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Terminal Talk - The Wofford Connection - February 1970

Wofford College Computer Center

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- THE WOFFORD CONNECTION -

Wofford College Computer Center

Spartanburg, South Carolina

NEW CHAIN FEATURE

It is now possible to CHAIN from a FORTRAN or BIIACAC program to a second program which may be written in the other language.

In BIIACAC, use "CHAIN part2, lang" where part2 represents the name of any previously saved program and lang represents the name of the language in which part2 is written. If the second program is written in BIIACAC, the language may be omitted. In this case the user still has the option of specifying the line number at which execution is to begin.

In FORTRAN, use "SOPT CHAIN, part2, lang." The name of the previously saved program must be 4-6 characters long.

The function of the CHAIN command is to locate and execute a new program. All information in working storage is destroyed and is not available to the new program. Furthermore, control is not returned to the first program as it would be in a CALL statement.

COMPUTER USE IN CHEMISTRY INTERIM

Dr. Moore's Interim project which used the computer facilities was primarily interested in the development of programs which would be of lasting use to the Chemistry Department.

Enthusiastically commenting on the necessity of a basic knowledge of computer programming, Dr. Moore stated, "Any science major leaving college now will be handicapped in his career if a certain level of competence has not been achieved in computer science."

Dr. Moore also believes that the student must begin learning to use the terminal in his Freshman year, so that "it will become a routine tool, rather than a novelty, in advanced courses."

Some of the programs produced by the project are already in use in the Chemistry Department's regular courses.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Computing Newsletter" for January 1970, published by the School of Business Administration, University of Colorado, has printed an eight-page bibliography of 420 computer oriented books. The selection is oriented toward business applications but includes most computer-related topics and could serve as a guide in preparing book orders. The Computer Center has a loan copy.