Elections bring changes to ACUTA Board

Pat Searles
ACUTA Immediate Past President
Cornell University

The ballots have been tabulated and we are pleased to announce the winners and introduce them to you. All will take office immediately following the close of our Annual Conference which takes place this year in Orlando, July 16-20.

Dr. James Cross, Michigan Technological University, will become our President Elect. Jim was Secretary/Treasurer last year and Secretary the previous year. He has made significant contributions to ACUTA during his two years on the Board of Directors as well as in the years prior to his election to the Board.

Anthony Tanzi, Brown University, has been elected Secretary/Treasurer. Tony is a founding member of ACUTA and has seen our Association grow and develop throughout its 24 years of existence. He is ready, willing, and eager to serve on our Board of Directors.

Marianne Landfair, Indiana University, and Anthony Mordosky, Millersville University, have both been elected to two-year terms as Directors-at-Large. Marianne has been active in several facets of ACUTA for several years and her experience will help in her transi-

Campus cable law for the layperson

Jim Bilello, Films Incorporated/PMI
John Pellegrin, Law Offices of John D. Pellegrin

The following is a summary of a presentation given at ACUTA’s Spring Seminar in Kansas City.

There are several important points that campus cable administrators should be aware of before making their final plans for laying cable and erecting satellite dishes.

The first relates to the Cable Act of 1992 and its most basic implications for campus cable operators. While the 1992 act was meant to allow more competitive access to programming and improve service to consumers, Congress is now making more changes to U.S. telecommunications laws, and what follows may need to be modified if further changes in the federal law occur. The most important item for campus cable operators to consider, however, remains, and is best summarized by this question: Will your campus cable system cross a public street with a hard wire? If you answer “yes” to this question, then your system is open to a whole host of local, state, and federal regulations, not the least of which is that you may be required to obtain a cable operating franchise from your local governmental authority (city, town, or county and possibly state).

This is because at a minimum, local communities want to control access to and maintenance of public streets. Also, however, is the question of whether your local franchised community cable company will view your cable operation as competition. If the cable franchisee chooses to, it can legally question your operating authority to cross public streets with a hard wire unless you

Inside...

2 Board report
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Board Report

Board approves FY '95–'96 operating budget of $1.2 million

The ACUTA Board approved the FY '95–'96 operating budget noting the transition to the new governance structure, leadership of the new ACUTA Executive Director, continued success/growth of the Association, FY '95–'96 programs and plans, operating expenses of the electronic access project, and impact of the new headquarters building on revenues and expenses. Other items on the agenda included:

- Orlando Annual Conference planning
- ACUTA Silver Anniversary
- Institutional Excellence Award nominations
- 1995 Achievement Award nominations
- Electronic access project update
- Nominations and elections
- Member Needs Assessment reports
- Future ACUTA seminar sites and topics
- Annual Conference vendor track
- Revision of ACUTA Policy & Procedures Manual
- 1996 Exhibit booth rates

Submitted by
Dr. James Cross, Michigan Tech
ACUTA Secretary/Treasurer

FCC releases report on long distance carriers and code assignments

The FCC has released the latest available data on the number of long distance carriers and the geographic areas they serve. Also included in this report is information on Carrier Identification Codes, 500 service, 555 line number assignments, 800 service, and 900 service.

The report contains data on the number of Carrier Identification Codes assigned, a list of companies with codes, and their respective code assignments. Included for the first time is a list of 500 and 555 assignments made by Bell Communications Research. The report also contains information on the monthly growth of 800 numbers through March 1995. In addition, the report shows the number of 900 codes assigned by Bell Communications Research and the carrier holding each code as of Dec. 31, 1994.

The report is available for reference in the Industry Analysis Division Reference Room, Common Carrier Bureau, 1250 23rd Street N.W., Plaza Level, Washington, D.C. Copies may be purchased by calling International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS, Inc.) at (202) 857-3800. The report can also be downloaded from the FCC-State Link computer bulletin board at (202) 418-0241 [BBS file name LDC4Q94.ZIP].

The FCC-State Link also can be reached through the National Technical Information Service’s FedWorld system at (703) 321-8020 or through FedWorld’s telnet internet node (fedworld.gov)>(fedworld.gov).

For further information, contact Katie Rangos (202) 418-0940.

Association of College and University Telecommunications Administrators
ACUTA NEWS, Volume 24, No. 7

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President’s Message

It doesn’t seem possible that one year has passed so quickly, but nevertheless here it is, July 1995, and this will be my last column as your ACUTA President.

It has truly been an enjoyable year. I’ve been surrounded by people passionate about their profession, and even more passionate about this organization that we call our professional home.

I would be remiss if I didn’t take this opportunity to say a heartfelt “Thank you” to:

Central Missouri State University for their support (both administratively and financially) of my additional role of ACUTA President. It would not have been nearly as much fun without the support of the entire University, especially President Ed Elliott and Dr. Duane Sterling.

