



Scott Smith, Systems Support Specialist

COMPUTER CENTER

New Staff Member

Scott Smith was recently hired as a systems support specialist. Scott provides support for the equipment in the Computer Center as well as support for faculty office computers. His responsibilities include the installation, configuration, maintenance, and upgrade of computer hardware and the coordination of major repairs. He also assists with the configuration and maintenance of system and application software. In addition, Scott provides evening support to faculty who encounter computer problems with the Computer Center's public labs and technology classrooms. Faculty, please note that if you experience problems with the use of the technology classrooms, you will need to contact the Media and Instructional Support Center.

New Collaborative Learning Lab

There is now a Collaborative Learning/Unix Lab in H139. This is a shared facility between the Computer Center and the School of Science.

This lab consists of seven Pentium III 667 systems that run under the Windows 2000 operating system. The PCs in this lab have access to the same application software that is available in the other public computer labs. The major difference between this lab and the other public computer labs is its physical configuration. The PCs in this lab are located on large, circular tables that allow 2 to 4 students to comfortably sit around each computer and to collaborate on group projects. In addition, the workstations have 21" monitors for easier viewing and a permanent overhead projector is connected to one of the PCs.

The Collaborative Learning/Unix Lab is ideal for small workshops and can be reserved by contacting the lab coordinator, Todd Say (ext. 6410, jts12@psu.edu). The School of Science will be installing five Unix workstations in this lab and



Collaborative Learning/Unix Lab

preference will be given to Unix-based classes when scheduling this lab. Otherwise, the lab is open to all students.

Feel free to stop by the Computer Center to view this new facility. Faculty, please mention this lab to your students and encourage them to use it when a computer is needed for group projects.

Upgrades

This past summer, the Computer Center made a number of upgrades in the areas of academic computing, administrative computing, and telecommunications. The upgrades are listed as follows:

Academic Computing

- The PCs in the H130 and H135 labs were replaced with new Pentium III 800 systems and Pentium III 667 systems, respectively.
- Forty-one new Pentium III 667 systems were installed in the new MIS lab in N156. Although this lab may be scheduled for classes, first preference is given to MIS classes. Otherwise, it is an open lab for all students to use.
- A collaborative learning lab has been created in H139. (For more details, please see the article, *New Collaborative Learning Lab*.)
- There is now an email/web kiosk in the Engineering Complex. (These PCs are located across from the vending machines.)
- The public computer labs have been upgraded to the Windows 2000 operating system. Penn State Behrend is the first Penn State location to have Windows 2000 running in public computer labs.

INSIDE

2

New Software in Computer Labs

New How-to Guides

On-line Tutorials

Useful Websites

3

Library Serial Holdings on Web

New Assistant Reference Librarian

Database Update

4

Technology Classrooms

Desktop Publishing

This publication is available in alternative media upon request.

(continued from page 1)

Administrative Computing

- A new administrative enterprise server and a new web server are in the process of being installed. The administrative enterprise server will improve service on shared applications (such as the On-Time calendar). The web server will be able to support multimedia and streaming video applications and allow web pages to interface with a database.

Telecommunications

- The administrative network has been upgraded to provide better performance for administrative users.
- Switches for the academic enterprise server have been upgraded to Gigabit Ethernet, which increases the speed ten-fold.
- High-speed switches have been installed for the network that serves the computer labs and the Behrend community.
- The Computer Center is testing mobile computing. Mobile computing will allow Penn State faculty and students with a laptop computer to connect directly to the Penn State network from certain locations in Reed, the Library, and in some classrooms.

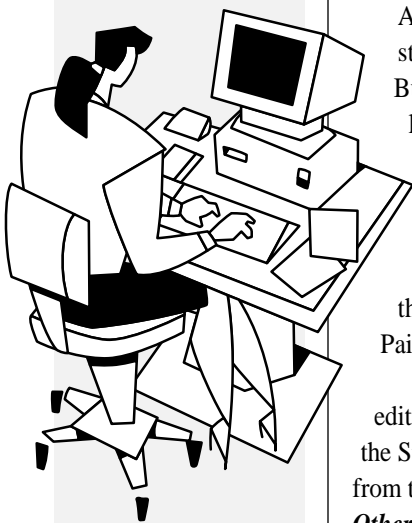
Signature Stations Now Available

There are now two signature stations on campus. These stations allow students and new full-time and part-time faculty and staff to look up their Access Account user ID and password. One signature station is located upstairs in the Reed Union Building near the ID office. The other station is located in H135 of the Computer Center.

New Software in Computer Labs

The following software is now available in the public computer labs: Image Composer and Paintshop Pro.

Image Composer and Paintshop Pro are image editing packages. To use Image Composer, click the Start button and then choose the following items from the cascading menus: **Programs / Internet and Other Utilities / Image Composer**. Image Composer may also be accessed from within FrontPage 2000 by double-clicking on an image. To use Paintshop Pro, click the Start button and then choose the following items from the cascading menus: **Programs / Presentation Programs / Paintshop Pro**.



New How-to Guides

The Computer Center has two new instructional guides:

- Using FTP to Copy Web Files to Your Personal Web Space at Penn State
- Using Eudora Pro for File Attachments, Nicknames, Filters, and Stationery

These step-by-step, illustrated guides are available in the Computer Center's documentation rack.

