UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN TRINITY COLLEGE COMPUTER LABORATORY

ANNUAL REPORT 1979/80

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SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

In the Computer Laboratory, 1979/80 was primarily a year of consolidation during which plans, initiated in early 1979, were implemented. These included the installation in October, of the DECsystem-2020 for library and administrative work and of a Digital VAX 11/780 in the Department of Computer Science, and the withdrawal of the IBM System/360 at the beginning of December. While these changes did much to rationalise the central computing environment and provide a base for development over the next few years, they did not ease the heavy overload that existed, particularly in the academic area, and the year continued to be an extremely frustrating one for all users, notwithstanding the considerable amount of computing time obtained outside College. major upgrade to the DECsystem-2040 was, however, ordered in July and will make a significant improvement when installed, in 1981.

The installation of new data transmission lines by the Post Office continued to cause difficulty throughout the year although the position improved somewhat over the previous year.

The Computer Users' Committee continued to be very active in 1979/80 and made valuable contributions to the Management Committee in a number of areas. It's representation on the latter Committee was also increased from one to three representatives.

SECTION 2 MACHINE UTILISATION

2.1 Computer Activity

As usual, this section of the Report consists mainly of tables which describe those College computing activities, funded through the Computer Laboratory, in terms of actual cost. The format of some tables has been changed this year to reflect the increased number of machines involved and the level of detail available from the usage recording programs.

Computer time obtained outside College has been included in terms of its actual cost to College. This means that the main tables do include computer time purchased commercially but do not reflect computer time obtained free of charge from UCD although some indication of this is provided in Table 13.

With the installation of the VAX 11/780, those aspects of the research and teaching computers in the Department of Computer Science, which are funded through the Laboratory, have increased considerably and are now shown separately and not included as an overhead, as in the past.

2.2 Ancillary Operations

Data recording, which was a major part of the Laboratory's activity in the past, has now ceased since users perform their own data entry via terminals. Accordingly, from this year onward, "Data Preparation Service" no longer appears as an entry in this Report and the Laboratory staff who performed this work have been retrained as programmers.

Analysis of Computer Use Cost of Monthly Use per User Category

£

	·							
_		User Category						
Month Library		Academic	Admin (Note 2)	Outside	Systems Support	Total (Note 3)		
10/79	3109	10428	6313	1758	3396	25004		
11/79	4009	15422	4796	2306	2186	28719		
12/79	1079	11650	2075	137	1209	16150		
1/80	2417	16128	2602	342	1877	23366		
2/80	4369	21488	4138	197	1750	31942		
3/80	3814	25540	2639	249	2952	35194		
4/80	2685	32824	6696	153	2043	44401		
5/80	3424	19255	7990	243	2790	33702		
6/80	2445	9785	7883	322	2612	23047		
7/80	2483	13185	4152	430	3052	23302		
8/80	3798	9055	5325	388	3179	21745		
9/80 computer Science Machines	2572	12292	7469	439	1982	24754		
(Note 1) Overall	36204	19140 216192	62078	6964	29028	19140 350466		

- Note 1: The operational cost to the Computer Laboratory of the VAX 11/78 and B1700 research and teaching systems are only available on a full-year basis.
- Note 2: The administrative figures include computer time purchased outside at a total cost of £14182, during the period immediately following the withdrawal of the IBM System/360.
- Note 3: In addition to this usage, Academic and Library processing was performed at UCD, at no cost to TCD. This usage, however, amounted to £22176 when priced at UCD's charging rates.