The Office of Telecommunications at Central. My staff has tolerated (well OK, maybe that isn’t the correct word!) long absences, long conference calls, and many instances of “I’m just not available until I finish this ACUTA (fill in the blank).”

The highly professional Executive Director and staff of ACUTA in Lexington, Kentucky. You all have covered a lot of our collective “sins” this year, and for that, I’m extremely grateful.

The Board of Directors of ACUTA. Make no mistake about it, this group has been where governing ACUTA has actually taken place. The membership can take great pride in the people who have been elected to serve.

The hard working, little compensated Committee Chairs and their committees. This is where the “doing” actually has taken place. Without question, adjusting to the new structure has been a challenge. But now we’ve been through it once, so it should get a little easier!

And finally, you the ACUTA members. Your support, your spirit of professionalism, and your desire to move the organization forward have been manifested in an increased spirit of volunteerism. We have more volunteers serving ACUTA now than ever before! Additionally, I’ve appreciated all the telephone calls, e-mail messages, and words of encouragement as we’ve moved through the year. I hope that I’ve responded to you all!

While it might be difficult to point to any one thing as a measure of accomplishment, I believe we have moved the organization forward this year. Adjusting to the new structure and areas of responsibility was a significant challenge—but remember, I warned you about that!

I never believed (and tried to emulate this) that the chief elected officer is elected to manage the organization or shift the direction of the organization. Instead, it seemed to me that the real role of the President is to provide a framework within the mission/goals and provide an environment ripe with open and honest discussion. That way, voices get heard from all sides, but the governing board always has an eye toward meeting the goals, objectives, and strategies that support our mission statement.

On a broader scope, the words of Marybeth Fidler, writing in ASAE’s Leadership Magazine somehow seem appropriate. Ms. Fidler says that the keys to successfully fulfilling any leadership challenge are simple: 1) Humbly show up; 2) Tell the truth with compassion; and 3) Let go of controlling the outcomes. If I’ve accomplished that, then I hope I’ve fulfilled the covenant that we agreed to when you elected me.

Finally, being ACUTA’s President has required me to be away from home more days than I’d like to count this past year. Speaking engagements, ACUTA Board meetings, events...It all added up to a hectic pace. Rachel, you and the kids have put up with more than your share, and I’ll be forever grateful for your understanding and support. It’s still always nice to come home!

Save $50
October 29–November 1, 1995
The Worthington Hotel
Fort Worth, Texas
“Strategic Planning & Budgeting for Telecom Infrastructure”
“The Telecom Department: Rx for Change”

ACUTA News  July 1995
Wiring today for tomorrow

Ruth Michalecki
Director of Telecommunications
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Like many colleges and universities, the telecommunications infrastructure at our institution was a hodgepodge of various wire categories, installed over the years with little or no regard to standards.

The wiring closets for telecommunications had been established many years ago in certain buildings, and as a general rule, they followed the requirements of the local telephone company. The distribution cable for voice usually entered the building in a hot, dirty, damp mechanical room and was distributed to each floor by riser cable. A typical wiring closet on each floor was in a space shared by the custodial department, with sinks, mops, and cleaning compounds. We also shared storage areas with departments and found ourselves surrounded by boxes of paper, old chairs, desks, and filing cabinets. It was not unusual to have to hunt for the wiring terminals in this type of closet, requiring the moving of various stored material placed in front of the terminal blocks. No one paid any attention to pathways, and obviously there was no thought to security or environmental concerns.

At the university, Computing Operations and Telecommunications are two separate departments. As data communications established their “concentration centers,” they were in a different location from the telecommunications wiring closets but usually not in much better shape. When we wired departments for voice and data on a daily basis, and because there were two or more locations for the wire to terminate, we had to pull wire from the same outlet in a room to different wiring closets. This added to the cost and did not allow us to be flexible in our use of the wire. In addition, absolutely no consideration was given to the distance limitations of the wire.

With data communications becoming more critical to the university every day, we were forced to look at what we needed to do to provide a telecommunications infrastructure that would meet our future needs. Although the existing category 3 wire was adequate for our 10BaseT ethernet and token ring networks, our future network will be ATM technology and will require high performance cabling.

As we looked at what we needed to do to move the university into a position where we could take advantage of the newer technologies, we tried to determine the order in which we would tackle this major project. In order to stop the practice of duplicate wiring efforts on campus, the Telecommunications Center was given the responsibility for the Information Transport Infrastructure. All cabling/wiring would now be done through the Telecommunications Center.

Two priorities emerged from our early discussions. One involved the closets and the other was the development of a cable/wire facilities management system that would allow us to keep track of the infrastructure as it was being installed.

