources Department Staff are located in Room 2N214 unless otherwise shown below.

Locals shown are for BCIT's central number: (604) 434-5734.

Director, Ron Siddaway.....245

Secretary, Jean Smith.....452

Academic Support Analysts

ACADEMIC DUTY ANALYST.....351

Ingrid Campbell.....268

Lee Herberts.....798

Dan Low.....268

David Thomson.....798

Supervisors

Academic Support, Neil McLagan.....680

Administrative Support, Neil McLagan.....680

Data Administration, Erica Westley.....454

Data Control, Rita Richardson.....(2N209)456

Data Entry/Keypunch, Carol Tkach...(2N212)618

Processing Services, Ron Sproule.....708

COMPUTER ROOM.....246

after 1700 and weekends.....434-5746

DATA ENTRY/KEYPUNCH.....(2N212)618

after 1700.....434-5754

DIAL-UP TO COMPUTERS

off campus.....430-3370/3371/3372

on campus.....448/449

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

The Computer Resources Newsletter is published by the Computer Resources Department of BCIT.

Contributions to the Newsletter and comments from our readers are welcomed. Address correspondence to: Editor, BCIT Computer Resources Department, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 3H2.

Subscription changes to the Newsletter may be requested by completing the form on the last page. You are subscribed if your name appears on the label attached to the Newsletter. Next issue is planned for 82:11:01.

FACILITIES

The major BCIT computer is an IBM 4341 Model Group 2 with 8 million bytes of main memory, 8 IBM disk drives, and approximately 80 terminals. Both batch and online processing for academic and administrative applications are performed. The operating systems are VM/CMS and DOS/VSE.

There are two Hewlett-Packard 2000/ACCESS minicomputers, called System A and System B, which are used for introductory computing instruction.

A new Hewlett-Packard 3000/44 minicomputer has just been installed. (See "New HP3000/44 Computer Available").

Fourteen Apple II Plus microcomputers are available for student instructional use.

Two Apple II Plus microcomputers, an HP125 microcomputer (terminal to the HP3000), a DEC writer, an IBM 3278, and a Televideo 950 are available for exclusive Faculty use.

Further information on our facilities is available from the Duty Analyst, or the Supervisor of Processing Services, Ron Sproule.

Locations

IBM 4341

Card readers.....2N209

Keypunch Room2N327

Student Terminal Labs:

(IBM 3278).....2N329

(Memorex).....2N419

(Televideo).....2N420/421

Faculty Area.....2N210

HP2000

System A Terminals.....2N322

System B Terminals.....2N323A

HP3000

Terminals.....2N319

*Microcomputers

Apple Cart.....Library

Faculty Resource Lab.....2N327A

Student Lab.....1A220

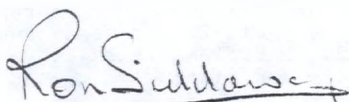
*Access to the Apple Cart and the Faculty Resource Lab can be arranged through the Listening and Viewing desk in the Library.

Procedures for booking the Student Lab are still being discussed. Until a formal policy is available, arrangements may be made through the Timetabling Department. They are located in Room 2N208 and their local is 386.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

One of the ongoing objectives of my department is to examine and implement ways to improve the service that we provide to users of computing facilities - both academic and administrative. I am delighted to endorse this Newsletter as the latest addition to our list of services. Beyond its being informative and useful, I see the Newsletter as a vehicle by which the opinion of our users may be voiced regarding present and future trends in computing at BCIT. Speaking of future trends, I am proud of our attempt to reduce paperwork in the Institute by keeping the Newsletter in a CMS file, for those who have access to a terminal.

I extend my thanks to all in the Department who contributed to making this Newsletter a reality.


R. J. Stoddaway

HOURS OF OPERATION

The computers are scheduled to be available during the following times for the period 82:09:18 to 82:10:31. Any changes to these hours of operation will be posted prominently and displayed on the terminal logon message as far in advance as possible.

IBM 4341

0800 - 2300 Monday to Friday
0900 - 1700 Saturday and Sunday

Holiday hours for the Thanksgiving weekend will be:

Saturday 82:10:09 0900 - 1700
Sunday 82:10:10 0900 - 1700
Monday 82:10:11 0900 - 2300

HP 2000 System A and B

0700 to 2400 Monday to Sunday

System backups will be performed at approximately 1630 on Saturday, Sunday, and Thanksgiving day. Service will be interrupted for 30 to 45 minutes.

Preventative maintenance (including system modification) is scheduled for the systems as follows:

System A - 82:09:15 1130 to 1430
System B - 82:10:06 1130 to 1430

HP3000

Hours of operation are currently under discussion. For further information, please contact the Duty Analyst.

CMS VERSION OF NEWSLETTER

If you have an ID on the CMS system you can access a copy of the Newsletter through one of the terminals. This file will be updated as new versions of the Newsletter are released.