Analysis of Computer Use
Percent of Total Monthly Use per User Category

	User Category						
Month	Library	Academic	Admin	Outside	Systems Support		
	ક	ફ	90	8	8		
10/79	12.4	41.8	25.2	7.0	13.6		
11/79	14.0	53.7	16.7	8.0	7.6		
12/79	6.7	72.2	12.8	0.8	7.5		
1/80	10.3	69.0	11.1	1.5	8.1		
2/80	13.7	67.2	13.0	0.6	5.5		
3/80	10.8	72.5	7.7	0.7	8.3		
4/80	6.0	73.9	15.1	0.3	4.7		
5/80	10.2	57.1	23.7	0.7	8.3		
6/80	10.6	42.5	34.2	1.4	11.3		
7/80	10.7	56.6	17.8	1.8	13.1		
8/80	17.5	41.6	24.5	1.8	14.6		
9/80	10.4	49.7	30.2	1.8	7.9		
Computer Science Machines (Note 1)	-	100.0	-	-	-		
Overall	10.3	61.7	17.7	2.0	8.3		

Note 1: The operational cost to the Computer Laboratory of the VAX 11/78 and B1700 research and teaching systems are only available on a full-year basis.

The percentages in this table are based on the costs in Table 1.

Total Annual Cost per System per User Category £

System	User Category					
	Library	Academic	Admin.	Outside	Systems Support	Total
System/360	3814	4307	4120	3254	1905	17400

DEC-2020

DEC-2040

External

(Note 1)

VAX 11/780

B1700

Total

This is the cost of computer time purchased Note 1: externally. It does not include time obtained

free of charge in UCD.

	User Category					
System	Library	Academic	Admin.	Outside	Systems Support	Total
System/360	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.5	5.0
DEC-2020	9.1	0	12.2	0	0.2	21.5
DEC-2040	0.1	55.1	0.3	1.0	7.6	64.1
External (Note 1)	_	<u>-</u>	4.0	_	-	4.0
VAX 11/780	-	3.5	_	-	_	3.5
в1700	-	1.9	-		-	1.9
Total	10.3	61.7	17.7	2.0	8.3	100.0

Note 1: This is the cost of computer time purchased externally. It does not include time obtained free of charge in UCD.

Table 4

Analysis of Academic Computing Use by Machine by Department - Cost - £

				······································		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Department		Cost	of Computer	Usage		
	DEC- 2040	DEC- 2020	System/ 360	VAX 11/780	B1700	Total
Communition						
Computer Science	62059	80	1185	12424	6716	82464
Engineering	34356	-	608	-	_	34964
Chemistry	25758	-	-	-		25758
Statistics	18064	-	168		-	18232
Pure Mathematics	11356	-	4	-	_	11360
Community alth	6652	-	-	-	-	6652
Applied Mathematics	6109	-	80	-		6189
Physics	5623	-	8	-	-	5631
Genetics	2520		2163	-	-	4683
Zoology	4496		-	-	-	4496
Education	2626	-	5			2631
Psychology	2486	-	-	-	-	2486
Geography	2430	-	-	-	-	2430
Political Science	1887	-	71	-	_	1958
Business Studies	1432	-	-	-	-	1432
Economics	1328	-	13	-	-	1341
Pharmacy	764	-	_	<u>-</u>	_	764
Sociology	601	-	-		-	601
Botany	460	-	2	-	-	462
Microbiology	372	-	-	-	-	372
Physiology	351	-	-	-	-	351
Pathology	321	-	-	-	-	321
Biochemistry	269	-	-	-	-	269
Surgery	164	-	-	-	-	164
Others (4)	181	_		-		181
	192665	80	4307	12424	6716	216192

