1982-1983 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMPUTER POLICY COMMITTEE

Regular monthly meetings of the Computer Policy Committee were held from October through May. Three subcommittees—the Rates Subcommittee, the Users' Group Subcommittee, and the Five-Year Academic Needs Subcommittee—were established and met on a regular basis. A fourth subcommittee, the Administrative Computing Needs Subcommittee, was not active this year due to the belief that the subcommittee would simply duplicate the efforts of existing administrative users' groups.

Perhaps the single most important policy recommendation adopted by the CPC this year concerns the methods of "charging" for usage of the Univac 1100 computer. CPC proposed, and the campus administration accepted, an experimental system for next year in which computing funds would be directly budgeted to CSD. A committee will be established to ration computing "credits" to faculty and students. While "free computing" is a misnomer, the CPC proposal will substantially uncouple computer usage from actual budget dollars, most likely resulting in more efficient usage of existing resources.

The CPC acted on several major other issues, including:
1) A proposal to make it easier for individual units to fund computing by their faculty and students (accepted and implemented by campus administration).
2) A recommendation that the current contract on the Univac 1100 be extended.
3) Recommendations on the priorities to attach to the various goals articulated in CSD's Budget Planning Document.
4) A recommendation on continuation of campus support for the NCR computer.
5) Consideration of policy on access to various computing machines on campus not operated by CSD.

Although nonplussed about the actual mission of the Task Force, CPC has closely monitored the activities of the Task Force on Computing throughout the year. There was also continued and more general concern by the CPC over its role in advising on computer policy on campus. The decentralization of computing facilities, with the concomitant resistance to review by a centralized, policy-making faculty committee, has made it difficult for CPC to exercise much of a leadership role. More importantly, the Task Force on Computing seemed to supplant the most important function of the CPC. It is hoped that CPC's role in the computing planning and policy-making process will become more significant as it reviews and considers the product of the Task Force.

1982-83 Computer Policy Committee

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