We believed one of our most pressing needs would be for new telecommunications closets in all of our buildings. The issue of closets had to be settled prior to any rewiring efforts. These closets had to meet the following criteria:

1. Be located in the “core” center of the building to give us the best shot at reaching all of the outlets within the required 90 meters distance limitations. At times the closet location became a prime space on the 1st or 2nd floor of the building (not easy to get!). Certainly not all buildings could be served from a single closet and in those buildings, we had to construct two or more closets.

2. Be environmentally correct, no water, clean power circuit, good air movement, meet local and national fire codes, used only by the various entities of information technologies (voice/data/video), and secure. The ideal size was 10’ by 12’, although we have compromised in some cases.

3. We now have a planned pathway for the installation of our cable plant. Our preference is for a cable tray, although in some cases we have used conduit. One thing we learned early on, conduit size is critical. Where at one time you could get by with 3/4 inch conduit, the number of pairs going to each outlet required a much bigger conduit than ever before. We have found it helpful to extend the cable tray into the telecom closet. This keeps the cable pairs in a neat and manageable bundle.

Our next step was to define what we believed to be our wiring standards. We adopted the AT&T Systimax Structured Cabling System in total. Our
The university has about 175 buildings on the Lincoln campus. As we started determining priorities in the wiring project, we looked at what buildings had an impact on the entire campus community and they were given first priority. If a building was undergoing remodeling, we took advantage of the construction project to build our telecommunications closets and wired the building at the same time. The entire project will take about two years.

This has not been an easy project to manage, but it has been worth all the effort. When I look at some of the completed buildings, I feel a strong sense of pride in what has been accomplished.

We believe this project will help to place our university in a position to play a leading role in information technology. Our students will leave our institution with an in-depth knowledge of the information technologies learned from daily interaction and access to information in our classrooms, labs, and residence halls. The Telecommunications Center will have played a small, but significant, role in this effort.

Editor's note: This article was originally written for and published in ICA Communiqué Newsletter. Used here by permission.

Actually you do have to be a rocket scientist to operate our networking equipment; fortunately we provide one with the package.

Guten tag, mein manager.

BY FRANK AND TROISE

standard outlet consists of three jacks: one for voice and two for data. Each jack is wired with 4-pair category 5 unshielded twisted pair, and all associated equipment is category 5. We are installing two outlets per office. Classrooms, labs, conference rooms, etc. are wired individually, based on use and need. All outlets are wired "home-run" from the closet to the outlet, no spliced or multiple outlets on the same cable pairs. Since the majority of our buildings have plenum-rated ceiling space, we elected to use plenum-rated wire at all times.

In the closet, the voice pairs are punched down on the AT&T M110 terminal blocks, while the data pairs are punched down on the AT&T data racks using their 110 patch panels and wire managers to help control the jungle created by patch cords.

We hired two graduate engineering students to do our testing and certification of the completed installation. Once the wire is certified, they enter the wiring records in our database and, using CAD, they placed all outlets (with appropriate numbering) on scale size floor plans of the buildings. This has proven to be very effective.

We are installing coaxial cable for CCTV at the same time we are wiring for voice and data. The CCTV electronics are located in the telecommunications closet. In our opinion, this provides the university with the most flexible integrated distribution system supporting voice, data, video, and imaging. In a few cases, we are installing fiber optics to the desk (i.e., research labs), and our wide area backbone network is a mixture of multimode and single-mode fiber optics. If a building has multiple closets, the closets are connected with a fiber-optic riser for data and video. At this time, all voice is on copper. All wiring is done in a star topology.

The original project did not include the residence halls. However, this has changed and the rewiring of our residence halls will start this summer. Since we have a lot of summer programs using the residence halls and a large number of summer students living in the halls, it will require a juggling of the schedule so we can actually close some of the halls for the entire summer. Our plan calls for wiring each room on a "per pillow" basis; in other words, installing an outlet for each student in the room. The outlet will have one voice and two data jacks. Location of the telecommunications closets in the residence halls will be a prime issue. Although installing the voice and data cabling in the same closet makes a great deal of sense in terms of flexibility in the faculty and administrative offices, I am not sure it makes sense to rewire the residence halls for voice and video since they already have this service in every room. As we look at the economics, we might elect to install new outlets for data connectivity only and leave the voice/video alone.
Card technology revolutionizes campus life

Randy Muench, Senior Manager
MCI State government and University Systems

Phillip Garcia, a freshman at the University of Northern Colorado, remembers his mother's birthday while at the gym. He finds his UNC Card, and, using the "travel card" feature for an "on-the-road" call, dials his mom in Virginia. The call is billed directly to his personal account. Next he heads for the library to study for an exam, stopping to purchase a soda from the vending machine with his UNC Card. He uses the card to check out two books and then again to gain access to the exam room. At lunch, he swipe the machine at the dining hall to verify that he is on the UNC meal plan. Life is very convenient.