		······································					
Department	Percent of Total Computer Cost						
	DEC- 2040	DEC- 2020	System/ 360	VAX 11/780	B1700	Total	
Computer Science	17.7	0	0.3	3.5	1.9	23.4	
Engineering	9.8	0	0.2	_,	1 · J	10.0	
Chemistry	7.4	0	0		_	7.4	
Statistics	5.2	0	0.1	_	3 000	7.4 5.3	
Pure	J. 2		0.1			J. J	
Mathematics	3.3	0	0	-	-	3.3	
mmunity Health	2.0	0	0	-	-	2.0	
Applied Ma th ematics	1.7	0	0	_	-	1.7	
Physics	1.6	0	0	-	-	1.6	
Genetics	0.7	0	0.6	-	-	1.3	
Zoology	1.3	0	0	-	-	1.3	
Education	0.7	0	0	-	-	0.7	
Psychology	0.7	0	0		-	0.7	
Geography	0.7	0	0	-	-	0.7	
Political Science	0.5	0	0	-	-	0.5	
Business Studies	0.4	0	0	-	-	0.4	
onomics	0.4	0	0	-	-	0.4	
Pharmacy	0.2	0	0	-	-	0.2	
Sociology	0.2	0	0	-	_	0.2	
Botany	0.1	0	0	-	-	0.1	
Microbiology	0.1	0	0	-	-	0.1	
Physiology	0.1	0	0	-	-	0.1	
Pathology	0.1	0	0		-	0.1	
Biochemistry	0.1	0	0	-	-	0.1	
Others (5)	0.1	0	0	- 	-	0.1	
	55.1	0	1.2	3.5	1.9	61.7	

Analysis of Library Use Cost - £

Application	Development and Maintenance	Production	Total
Accessions System	-	5260	5260
Cataloguing System	9399	21214	30613
SDI Service	8	323	331
Total	9407	26797	36204

Table 7

Analysis of Library Use Percent

Application	Development and Maintenance	Production	Total
Accessions System	-	1.5	1.5
Cataloguing System	2.7 6.0		8.7
SDI Service	0	0.1	0.1
Total	2.7	7.6	10.3

Analysis of Administrative Use Cost - £

		T	T
Application	Development and Maintenance	Production	Total
Accommodation Booking	206	734	940
Admissions	-	599	599
Student and Graduate Records	6484	12295	18779
Examination Processing	-	73	73
Staff Statistics	-	429	429
Salaries and Wages	11048	16174	27222
Debtors Ledgers including fees and Incidentals	363	8252	8615
Creditors Ledger	143	1551	1694
Nominal Ledger	578	2448	3026
Buildings Office	20	681	701
Total	18842	43236	62078

Analysis of Administrative Use Percent

Application	Development and Maintenance	Production	Total
Accommodation Booking	0.1	0.2	0.3
Admissions	_	0.2	0.2
Student and Graduate Records	2.0	. 3.4	5.4
Examination Processing		0	0
Staff Statistics	_	0.1	0.1
Salaries and Wages	3.2	4.5	7.7
Debtors Ledgers including fees and Incidentals	0.1	2.4	2.5
Creditors Ledger	0	0.4	0.4
Nominal Ledger	0.2	0.7	0.9
Buildings Office	0	0.2	0.2
Total	5.6	12.1	17.7

DECsystem-2020 Availability

Month	Engir	neering	Environment			Availability	
	Scheduled	Unscheduled	Causes	Software	Total	Hours	ક
10/79	27.32*	5 60	2.40				
10/19	27.32	5.60	3.40	0	36.32	707.68	95.12
11/79	0	0.42	0	0.30	0.72	719.28	99.90
12/80	1.00	26.32	44.47	0.98	72.77	671.23	90.22
1/80	2.00	2.60	0	0	4.60	739.40	99.38
2/80	2.22	0.40	0.43	0	3.05	692.95	99.56
3/80	3.00	0.03	0	0	3.03	740.97	99.59
4/80	7.88	2.52	0.55	1.43	12.38	707.62	98.28
5/80	4.93	0.03	0	0.32	5.28	738.72	99.29
6/80	3.63	0	0.90	0.22	4.75	715.25	99.34
7/80	2.07	0	2.68	0	4.75	739.25	99.36
8/80	3.83	0.47	94.00	0	98.30	645.70	86.79
9/80	2.97	0	0.23	0.93	4.13	715.87	99.43
	60.85	38.39	146.66	4.18	250.08	8533.92	97.15

