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Terminal Talk - The Wofford Connection - October 1968

Wofford College Computer Center

- THE WOFFORD CONNECTION -

Wofford College Computer Center   Spartanburg, South Carolina

Stat Course

One of our major user groups this semester is Dr. Scott's statistics class (Psychology 141). These students are learning to write programs to compute the various statistics they encounter. They also are using the terminal to generate data for their statistical studies. Using a program based on a stimulus sampling model of learning, the students are studying the behavior of the rats which the program models.

Evening Use

As the daytime use of the terminal increases some students may want to take advantage of a new procedure making it possible to use the terminal in the evening. Any student may come by before the Center closes and "sign for" the Center, staying as long as he wishes. Among the responsibilities to which this privilege is tied are:
1. responsibility for the physical condition of the center
2. limiting terminal use to academic work
3. making sure that everyone is out, with lights off and doors locked when you leave.

Games and Snoopy

As some of our users have learned, there are a few game programs available to users of the terminal. Apparently these were written for demonstration uses. They have little or no academic value and therefore do not fall within the intent of our grant and are "verboten." They do not yield benefits in proportion to the time consumed. If you want to "play" at the terminal, "play" at writing and testing your own programs.

Neither NSF nor the college has budgeted for computer center supplies (tape, paper, ribbon, etc.) at present, but Dr. Olds has a plan. He has a tape copy of a cute SNOOPY drawing and charges 20¢ for a printed copy, forbidding others to make their own. This 20¢ helps buy more paper. So far only a few generous students have contributed to the fund! Aren't there any more Snoopy fans??

Bulletin Board

In front of the computer center is a large new bulletin board filled with items related to the time-sharing system and other computer topics. A Government major, David Moore, whose expanded duties make him The No. 1 Computer Center Assistant, maintains this board and periodically adds new items. Stop and look when you are passing through.

Chandler Visits

E. M. "Skip" Chandler of SREB visited campus recently. He is assistant director of the SREB Computer Science Project and his main concern will be curricular development. During the visit, current uses of the terminal and possible further applications within present courses were discussed. So far Wofford has taken the approach that the terminal is to be a tool in as many courses as possible, but no courses dealing specifically with computer concepts have been added to the curriculum.