The procedure is as follows:

1. Logon to CMS
2. Type 'NEWS' and the current version will be displayed at your terminal through XEDIT.
3. Use the standard XEDIT commands to scroll through the Newsletter.
4. Type 'QUIT' when you have finished viewing the Newsletter.

MAINTENANCE

The Computer Resources Department is responsible for maintenance of all terminals on the IBM and Hewlett Packard systems, the Apple II microcomputers, and the two North Star Horizons. Terminals are checked twice daily.

Please report any terminal or microcomputer malfunctions to the Operations staff at local 246 or, after 1700 and on weekends, at 434-5746.

Student keypunch machines are also maintained by Computer Resources, and are checked twice daily.

Problems with keypunch machines should be reported to the Data Entry staff at local 618 or, after 1700, at 434-5754. If you receive no answer, please contact the Operations Staff as listed above.

SUPPLIES

The Computer Resources Department stocks supplies for all terminals. Ribbons, paper, etc. will be replaced during daily checks. Supply shortages should be reported to the Operations staff at local 246 or, after 1700 and on weekends, at 434-5746.

Computer cards and Print Layout Sheets are supplied to students by Computer Resources and are available in Room 2N327. Coding forms are NOT supplied, and students may purchase these through one of the campus TNT (This 'n That) stores.

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE CHANGES

HP 2000 BEING REPLACED

The HP2000 systems will continue to run until at least 1983:06, but plans are underway to phase them out, beginning with the "B" system. Academic Support would appreciate the help of faculty members in identifying those HP2000 programs which should be converted or replaced. Please contact Dave Thomson with suggestions.

DISK SPACE MANAGER FOR IBM 4341

The recent installation of DYNAM/D, a disk space management package for the DOS/VSE operating system, requires some Job Control Language changes affecting the DLBL, EXTENT and ASSGN statements. This package makes it easier for students and instructors to access sequential disk files, especially temporary files which exist only for the duration of a job. Also, an instructor can now more easily create a "permanent" file which his/her students can access. (These files are "permanent" only during the academic term). The data required to re-create any file for use in subsequent terms (or after inadvertent destruction due to programming errors) should be kept on hand or left with Academic Support.

If you or your students require access to any DOS/VSE disk files which you used in previous terms, these files will need to be re-created. Please contact the Duty Analyst at local 351 for information or assistance.

PROCEDURE NAME CHANGES

Another change which results indirectly from the advent of DYNAM/D affects any job using the statement:

```
// EXEC PROC=%%SPSS
```

which must now be changed to

```
// EXEC PROC=SPSS
```

Similarly, for any other PROC name beginning with \$\$, remove those two characters.

BCIT CARD CHANGES

Changes are being made to the format of the " * BCIT" card, which is the first card of any job submitted to the IBM system. This will mean that you have to apply for a new ID by

1982:10:08. Until then, either the old or the new format will be valid. These changes will increase the consistency across the different computer systems operated by Computer Resources. For example, a person running batch jobs under DOS/VSE and using terminals under CMS will use the same ID for both.

Effective 1982:09, the format of the " * BCIT" card is as follows:

* BCIT id course SDOS/VSE *

where:

- id now consists of some letters from your name, some random digits, and possibly a '*'. (This field was formerly a 9-digit number).
- course now begins with S followed by the course number without the imbedded period. eg., S14923 (formerly shown as 14.923). EDSTAFF is still valid for faculty and staff.
- * must be shown in the final position. It serves as your initial password and remains in effect until you change it to a password of your choice. (The final * was formerly optional). Contact the Duty Analyst for more details.

For example, a student taking course 14.923 might be assigned KHNJ2239 as an ID. The BCIT card would then contain:

* BCIT KHNJ2239 S14923 SDOS/VSE *

CICS/VS TO BE INSTALLED

The Technical Support Group in Computer Resources will be installing the IBM Customer Information and Control System (CICS/VS) transaction processor package this fall. Computer Systems Technology students will learn how to use this package as part of their courses in the spring term.

CICS/VS is commonly used in business to provide non-data processing staff with the ability to retrieve and update data stored within the central computer, using terminals.

MICROCOMPUTER SOFTWARE

If you are looking for some software to use on BCIT's microcomputers, look in the Library. The Listening and Viewing desk has information on currently available microcomputer software. Better yet, you are permitted to borrow software from them.

Contact the Listening and Viewing desk for further information, at local 781.

FEATURES

NEW HP3000/44 COMPUTER AVAILABLE

A new time-sharing service is available with the installation this month of the HP3000. There are 15 student terminals in Room 2N319, and one in the microcomputer lab, Room 2N327A, available for Faculty use (The key to 2N327A can be borrowed from the Library Listening and Viewing desk).