^{*} Includes installation

L							
	System Down-time - Hours				Availability		
Month	Engineering		Environment	G - 61	m - 1 - 3	Availability	
	Scheduled	Unscheduled	Causes	Software	Total	Hours	ક
10/79	0	62.28	3.65	1.55	67.48	676.52	90.93
11/79	0	2.15	9.29	0.65	12.09	707.91	98.32
12/79	2.33	0.35	20.67	0.02	23.37	720.63	96.86
1/80	3.57	0	0.03	0.13	3.53	740.47	99.52
2/80	o	0.13	0.37	0.13	0.63	695.37	99.91
3/80	2.08	16.93	58.32	0.28	77.61	666.39	89 . 5 7
4/80	0	0.07	31.07	0.32	31.46	688.54	95.63
5/80	0	19.08	0.28	0	19.36	724.64	97.40
6/80	0	101.68	37.92	0.45	140.05	579.95	80.55
7/80	2.33	6.08	10.67	0	19.08	724.92	97.44
8/80	2.75	46.95	110.15	1.87	161.72	582.28	78.26
9/80	0	6.48	22.83	7.12	36.43	683.57	94.94
verall	12.86	262.18	305.25	12.52	592.81	8191.19	93.25

	Cost of Use at UCD Rates - £ (Note 1)				
Month	IBM Machines	DECsystem-2060 (Note 2)	Total		
10/79	4.49	80.58	85.07		
11/79	126.43	75.58	202.01		
12/79	64.89	63.03	127.92		
1/80	890.20	56.16	946.36		
2/80	2111.98	289.45	2401.43		
3/80	2741.78	124.29	2866.07		
4/80	2773.76	1009.01	3782.77		
5/80	2791.96	2094.80	4886.76		
6/80	898.32	1432.12	2330.44		
7/80	574.94	1159.29	1734.23		
8/80	102.54	1032.85	1135.39		
9/80	176.55	1501.11	1677.66		
Total	13257.84	8918.27	22176.11		

Note 1: This usage has been priced at UCD's billing rate to outside users and does not represent actual cost.

Note 2: Access to the UCD DEC machine was for plotting purposes only.

Table 13

3.1 Academic

The demand for academic computing continued unabated and despite the rationing system, introduced last year, the congestion on the DECsystem-2040 was extremely severe, especially since most academic applications were transferred to it as a result of the withdrawal of the IBM machine. Those academic users for whom transfer to the DEC was not feasible due to existing commitments to IBM programs made use of the IBM machine in UCD by means of the data transmission link which was heavily used from January onwards. This work consisted mainly of research computing requiring programs only available on IBM equipment and undergraduate use by classes which could not change in mid-course. latter is of a temporary nature but the former will continue and is being supplemented by a growing amount of work requiring access to plotting facilities which cannot yet be provided here.

3.2 Library

The development of the DEC version of the library system continued to be the main activity in this area. The first component of this, the accessions subsystem, which went into operation last year performed well and the new version of the catalogue supplement subsystem went into routine use in August, on schedule, having run on UCDs IBM system during the transition period. This was later followed by the DEC version of the SDI programs. Much work still remains to be done before a complete edition of the catalogue is produced but it is planned to do this on the DEC in the first half of 1981.

3.3 Administration

The transfer of existing applications to the DECsystem-2020 was the major activity in the administrative data processing area. By far the biggest task was the conversion of the payroll application which was completed by the end of the year having run on a commercial service bureau during the transition period. new form, not only entry of data but also the printing of output, including salary cheques, is done using printing terminals in the Finance Office so that the user has a high degree of control over the complete By the end of the year, all administrative process. applications had been converted including staff statistics and the remaining ledger applications. Other administrative computing projects included the automation of much of the work involved in the implementation of the Devlin and National Understanding pay rounds and the further development of a ready reckoner for use in this area which is produced by the Laboratory and used extensively by all the other university and related institutions. The student record system operated satisfactorily but its extension to permit direct access by terminals in the faculty offices had not gone into operation by the end of the year due to delays in obtaining data transmission lines.