Across the country at Florida State, students also carry one card that serves many purposes. Missy Goldberg calls a campus information line that tells her all the week's events. She then heads for one of the FSU kiosks to get information on the location of a new class. With her card, she gains access to FSU's central database for the class schedule, prints out the information she needs, then brings up a map of the campus on screen to pinpoint the location. She also wants her transcript which she calls up on the screen and prints out, for a small fee which is deducted from her card.

Communications technology makes life more convenient, efficient, and secure for tens of thousands of college students across the country. Their daily routines demonstrate a different kind of revolution on university campuses.

Just a few years ago, students felt lucky if they had a phone in the room with a dial tone. But student expectations have increased exponentially in the past few years. Now, electronically savvy students want access to the latest telecommunications voice services such as speed dialing, personal and administrative voice messaging, and other related services. They want access to high-technology data services such as those available through the Internet, research facilities, and bulletin boards, as well as e-mail. And they want debit and cash card convenience, both on- and off-campus.

Administrators also want their students to have access to the latest communications technologies, but their perspective is more "nuts and bolts." They want to keep down the cost of tuition by cutting costs and generating revenues to fund telecommunications infrastructure and upgrades as well as other projects on campus. They also want to provide convenient financial services to students and enhance the quality of life for students and faculty.

The University of Northern Colorado and Florida State University are just two of the schools generating revenue by taking a fee or percentage of calling card, debit, cash card, or ATM transactions. They also realize enormous cost savings from the ID card and security features.

The future of telecommunications in education will be integral to the university's mission and strategic objectives and will address the requirements of expanding curriculum, educational availability, access to information, alumni affairs, research, and information technology.

Future services are already being developed:
- The virtual kiosk is an example of how campuses can make student services more accessible.
  
  Today, the kiosk is a physical structure on campuses such as FSU. Soon, the virtual kiosk will be accessed through the student's PC, and the university will issue proprietary software that will allow students, faculty, and alumni to access information through the central database. Users will be able to request transcripts and copies of course syllabi, buy tickets to events, or shop in the bookstore. This PC access will be supplemented with a phone system that will allow a voice request for a transcript or a syllabus, with the requested fax copy made available through a fax broadcast system.
  
  • Dial-1 Internet Access allows for 10-digit dial-up access to the Internet through the home PC. This service provides access to research libraries, bulletin boards, electronic mail, and on-line shopping malls, among other services.
  
  • Distance learning that now enables students to take classes conducted at a remote site through video will fuel a trend among colleges to extend their core curricula. The possibilities even include extending distance learning on a global basis.
  
  • The Student for Life idea, now in the conceptual stages, would enable colleges to maintain relationships with former students in a number of ways. Campuses could provide continuing education through desktop video or distance learning. Or, alumni would be able to dial up the Internet from their home PC and access a home page where current activities, events on campus, and other noteworthy news would be listed. They would be able to use this gateway to retrieve grades, send messages to old college friends, and shop at the college store, as well as at other merchants in the area.

For the university environment, telecommunications carriers have customized applications (such as the campusMCI card and kiosk programs) to add value to a student's quality of life, add to the breadth of a university's administrative services, and contribute in a positive way to the bottom line.
Univ. of Pennsylvania hosts Northeast Local Event

Linda Bogden-Stubbs  
SUNY Health Science Center

With Regions and Regional Meetings a part of ACUTA history, the University of Pennsylvania hosted the Association’s first Local Event June 12 - 13 in Philadelphia. More than 60 registrants representing nine states participated in sessions on some of telecommunications’ “hottest” topics including: Using the Internet, Fiber Technologies, the Evolving PBX, Management Tools for the PBX, and IVR Technologies.

The local event was “first” in some other areas as well: More than 40% of the participants were first-time attendees of an ACUTA event; e-mail access was offered for the first time; and a T-shirt exchange took place at the reception. An open forum discussion on telecommunications issues was one of the highlights of the event.

Special acknowledgements must be given to Laurie Cousart, University of Pennsylvania, and her staff members, Raymond Becker and Nick Sohier, for their hospitality and tremendous support of the event. ACUTA thanks also to the other members of the planning committee: Tony Mordsky (Millersville), Tony Tanzi (Brown Univ.), David Wirth (Adelphi Univ.), and Linda Bogden-Stubbs (SUNY Health Science Center, Syracuse) for diligent efforts in planning the event.

The event was well received by the participants, as evidenced by a high rating on evaluations. Citing Local Events as a great alternative for those who cannot, for budgetary or other reasons, attend other events, attendees congratulated the planners for the lively and informative discussions, easy networking, and the comfort level of small groups.

“I was a first time attendee and now feel more a part of the organization,” said one newcomer.

Planning for another Local Event will begin in the very near future.

Campus cable law...

Continued from page 1

have applied for and received a franchise to operate in your community. The application for being a cable operator subjects you to all of the federal regulations in place at the time which may include providing cable service to your entire community!