Although a wide variety of languages and application packages can be acquired to run on the HP3000, the initial configuration at BCIT is limited. BASIC and COBOL languages, Materials Management and Production Management package, Dollar Flow financial modelling package, and IMAGE data base management system will be installed during 1982:09.

A seminar providing further information on the HP3000 hardware, software, and capabilities has been tentatively scheduled for 1982:10:20 from 1230 to 1400. It will provide an opportunity to ask questions, and obtain some 'hands on' experience with the system. Further information will be available later this month from the Duty Analyst.

ACADEMIC COMPUTING IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

The Academic Computing Implementation Project (ACIP) canvassed departments, faculty, and students in March of this year to determine the Institute's academic computing needs.

ACIP's success depended upon the contributions of all those who took part in the survey, and the project team gratefully acknowledges the help of all participants.

This month, after being reviewed by the ACIP Advisory Committee, the final report will be presented to the Information and Computing Committee (ICC). Some of the Project's recommendations are already being carried out, including the creation of this Newsletter and a Duty Analyst service. Other recommendations will be discussed in the next Newsletter, following their review by the ICC.

COURSES PRESENTED

During the weeks of 1982:05:31 and 06:14, the Academic Support staff presented courses for faculty interested in using the IBM 4341. The sessions were structured to provide a balance of lecture and lab time. In this way, attendees were encouraged to practice, at the terminals, the material that had been presented in the lecture.

Sessions included topics such as 'Terminals to the IBM', 'Interactive WATFIV under CMS', 'Waterloo BASIC under CMS', and 'Elementary SPSS Programming'. Course evaluation forms were collected and the information will be used to improve future offerings.

If you have an interest in a particular computing topic, and feel it would be of interest to other faculty members, please let a member of the Academic Support staff know.

DUTY ANALYST

To provide timely and efficient consulting service to faculty members, we are introducing the Academic Duty Analyst concept. A Duty Analyst answers all general computing questions that do not involve substantial time. In this way the other analysts are not distracted by short questions and problems that interrupt their developmental work. If the problem requires special knowledge you will be referred to the person with the appropriate expertise. The Duty Analyst position will initially rotate on a weekly basis among our Academic Support analysts.

Beginning 82:09:07, academic computing problems should be directed to the Duty Analyst in person in the Computer Resources Department (Room 2N214); or by calling our new local 351. The Duty Analyst will be available Monday to Friday from 0830 to 1100 and 1300 to 1530.

DID YOU KNOW?

An upper/lower case printer (IBM 3262) is available for faculty and staff use in preparing correspondence, course notes, assignments, etc. It is located in the Faculty Area 2N210, and is a 'do it yourself' style operation. It is supported under the Remote Spooling Communications System (RSCS) of Virtual Machine as Remote2. Contact the Duty Analyst for further information on how to use this printer.

DID YOU KNOW?

Academic Support receives copies of computing newsletters from universities across Canada. Further information is available from the Computer Resources receptionist, Debbie Stamnes, at local 818.

BCIT USER'S GUIDES

As part of the process to improve documentation, User's Guides are being created to provide specific details on how to use software and hardware at BCIT. For example, to find out how to use SPSS at BCIT, refer to the "BCIT SPSS User's Guide".

Some guides were made available for the Computer Resources courses offered in June. These have been modified based on feedback received at that time, and more have been completed this month. Further improvements will be made on a continuing basis.

Following is a list of the BCIT User's Guides currently available:

BCIT CMS User's Guide (82:09:01)

BCIT DOS/VSE User's Guide (82:09:01)

BCIT SIM3278 User's Guide (82:09:01)

BCIT SPSS User's Guide (82:08:31)

BCIT Waterloo BASIC User's Guide (82:08:31)

BCIT WATFIV User's Guide (82:05:28)

Copies of these User's Guides are located in the documentation racks in Rooms 2N329, 2N419, 2N420, and 2N327A. Faculty members may request personal copies from the Duty Analyst. Arrangements for photocopying classroom quantities are the responsibility of the instructor.

Your feedback on the documentation is welcomed to help us with further development of BCIT User's Guides.

KEYPUNCH SERVICES

For faculty members who are not familiar with the services provided by the Keypunch Department a new one page handout, entitled "Using Keypunch Services", is available from the Keypunch/Data Entry Supervisor, Carol Tkach, in Room 2N212.

DATA ENTRY INSTALLS KEY TO DISK SYSTEM

During the last several months the Keypunch/Data Entry Department has been involved in a selection process for new Data Entry equipment. According to current plans, the selected equipment, a Four Phase IV/60, should be installed and fully operational in about one year, after which time the keypunch

machines in the Keypunch/Data Entry Department will be retired. Further information on how the Data Entry equipment will assist faculty and students will be published in a future issue of the Newsletter.