4.1 Hardware

As already mentioned, the main equipment changes were the installation of the DECsystem-2020 and the VAX 11/780 together with the withdrawal of the IBM machine and while these resulted in redistribution of the workload and made it possible to cope with the initial impact of the Manpower Programme, they did not result in increased computing power to relieve the serious overload situation or to cater for growth in other areas. However, once the financial commitments associated with the IBM 360 were finally discharged, it was possible to order the equipment necessary to upgrade the DECsystem-2040 to a DECsystem-2060, a significantly faster processor, and to increase its memory size by 256K words of storage which will further accelerate its performance. In addition, a third disc storage unit was ordered for attachment to the DECsystem-2020 where shortage of space for some of the large data files involved was causing considerable difficulty. These additions are scheduled for installation during 1980/81.

During the year, the Gandalf PACX line switching unit was expanded to meet the growing number of user terminals and a new terminal room, initially equipped with a small number of machines, was opened in the Arts Building to facilitate users from that area. The User Preparation Room in the Laboratory itself was also expanded considerably to cater for increasing numbers.

A Digital PDP 11/34 system, funded by the Library, was also installed in the Laboratory. This machine will be used exclusively for a library circulation control system which is under development.

4.2 Software

During the year a number of new application program packages were implemented on the DECsystem-2040. Among these were HARVEY, a least squares maximum likelihood program, MULTAN, an extension to an existing chemistry program called SHELX, and HANSCH, a compound analysis package funded by the School of Pharmacy. A number of updated versions of existing packages were also implemented during the year including the implementation of Release 7.2 of SPSS, a major statistical package funded by the Department of Statistics. A new version of the main DEC-20 operation system, TOPS-20 Version 4 was implemented on the DECsystem-2040 in September and while all its features cannot be made available until the equipment has been upgraded, it will provide several additional facilities for users.

5.1 Teaching and Publications

The Academic User Services Group ran 16 short courses for users including short introductory courses, programming courses in FORTRAN and PASCAL, advanced user courses, and instruction in the use of program packages. A new edition of the Laboratory Catalogue of Programs was produced in September and new editions of a number of pamphlets were also produced. At the end of the year a new edition of the Laboratory Users' Guide was in course of preparation as was the TCD Hardware Catalogue. The latter is an attempt to provide a central catalogue, based on information supplied by departments, of the growing amount of computing equipment which now exists in College.

5.2 Sale of Services

As predicated in last year's Report, the revenue from the sale of computer services dropped sharply from £19,518 last year to £10,115 in 1979/80. Some users found it more convenient to move their work to other IBM installations rather than undertake extensive program conversion. Because of the seriously overloaded condition of the College equipment and the resulting poor service to users, outside use is unlikely to grow in the near future although it is hoped that once a better level of service is reestablished, revenue may again increase.

5.3 External Contacts

The Laboratory continued to be active in the DECUS organisation, the DEC user group, and was represented at all of its meetings in this country. The Assistant Director again served as chairman of the Irish branch and as a council member of the U.K. section. Laboratory representatives attended the DECUS U.K. regional conference in Edinburgh but no representative was sent to the organisation's European annual meeting this year. The Library Systems Analyst attended the U.K. MARC Users' Group Conference in September. usual, ongoing informal contact was maintained with the NUI college's computer centres and with a number of local installations with common interests, particularly the Meteorological Services DECsystem-2050 Centre. Laboratory also organised a small exhibition of word processing equipment as part of the 1980 Irish University Administrators' Conference which was held in Trinity at Easter.