Most colleges and universities want to avoid being classified as a cable operator for the reasons stated above. There are three ways to avoid being classified as a cable operator. The first is to simply not cross any public streets with a hard wire. The second is to approach your local government about the possibility of privatizing that small access road that is technically public. If your school will maintain it, you may well be able to make it a part of your campus. The third method is perhaps more complex, but avoids local political infighting. It requires that you use some method other than a hard wire to send your signal across the street. For example, you might consider using microwave or infra red technology to transmit your signal. The solution that is best for your campus depends, of course, on the relationship you have with the local cable franchise, the community, and the budget you have available to explore different delivery systems.

Once you have decided how to deal with the franchise question, the next question facing campuses that are wiring cable for video transmissions including both educational and entertainment programming is where to obtain the programming. There are also three basic options you have in this regard.

The first is to simply make an arrangement with your local cable franchise or a private cable operator for access to a high technical quality signal to feed your system. This is probably the easiest way to obtain access to basic and premium channel options for your campus, but it may not be the most cost effective in the long term. Additionally, you may also have to accept premium services you do not want and allow the cable franchise/operator to bill students on an individual basis, and you may not have access to the educational channels like C-Span® or SCOLA® that you want.

The second option you have is to build your own satellite receiver facility and downlink your own customer cable channels, receiving and paying for only the channels that you want. Many campus administrators choose this option because over the long term, being their own operator will pay the capital expense, and they will be able to fully control their program and billing options.

The third option is a combination of the above. By combining basic cable on a bulk subscriber basis—i.e. enabling all rooms on campus with an active cable outlet and a television to receive basic cable—you may be able to work out a deal with the local system to supplement your basic cable with your own library of educational and entertainment programming as purchased or rented in various tape/disk formats from an authorized distributor. Supplementing your system with your own programming can also be done if you have chosen option one as well, but this third option suggests that you do not have to choose just one source for programming.

For more information on these topics, please contact Jim Bilello, Director of Special Markets, Films Incorporated/PMI at (800) 323-4222 or John D. Pellegrin, Attorney at Law, at (202) 293-3831.
Based on the amount of coverage by media of the major activity in telecom legislation this past month, it is obvious that interest continues to grow regarding these very popular and important bills before the House and Senate.

Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995: On June 15, 1995 the Senate passed S 652—the proposed "Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995"—by a vote of 81 to 18. With this vote margin it is likely that the Senate could override a presidential veto should that be necessary at some time in the future. This vote did not come quickly and easily as some had projected. Action on the bill began on the Senate floor on June 7th and was intense until the final vote. Without a copy of minutes showing the details of the activity, it is impossible to know how many amendments were actually proposed and voted on. Some passed and are in the bill, others were tabled and/or withdrawn while still others were voted down.

One observer indicated that the House Senate Conference Committee is "really where things are going to happen." A telecom industry spokesman suggests that the "conference could be a drawn-out process and kind of contentious." It is expected that, in conference, things may be added, deleted and/or changed.

Generally the Regional Bell Holding Companies (RHC) are happy with S 652 as passed. They will be able to get into interLATA service as soon as barriers to local exchange competition are dismantled according to a "competitive checklist" and they get approval from the FCC in consultation with the Justice Department. Many other interested groups are not happy and are planning to use every possible avenue for change. The Clinton Administration has indicated that a number of important improvements have been made but it is "very important that the legislation be improved further." A copy of this bill should be available via the Internet at http://bell.com and also under gopher <bell.com>.

Communications Act of 1995: It is expected that activity on H 1555 will intensify soon. There has been considerable committee activity in the House with a continual string of changes to that bill. One amendment changing the bill, entered by Rep. Barton and passed by the committee, would have given the owner of any payphone the right to select the long distance carrier for that phone. The next week Rep. Barton entered an amendment to his prior amendment changing the wording so that the premise owner must be involved with the payphone owner in selecting the carrier. This is just one example of how rapidly things change. It is expected that H 1555 will be going to the floor for further discussion and vote between the July 4th recess and the break usually taken in August. Following a vote in the House, the conference committee will come up with the final bill to go to the President for his signature.

800 Contingency Plan: The March ACUTA News referred to running out of 800 numbers. The June 19 issue of Telecommunications Reports indicates that at the current restricted allocation rate, the 800 numbers will be gone "as early as next month." That is JULY 1995. There is an attempt underway to move into the 888 numbers as soon as possible rather than wait until the planned April 1996 date. They are now looking at other numbers to use like "877," "866," etc.

