

Campus Information Center Planned

Suppose you needed answers to the following questions in a hurry—where would you get them?

- When is the first day of classes for the Fall Semester?
- I'm planning a seminar. If I schedule it for October 4, what events will it conflict with?
- What are the procedures for processing grades?
- I saw a lecture listed in the *Gazette* that I want to go to. I think it is today but I can't find my *Gazette*. How can I find out the time and place of the lecture?

Beginning this fall, you will be able to use *Info*, a new computerized information service, to find quick answers to these and many other routine questions about campus goings-on.

What is *Info*?

Academic Computing Services (ACS) is presently assembling a computer system to distribute day-to-day information that flows through the university. Ideally, it will provide UNC students, faculty, and staff with a simple, convenient, attractive, and adaptable system for obtaining information they need. Visitors to the university as well as alumni and businesses may also find the information useful.

Info will include activity schedules from the *Gazette* (lectures, seminars, musical performances, films, plays, exhibits, and sports events), campus newsletters, the campus phone directory, information about campus job opportunities, information on grants that faculty members can apply for, and information provided by departments and organizations about their activities and services. Its scope will expand and develop as new needs become apparent.

Our immediate goal is to provide information that students in the incoming freshman class will find useful for the upcoming fall semester. While ACS is eager to include all the information that the university community finds useful, we will initially give highest priority to data that will be of interest to students.

How will people use *Info*?

"Dedicated" terminals—ACS will provide computer terminals in many public locations on campus that are dedicated solely to *Info* and cannot be used for general computing work. Initially, terminals will be located in such areas as F. P. Graham Student Union, Davis Library, House Undergraduate Library, and Rosenau Hall.

Access from other workstations—Most other workstations on campus and in homes (including personal computers with communications equipment) can gain access to *Info*, just as they can to other computer services. But *Info* will be free to all users, unlike some of ACS's other computing services.

We need your help

ACS is presently working with a steering committee to identify information that should be included in the database. If you think certain data should be added to this database, please contact Judy Hallman at 962-9107. We will need someone to help set up a mechanism to ensure that we receive the requested data and that this information is kept up to date. We also need to define and set up some sort of procedure for obtaining the information—preferably information that has already been entered on a word processor so that it will not have to be re-typed.

A few more specifics:

Steering committee—The following people are on the steering committee:

- Stephanie Ahlschwede (Student Government)
- Scott Barker (School of Information and Library Science)
- Libby Evans (School of Medicine)
- Phil Meyer (School of Journalism)
- Willy Owen (Davis Library)
- John B. Smith (Department of Computer Science)

The committee is chaired by Judy Hallman (ACS). Bob Lesser (ACS) is technical consultant. *Info* is a being developed on the ACS DEC VAX 780 using VTX software. The software will be moved to a DEC VAX Station 2000 later this spring.

Judy Hallman (UNCJHH@UNC.BITNET)
Academic Computing Services

Short Courses

Introduction to Electronic Mail

Date: Wednesday, May 18

Time & Place: 3:00 p.m., 304 Wilson Library

Prerequisites recommended: None

For this course, you need not be familiar with computers or terminals. The course will cover the basics of the electronic mail system, with instruction in using a terminal to access the electronic mail system and then enter/edit mail messages. These messages may be transmitted to others locally or throughout the world.