In the short term, installation of the additional equipment now on order will greatly improve the service to users by reducing the response time of the main DEC system to a satisfactory level. Once this happens, a new bottleneck will emerge as the growing number of terminal owners increasingly find all 32 entry ports to the system engaged when they attempt a connection and as their growing demands for file storage exceed the capacity of the systems' disc space. In general, however, these features of the system can be expanded in relatively small steps.

In the longer term, it can be expected that the number of computers acquired by individual academic departments will increase considerably as the size and cost of such equipment continues to fall. The role of the Computer Laboratory and the nature of its equipment must be carefully considered to ensure the most effective overall use of computing resources within College and to prevent unnecessary duplication of effort or equipment.

In non-academic areas, also, the extent to which future computing power is provided by upgrading the central facilities or by providing small dedicated machines in individual offices must be carefully evaluated.

APPENDIX A

EQUIPMENT

The specifications of the equipment installed on September 30th, 1980 are as follows:

<u>Digital DECsystem-2040:</u>

- 1 x 2040 CPU with 256K words of memory and 32 asynchronous communications ports
- 3 x RP06 200 Mbyte disc drives
- 2 x TU45 120Kb, 9-track, 800/1600 b.p.i.
 tape drives
- 1 x CD20-A 300 card/Minute Card Reader
- 1 x LP20-AB 300 line/minute 64 Character printer
- 1 x DN20 synchronous communications port
- 1 x LA36 Console

On order:

- CPU upgrade to model 2060
- additional 256K words of memory

<u>Digital DECsystem-2020</u>

- 1 x 2020 CPU with 256K words of memory,
 32 asychronous communications ports and
 1 synchronous communication port
- 2 x RP06 200 Mbyte disc drive
- 2 x TU45 120 Kb 9-track 800/1600 b.p.i. magnetic tape drives
- 1 x LA36 Console

On order:

- 1 x RP06 200 Mbyte disc drive

Digital PDP 11/34:

For real-time Library Circulation Control system:

- CPU with 128K memory
- 8 asynchronous lines
- 3 x RL01 Disc drives
- 1 x LA 36 Console

Digital VAX 11/780:

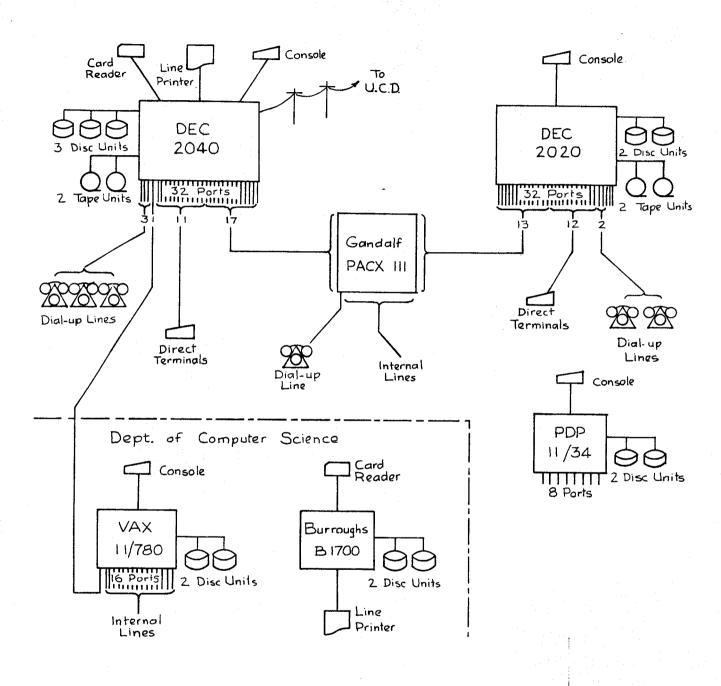
- 1 x VAX 11/780 system in the Department of Computer Science comprising the following:
 - Central Processor with 1 Mbyte of memory
 - 24 asynchronous lines
 - 1 x LA120 Console
 - 3 x RK07 Disc drives