Overlays, mentioned a few months ago, are being discussed more all of the time. Areas in California with area codes 310 and 818 are running out of numbers and overlays have been proposed. Users prefer a geographic split to eliminate the possibility of adding a second line in your home and finding it in another area code as could and often would happen with the overlay plan.
Colleges consider outsourcing Internet connections

From The Chronicle of Higher Education (6/16/95) via 3DUPAGE: Greater demand for online time by students and faculty is threatening to overwhelm some colleges and universities, and a few have responded by shifting their computer activities to local Internet access providers to ease the crunch. "Our faculty, staff and students are champing at the bit to Web-surf from home and can't understand how local Internet service providers can do what we can't," says a University of Tulsa client-support manager. Although campuses are moving to upgrade their telecommunications infrastructure to accommodate the increased use, they fear that the improvements will prompt even more demand. In addition, users are beginning to demand slick graphical user interfaces rather than the tedious typing required for access from the home. "In our regular dial-in access, people dial in, read their mail, and get off in about 20 to 30 minutes. We know that in the other world, it will be quite different. We're looking seriously at using third parties to deliver a means of access from off campus that's equivalent to an on-campus connection," says David Smallen, Director of Information Technology Services and Institutional Research at Hamilton College.

Info sharing at Wayne State

Nineteen different units at Wayne State now use the University's Gopher-based campus-wide information system to provide news and information to customers electronically. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Services, for instance, maintains a menu of government grant information sources and runs an online grants newsletter for instantaneous availability of information, rather than the six weeks the printed newsletter requires. The School of Medicine posts old exam questions from physiology classes taught by eight different professors for a popular study/review resource. [WSU Information Technology News, May, 1995]

ACUTA rep at WSU is Bob Bursick.

Univ. of Michigan offers ethernet connections to dorms

The University of Michigan is offering ethernet connectivity to students living in residence halls. Student labs and several residence halls have already been connected, with five additional halls slated for the high-speed connections next fall. Halls and the U-M family housing complexes will be wired for Ethernet in the next two years. [CAEN Newsletter, 1995]

Univ. of Michigan ACUTA rep is Stephen Mayo.

ATM helps 3 schools share supercomputer

Communications News (3/95) reports that researchers at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland at College Park now link their computers via ATM to form a "virtual supercomputer.

Comparing the project to "putting a virtual supercomputer at everyone's desktop," Robert Grossman, professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, applauds the technology that links dozens of computers in three cities and enables them to act like one supercomputer.

The three schools may now share data, conduct experiments together, and solve complex problems that require high-speed calculations. At each site, ATM at 155 Mb/s will be used, and in transmissions between the universities, data will move at the T3 rate of 45 Mb/s until higher speeds are available.

Temple Univ. solves student computing needs

Temple University allows students to rent portable IBM-compatible PCs preloaded with popular software for home or residence hall use at $1 a day. Approximately 150 machines are offered, at six locations, on a first-come, first-served basis. Students purchase loan cards for $25, with rentals deducted from the card. The seven-year-old program averages 3,500 rentals annually on Temple's main campus.

Clair McNicholas is Temple's ACUTA rep.

Alliance dedicated to improving teaching with technology

From the Chronicle of Higher Education (6/23/95): George Mason University and the Bell Atlantic Foundation have announced an alliance of more than 30 schools and colleges that will be dedicated to improving teaching with technology. They call it MANTLE (Mid-Atlantic Network for Teaching Learning Enterprises) and it is designed to be accessible to learning institutions of all levels. Project director Lynn Fontana says their first objective is to educate faculty members about the resources available through the Internet. "We'll start off by sharing resources that we already have, and by addressing the needs of professional development. Faculty need help in learning how to use and apply this new technology, so the question is what we can do to help and support them," says Ms. Fontana.

ACUTA rep at George Mason is Ann Genovese.
Super-speedy fax software

Investor's Business Daily (5/25/95) describes a new PC software package called 3D Fax which compresses a 30-page document into a format that zips across a telephone line in 60 seconds or less. A computer on the other end, similarly equipped, then decompresses the document and prints it out. If the document is sent to a standard fax machine, the resulting page appears as an unreadable, black-and-white rectangle which can then be scanned into a computer where 3D software restores the original format. Many color pictures can also be compressed, sent over the phone line, printed in black-and-white on a sheet of paper, and converted back to a color picture using the software.

Your fingers do the walking at the virtual mall

According to Network World (6/5/95), AT&T is poised to launch the electronic commerce component of its PersonaLink Services network. New merchants for the virtual mall include Hallmark Cards, Inc.; MTS, Inc.'s Tower Records-Video-Books; and travel services company Premium Advantage. Market Square Mall is expected to go live before the end of August with ten applications running by the end of the year. But that's not the only mall in town. MCI went live in March with its electronic mall, Marketplace MCI.

High-tech home monitoring

Broadcasting & Cable (6/12/95) reports that four hundred fifty Northern California residents will be the first to test a home monitoring system offered by Microsoft, TCI, and Pacific Gas & Electric. The system can run appliances and keep tabs on utility usage through cable-connected TV sets equipped with a special set-top box. It's expected to be widely available in the next two or three years at a cost of about $2,000.