On-line Tutorials

The Center of Academic Computing at U.P. provides web-based access to over 650 tutorials. There are tutorials for the general computer user as well as for information technology professionals. To see the complete list of tutorials, visit:

<http://wbt.cac.psu.edu/couselist.pdf>

These tutorials are available to Penn State faculty, staff, and students only, and an Access Account is required for use. The tutorials are located at:

<http://wbt.cac.psu.edu>

Also, in order for the above tutorials to work, you must allow the browser to accept "cookies" and the browser must be enabled to run Java programs. To use a tutorial, click the link for *Take a Course*.

Useful Web Sites

- <http://bartleby.com/> - On-line references for Strunk's *The Elements of Style*, Roget's *Thesaurus*, Gray's *Anatomy*, *The Oxford Shakespeare*, Post's *Etiquette*, Robert's *Rules of Order*, Simpson's *Contemporary Quotations*, and much more
- <http://www.info-regenten.de/regent/regent-e/> - Reference that lists the past and current kings, presidents, and/or prime ministers for numerous countries
- <http://www.artsednet.getty.edu/ArtsEdNet/Links/art.html> - Links to museums and image resources
- <http://schmidel.com/bionet.cfm> - Links to biology and chemistry educational resources
- <http://www.jhu.edu/~signals/> - A collection of Java Applets on Fourier analysis, convolution, sampling, control systems analysis, and related topics
- <http://netec.wustl.edu/WebEc/WebEc.html> - Numerous links to economic information

LIBRARY

Library Serial Holdings on the Web

A complete list of the Behrend College Library's serial holdings is now available on the web and can be accessed via a link on the library's "Library Resources" web page. The list is alphabetized by title and includes the holdings of past and present magazine, journal and newspaper subscriptions.

New Assistant Reference Librarian

In August, Anna Pilston was hired as an assistant librarian in the Behrend College Library.

Although she's originally from Connecticut, Anna has lived in the Pittsburgh area for the past several years. During the 1999-2000 school year, she served as a reference librarian at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Anna has a B. Mus. in flute performance and mathematics from DePauw University, and an M.L.I.S. from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Sciences.



Anna Pilston, Assistant Reference Librarian

Database Update

Thanks to the addition of several new contracts over the summer, more than one hundred and fifty Fast Track databases on LIAS are now available. These databases may be accessed at: <http://www.lias.psu.edu/> The following is an overview of some of the library's newer acquisitions categorized by subject area:

Multi-disciplinary

NewsLibrary Online Archive Access

NewsLibrary is a collection of the full-text archives of newspapers and newswire services in the United States and Canada. It is projected to host approximately 110 newspapers in 2000 and includes, for the first time anywhere, the *Erie Times-News* (1995-present).

Humanities

Policy File (Public Policy Research & Analysis)

PolicyFile draws its content from public policy think tanks, university research programs, research organizations and publishers. Some well known contributors include: the American Enterprise Institute, Brookings Institution, Cato Institute and RAND Corporation.

Science and Mathematics

SIAM journals (Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics)

The electronic editions of SIAM's journals are published on an accelerated article-by-article basis. They are the definitive editions for SIAM's nine research journals. Electronic articles are now published in final form months, and in some cases years, in advance of their print counterparts.

Business

Global Access (also known as Disclosure Global Access AND Worldscope)

Global Access provides real-time access to U.S. and international company filings; pricing and earning data; downloadable spreadsheet-ready financial statements; stock quotes and graphs; financial ratios; industry briefings; company officer information; and scanned annual reports.

TableBase (business/marketing)

TableBase provides tabular and statistical data on companies, industries, products, and demographics. Subject areas include market share, company and brand rankings, industry and product forecasts, imports and exports, production and consumption statistics, number of users and trends. Ninety percent of the records are full-text. It is international in scope and is updated weekly.

Don't forget to checkout the new Full-Text Resources link on the Fast Track for easy access to online articles.

MEDIA & INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Technology Classrooms

Once again technology classrooms are in the news at M.I.S.C. Several more rooms have been added. As a result, approximately 50% of the rooms at Behrend College are technology classrooms. Rather than introduce the new classroom installations to you, however, we would like to try a new tack. We are soliciting feedback from technology classroom users regarding both older and newer room installations.

We realize that not all technology classrooms can meet the needs of every faculty member. We realize that in some cases, some of the rooms are not

conducive to particular teaching styles. Therefore, M.I.S.C. would encourage all technology classroom users to contact us with their concerns and their desires regarding the rooms in which they currently teach. We will build a suggestions file for each classroom and try to incorporate as many of the suggestions received as possible. Tentatively, smaller, easier to handle requests will be done over the semester break. Larger more time consuming requests will be addressed next summer.

Constructive criticism and comments regarding the placement of projectors and screens and ergonomics or types of podiums are welcome. Your feedback is important in order to help us make the rooms as user friendly as possible. Please send your comments to M.I.S.C., 75 Academic Building.



There are many factors that come into play when designing a brochure or flyer.

Desktop Publishing

Many departments are now designing their own brochures and flyers on their own PC's and bringing their originals to the Media and Instructional Support Center thinking that these originals are ready for the copier or press. This may not be the case. There are many factors that come into play when designing a brochure or flyer. The machines that we use have certain requirements like—inch grip edge or edge erase. Often, our Graphic Artist needs to get involved by cutting and pasting or reducing work that is thought to be finished. This will mean an additional cost to you, which often offsets the savings in doing the setup yourself.

Please contact Carolyn Brown at X6121 for information before doing any originals that will ultimately be sent to our office for reproduction.