Burroughs B1700:

- 1 x B1700 System in the Department of Computer Science comprising:
 - B1714 CPU and SPO including 64K memory
 - A9480-12 Dual Disc unit
 - A9115 Card Reader
 - A9359.2 Line Printer

Communications

Approximately 80 terminals, most of which belong to user departments, have access to the equipment. These compete for the limited number of entry ports on the appropriate computer via a Gandalf PACX III switching unit. The public terminals which may be booked in advance and located in the Terminal Room of the Laboratory have dedicated ports, however, to guarantee access. A high-speed data-line connects the DECsystem-2040 with the IBM 4331 machine in UCD.



Installed Equipment Configuration - 30.9.80 Figure A.1

APPENDIX B

STAFF

The Laboratory staff is organised as shown in Figure B.1. The functions of the main groups are as follows:

ACADEMIC USER SERVICES GROUP

This Group, comprised of programming staff, provides assistance to computer users by means of:

- an advisory service
- courses for users
- publications such as the Users' Guide and Computer Laboratory Newsletter.

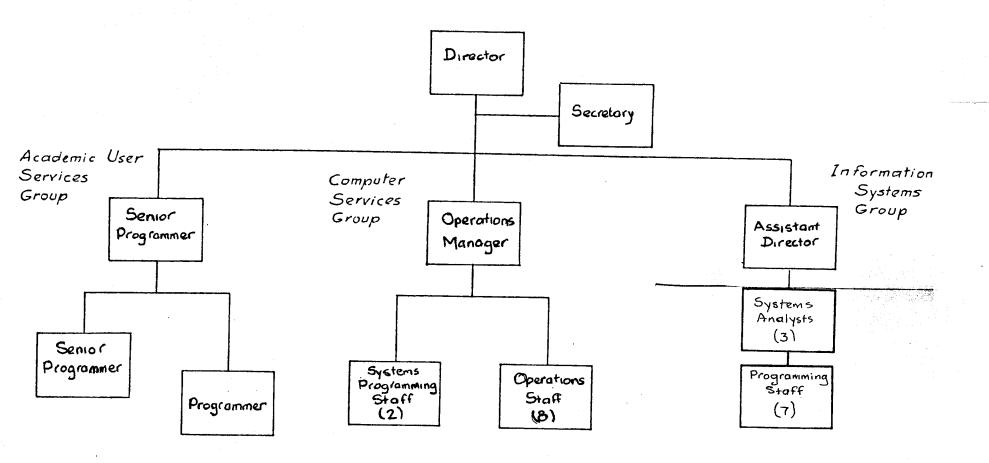
COMPUTER SERVICES GROUP

This Group is responsible for the running of the central computer equipment. It is staffed by operations personnel who look after the running of the machines and perform the associated ancillary functions, systems programmers who generate and maintain the central systems software, and janitors who are responsible for security.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS GROUP

This Group is responsible for the regular operation of existing administrative and Library computer applications and for the development of new ones.

Development of new projects is performed by Systems Analysts who design the applications and Programmers who write and test the computer programs needed for their implementation.



COMPUTER LABORATORY
ORGANISATION

Figure B.1

APPENDIX C

The services provided by the Laboratory may be divided into two groups:

 Computer Service consisting of computer time together with the appropriate materials and supporting facilities. This is available to all college departments and to outside users.

2. Application Development Service

This is a full systems analysis and programming service provided for library and administrative applications design. The Laboratory staff who perform this work normally use the "Computing Service" for test purposes on behalf of the user departments.

The total cost of running the Laboratory is shown in Table C.1 under the main expenditure headings used in the College accounts. The cost of providing each of the two services was determined by analysing all the categories of expenditure shown in Table C.1 to estimate the fraction of each used to provide each service. For example, in the case of salaries the cost of Systems Analysts is charged to Application Development, Operators to Computer Service, while the cost of others such as the Director is distributed over both in proportion to the estimated effort spent on each by the individuals concerned.