According to the Wall Street Journal (6/20/95), Compaq Computer CEO Eckhard Pfeiffer envisions a very high-tech future, predicting that by the year 2005, portable computers will be powered by "a chemical reaction whose chief waste product is plain water," and computers with intelligent and useful voice recognition will be here by 1999. Multiple home computers will be as commonplace as multiple phones, radios, and TVs are now. "We're convinced your entire house is going to be smart and interactive. What we're ultimately driving toward is a global, PC-centric communications infrastructure that will enable you to work anywhere and play anywhere."

New Yorkers $ave with electronic banking

To encourage customers to make greater use of electronic banking services, Citibank recently announced plans to drop all electronic banking fees for new York City customers. According to Investor's Business Daily (5/24/95), Citibank's electronic bankers may now pay bills, make payments on loans, and obtain account information electronically without an additional charge. With software giants such as Microsoft and Intuit planning to enter the financial services arena, the electronic future is coming into focus.

Alamo rents on-line

From the Miami Herald (6/20/95): Now you can make car rental arrangements online, or even exchange information, such as tips on restaurants and scenic routes. Alamo's Web site—the first of its kind—also provides kids' games and weather reports. <http://www.freeways.com>

Elections...

Continued from page 1

ition to a leadership role on the Board of Directors. Tony will be serving his second two-year term as a Director-at-Large and will have to work hard to match the energy and contributions he made during his first term.

In addition, our Bylaws provide for the automatic progression of two Board positions. Our current President, Randy Collett, Central Missouri State University, will become Immediate Past President, and President Elect David O'Neill of Washington University will become President. Buck Bayliff, Wake Forest University, and Linda Bogden-Stubs, SUNY Health Science Center, will complete the second year of their two-year terms as Directors-at-Large. Once he assumes the Presidency, Dave O'Neill will appoint one Director-at-Large to serve a one-year term and fill the remaining seat on the Board for 1995-96.

It is also an appropriate time to thank Bruce McCormack, Brock University, for his many years of dedicated service to the Board. Although Bruce was not reelected this year, we know he will continue to be active in ACUTA and hope he will remember his years on the Board fondly.

We congratulate the winners and thank the other four candidates who stepped forward to run for office. ACUTA relies heavily on its volunteers to keep the organization running. These people all believe in what ACUTA provides to its membership and are willing to contribute a significant amount of their personal and professional time and effort to help guide ACUTA as we approach our silver anniversary next year.

ACUTA News  July 1995
From ACUTA Headquarters

As I write this column, we are wrapping up preparations for the Annual Conference. It's amazing how many details are involved in planning this event. The membership's response to this year's program has been outstanding, with registration and exhibit numbers running well ahead of last year. We've even sold out the hotel!

We're introducing several new programs at this year's Conference, and I'm looking forward to receiving feedback on them from you.

In addition to our regular tutorials and breakout sessions, we have added a limited number of sessions planned and presented by ACUTA Corporate Affiliate members (in some cases with a higher education partner). These "Corporate Presentations" will focus on the application of their newest technologies and services in higher education. While they are not designed as marketing presentations, we are allowing the speakers to highlight their own company's products. The programs look excellent, and it will be interesting to hear how members react to them.

We are also expanding the ACUTA User Groups to include new product categories. Based on member interest, ten User Groups will be meeting—the largest number ever. We have allocated plenty of exclusive time in the schedule for these groups to meet for the networking that is such a vital part of ACUTA events. We will also be taking a special survey at the Conference, asking how you feel about ACUTA's User Group program, and how it can be improved.

We're also adding nine hours of one-on-one demonstration time with ACUTA's Computer Services Administrator, to help introduce ACUTAnet—our new on-line information resource. The Annual Conference will be connected to the world through the Internet, and you can get tips on accessing the information you need to help stay ahead of the game.

Never content with the status quo, we are always receptive to new ideas for making our educational programs more valuable and enjoyable for you. I hope you will give us your feedback on every aspect of the Conference, and your suggestions for future improvements.

State Coordinators

Kellie Bowman
ACUTA Membership Services Coordinator

The Membership Committee, chaired by Margie Milone of Kent State University, was challenged this year with implementing a volunteer development plan to include State/Province Coordinators and Tier/Peer Captains (for each membership level) within a state. Currently 32 states and 3 provinces have been confirmed for the 1995/96 State/Province Coordinator term.

State/Province Coordinators assist in communicating with members and nonmembers to improve and expand organizational involvement and facilitate networking opportunities. Their first official duty this year is to help moderate/monitor sessions at the Annual Conference. They'll also be an integral part of this year's membership recruitment and retention efforts, resulting in a stronger volunteer-driven association.