WATERLOO BASIC 2.1

A new version of Waterloo BASIC was installed late last month. While there are no significant changes from the old version, Release 2.0, anyone who has object programs stored for execution must recompile them. Further information on how to use Waterloo BASIC and the new Release 2.1 is available in the "BCIT Waterloo BASIC User's Guide" (82:08:31) or from the Duty Analyst.

PASCAL VERSION (81/6/10)

A new version of Waterloo Pascal was installed early last month. There are no significant changes from the previous release. Further information is available from the Duty Analyst.

SIM3278 NOW AVAILABLE

The "SIM3270" full screen terminal simulator for use on the Televideo 950 asynchronous terminals (Rooms 2N420 and 2N421) has been updated. A new version called SIM3278, without several of the previous version's "bugs", has been installed. New user documentation entitled "BCIT SIM3278 User's Guide" (82:09:01), is now available from the Duty Analyst.

IBM 4341 PERFORMANCE

The Technical Support and Processing Services Groups are looking closely at ways to improve the performance of the IBM 4341 as the number of users continues to grow. One area of particular concern is a bottleneck in accessing the disk drives. It is still too early to announce any conclusive findings or plans. It does, however, appear likely that new versions of the Virtual Machine (VM/SP) and Disk Operating System (DOS/VSE) may have to be installed later this term. These system software changes may coincide with hardware changes involving the disk drives. More information should be available for publication in the next Newsletter.

ARE YOU USING RDPRT?

Are you currently using RDPRT to look at listings in your CMS reader queue?

If so, you should try SPD (SPool file Display program). This new facility is now available and provides several features not available in RDPRT. Please contact the Duty Analyst for further details. Information is also available through CMS by entering 'SPD ?'.

NEW ID'S REQUIRED

Two new forms have been produced to assist you in requesting ID's for yourself or your students. They are called 'Computer Resources ID Application for Students' (Form AS-224) and 'Computer Resources ID Application' (Form AS-223) for faculty and administrative staff.

These forms are now available through the Duty Analyst, who will also assist you in completing them. You will be asked to sign for all ID's issued to you, indicating that you agree to inform students of their responsibility to use their computing privileges properly. These responsibilities are detailed in the 'Policy Statement on Access to Computing Resources'. A copy of this policy is attached to each of the ID request forms. It is also reprinted below.

To ensure that you have the ID's you need for your students, please give us as much notice as possible. Remember, you must request ID's for your students before they can use the computer.

Please note:

All faculty using a '* BCIT' card must apply for a new ID by 1982:10:08. Please see 'BCIT CARD CHANGES' on page 4 for further information.

ACCESS TO COMPUTER RESOURCES

This policy governs use of Computing Resources at BCIT.

In the following statement, a 'user' is any person who makes use of any computer owned or operated by BCIT. A 'password' is a code word or number which identifies a user to a computer; that is, knowledge of a password which is recognized by a particular computer allows a person to use that computer (just as knowledge of the correct combination allows one

to open a safe).

Access to BCIT computer equipment is authorized only for those persons doing work for which that equipment was acquired. Users should be guided by the following:

- a) Do not attempt to discover other users' passwords, or to use any password discovered by chance. Take all reasonable precautions to prevent anyone from discovering your password. Report immediately any suspected "leak" of a password so that it may be changed. (Where two or more persons use the same password, which may be necessary on group projects, all those persons share responsibility for that password).
- b) Do not attempt to discover or change any user's charges.
- c) Do not attempt to read or copy any information stored on the computer systems unless explicitly authorized to do so. This includes information which has been stored by Computer Resources, by other computer users, by a commercial vendor or by any other party.
- d) Do not knowingly consume excessive resources.
- e) Do not use Institute computer facilities for non-institutional projects, or for personal or commercial purposes, unless written authorization has been received from the Information and Computing Committee.
- f) Do not move any computing equipment, and be extremely careful to avoid damage.

Users of the computer systems are cautioned that violation of the above rules may disrupt service to themselves and others. Furthermore, it could violate a copyright or other non-disclosure agreement into which BCIT has entered.

Computer Resources staff who have access to information owned by users of the system will treat all such information as strictly confidential.

DID YOU KNOW?

A seven-station Wang QIS 140-1 word processor is being installed to assist the English and Training & Development departments. The Information Processing Team (IPT), chaired by the Board of Governors' Secretary Pat Maertz, is responsible for installation.

RE: NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CHECK the subscription change wanted:

- ADD MY NAME TO YOUR MAILING LIST
- CHANGE MY NAME/DEPARTMENT
(Please attach current address label)

NAME/TITLE -----
 last first

DEPARTMENT/ADDRESS -----

RETURN TO: Editor
Computer Resources Department
BCIT
3700 Willingdon Avenue
Burnaby, B.C. CANADA V5G 3H2