In the case of Computer Service, the expenditure was further apportioned between the IBM System/360, the DECsystem-2040, the DECsystem-2020 and the two machines operated by the Computer Science Department. In the case of the three central machines the records of time used were then costed for use in this report.

Table C.2 shows use of the two services by user category.

COMPUTER LABORATORY ACCOUNTS

Year Ended 30 September 1980

Expenditure:

	Actual	Budget
Cost of Staff:		
- Salaries	200,903	208,800
- Wages	12,031	12,000
Rentals of Equipment	5,381	5,400
Purchases of Ancillary Equipment	143,797	124,900
Maintenance	66,061	83,600
Consumable Supplies	17,846	19,200
Cost of External Services	14,182	8,900
Insurance Charges	1,691	2,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,863	3,400
Recurrent Cost for Year	464,755	468,200

Income:

Income from Sale of Computer Services - £10,115

This includes income amounting to £4620.08 from computer use by externally funded research and consulting activities undertaken by the following departments:

Applied Research and Consultancy	£3,110.60
Statistics	1,466.70
Community Health	42.78
	£4,620.08

Analysis of Service Costs

User Category	Computer Service (Note 1)	Application Development Service (Note 2)	Total
Academic	235114	0	235114
Library	39680	39052	78732
Administrarive	68039	75237	143276
Outside	7633	0	7633
Total	350466	114289	464755

Note 1: "Systems Support" use is included as an overhead in these costs.

Note 2: This breakdown is approximate and based on the total development cost distributed in proportion to the number of development staff assigned.

Table C.2

APPENDIX D

GLOSSARY

CPU

: Central Processing Unit, the major component of a computer system. Six College CPUs are referred to in this report, IBM 2044, DEC-2020, DEC-2040, VAX 11/780, Burroughs B1714 and a PDP 11/34.

DECUS

: A Digital Equipment Corporation computer users' group.

Development Use

: Use of the system by systems analysis and programming staff for the development of new applications or of major enhancements to existing ones including the productive running of new programs prior to their transfer to the data processing or administrative staff for routine use.

Maintenance Use

: Use of the machine by systems analysis and programming staff for the maintenance and updating of existing programs.

MARC

: MAchine Readable Cataloguing. An internationally used format for the recording of bibliographic data.

Memory

: Storage within a CPU used to store programs and data currently in use. In general, the speed of a computer

system increases as the memory in its CPU is expanded. Memory is "working" storage unlike magnetic discs or tapes which are used for the longer term storage of data files.

Modem

Modulator-demodulator unit, one of which is normally required for signal conversion purposes at each end of a data transmission line.

P.A.C.X.

: Private automatic computer exchange.
A device, similar to an automatic telephone exchange, which enables many terminals to compete for access to a limited number of entry ports on one or more computers.

Plotting

: The production of computer output on paper in the form of graphs, drawings or maps, etc. The Laboratory has no plotting equipment at present and uses facilities in UCD.

Port

An entry channel through which one terminal at a time can communicate with the computer. Ports may be "synchronous" or "asynchronous", depending on the communications technique used. The former are normally used for high speed communication only.

Production Use

: Use of the computer by data processing or administrative staff for routine productive work.

SDI Service

: The current awareness service based on individual interest profiles operated by the Library.

System

- : This word is used in two ways, according to context:
 - 1. An application system is a set of computer programs and their associated manual procedures to perform a specific task, e.g., the Payroll System or the Library Catalogue Production System.
 - 2. A computer system is a complete computer consisting of the CPU and the peripheral machines connected to it for input, output, and data file storage purposes. This report refers to six TCD computer systems, the IBM System/360, DECsystem-2020, DECsystem-2040, VAX 11/780, Burroughs B1700 and the PDP 11/34.

TOPS-20

The main control program on the DECsystem-20.