These people bring many years of ACUTA service together as a valuable resource to members. There are 18 state and 9 province vacancies remaining as well as many opportunities to serve as a Tier/Peer Captain (which assist the State/Province Coordinators). If you have an interest in volunteering and contributing to the success of your Association, please contact Margie Milone at (216) 672-2165 or me at (606) 278-3338 for additional information.

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Jeri A. Semer
ACUTA Executive Director

AL  Sheila Sanders, Univ. of Alabama/Birmingham
AK  Edie Lynch, Univ. of Alaska/Anchorage
AR  Ken Leverington, Univ. of Arkansas
CA  Howard Meadows, Univ. of So. California and Terry Wallace, Pepperdine Univ.
CO  Nancy Moulton, Univ. of Colorado/Denver
DE  Donna Borden, Univ. of Delaware
GA  Marvin Peck, Emory Univ.
HI  Gayle Komata, Univ. of Hawaii/Manoa
ID  Mark Norviel, Idaho State Univ.
KS  Fred Damkroger, Kansas State Univ.
KY  Jo Ann Kaelin, Univ. of Louisville
ME  Jane Robertson, Colby College
MD  Ralph Valle, Towson State Univ.
MI  Diana Cartwright, Wayne State Univ.
MO  Tim Kilpatrick, Southwest Missouri State Univ.
MS  Mike Lane, Mississippi State Univ.
ND  Rich Lehn, Univ. of North Dakota
NH  Nancy Gallagher, Saint Anselm College
NJ  Richard Ryan, Seton Hall Univ.
NM  Anne Apicella, Univ. of New Mexico
NY  David Wirth, Adelphi Univ.
OH  Tom Walsh, Miami Univ.
OK  Harry Kyle, Oklahoma State Univ.
OR  Todd Stark, Oregon State Univ.
PA  Michael Bonafair, Shippensburg Univ. and Don Kingston, Gettyburg College
SC  James Hudson, Furman Univ.
SD  S. Fischer, So. Dakota School of Mines & Tech.
TN  D. B. Crawley, Univ. of Tennessee/Martin
TX  Stephen Moore, Dallas Co. Community College Dist.
WI  Linda Levenshagen, Univ. of Wisconsin/Milwaukee
WV  Sandy Collier, Shepherd College
British Columbia  Herb Fox, Univ. of Victoria
Ontario  Deborah Stewart, Univ. of Toronto
Quebec  Gary Bernstein, McGill Univ.
Welcome New Members
May 31–June 28, 1995

Institutional Members
- Calif. State Polytechnic Univ., Pomona, CA. Stephanie Doda, ph. 909/869-3022; Tier 4
- Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO. Tammy Walden, ph. 303/273-3000; Tier 2
- McIntosh College, Dover, NH. Robert DeColfmaier, ph. 603/742-1234; Tier 1
- Reinhardt College, Waleska, GA. Larry England, ph. 404/720-5551; Tier 1
- Tenn. Technological Univ., Cookeville, TN. Charlie Ferrill, ph. 615/372-3801. Tier 3
- Western Nebraska Comm. College, Scottsbluff, NE. Daniel Phelan, ph. 308/635-6103; Tier 1

Associate Member
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA. Bruce Emst, ph. 617/724-3393

Position Available

Telephone Communications Technician
Western Kentucky University

Responsibilities: Maintenance of AT&T Definity G2 switch; installation, maintenance, & repair of inside wire plant. Installs, moves, adds, changes, maintains, & adjusts telephone communications eqpt. & associated power, cabling, wiring, & eqpt. on daily basis. Reports to Dir. of Telephone Communications. Performs daily & routine tasks with min. supervision. Works with other managers of technical areas to coordinate all data, voice, & video wiring activities.

Qualifications: Working knowledge of voice telephone switching systems, multi-line sets, transmission & power systems, & test procedures. Specific training in operation & maintenance of AT&T Sys. 85/G preferred. Working knowledge of cable & wire distrib. systems for both outside plant & in-building systems necessary. BA/BS preferred.

Contact: Send letter of application, resumé, & names, addresses, & phone for 3 refs to: Dir., Human Resources Dept., WKU, 1 Big Red Way, Bowling Green, KY 42101-3576. Women & minorities encouraged to apply. AA/EOE

25th Anniversary Committee announces logo contest

As we search for a logo to identify 1996 as ACUTA’s 25th Anniversary year, the Committee has announced a contest open to all ACUTA members. You are invited to submit your original design for a symbol that we can use on stationery, publications, merchandise, etc. to commemorate our first quarter-century. Entries may be line drawings, computer art, or napkin doodles. In addition to untold fame, the winner will receive $250 for the design.

Submit your entry to the ACUTA office at 152 W. Zandale, Ste. 200, Lexington, KY 40503-2486 no later than September 1, 1995. Winner will be selected by the Anniversary Committee (chaired by Mark Reader, University of Calgary) and announced in the October issue of the ACUTA News.