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CHRISTMAS IS CARING

GOD BLESS US EVERYONE

MERRY EVERYTHING
crisis with no prior planning.

Sixth, as predicted by Dr. Gomer Pound at our Biloxi Conference, will be the interrelationships between telecommunications and the demand for innovative programs specifically designed to meet the need of adult, non-traditional students. I would suggest that each of you take Dr. Pound's remarks from the file, and re-view them in the light of the passage of five years. Adult, non-traditional, continuing education may be one of our greatest opportunities if we will only seize hold of it. The telecommunications system has unlimited potential to take outside our walls the knowledge we possess. Telecommunications managers can be at the cutting edge of this if we will only listen and respond.

Finally, we must face the question of priorities. It is apparent to me that those of us who participate in the establishment of, definition of, and activation of our institution's priorities will not only succeed in the 1980's, but in addition, and perhaps most importantly, will have made a positive and real contribution of society and to our schools.

What I have outlined by no means exhausts the list of variables that will impinge upon us during the second decade of ACUTA. The questions will be difficult to answer, the problems hard to solve. I suggest that we individually and collectively face the future confident of our knowledge, secure in our ability, seeking challenge and change and opportunity, and with a positive approach at all times. To do less than this is to be less than professional.

Luther R. Robb
Pennsylvania State University

Our thanks to Guest Editor Lou Robb, Pennsylvania State University for his thought-provoking article in Party Line...editor

Amusing definitions:

.....Error in judgment---A man who thinks he has an open mind when it's merely vacant.
the user's choice

several hundred in operation

PACX (Private Automatic Computer eXchange) is a sophisticated high speed data switching and port contention system designed to optimise the allocation and use of your resources.

PACX continuously scans all terminal channels. When a service request is received, the user is connected to an appropriate port in less than one second.

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Regardless of system loading, all channels remain completely transparent to speed, code and data format up to 9600 bps asynchronous or 19.2 Kbps synchronous. Ports on both local and remotely located computers can be assigned up to 64 different class designations, accessible on request from the terminal keyboard. Reallocation of resources, at any time, is achieved by reassigning port classes via the control panel. Complete system status is seen at a glance. Data suitable for statistical analysis is continuously generated. PACX puts control over data communications back where it belongs.

Shown here is Dual-PACX (up to 510 terminals and 254 ports). Standard PACX (up to 254 terminals and 126 ports). Mini-PACX (up to 48 terminals and 32 ports). Complete data is available upon request.

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Canada: Gandalf Data Communications Ltd., Gandalf Plaza, 8 Slack Road, Ottawa Ontario, Canada K2G 0B7 (613) 225-0565
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Turn any office into
Problem  Certain engineers at Caterpillar Tractor Co. and Sundstrand Corp. are encouraged to take graduate courses. But the University of Illinois at Urbana is too far away for commuting.

The University, for its part, wants to extend its services to companies, communities and other campuses throughout the state. But budgets curtail travel and limit closed circuit television.

Both problems are typical of a growing need in education for innovative, low-cost, teleconferencing systems. Far from typical is a Bell System solution now undergoing test.

Solution  Bell’s new GEMINI* 100 Electronic Blackboard transmits diagrams and dialogue over separate lines simultaneously. It’s easy to use anywhere there are electric and telephone outlets. And its cost is low.

The instructor in Urbana uses it as he teaches. Groups of engineers at Caterpillar and Sundstrand see every chalk stroke on standard TV monitors, hear every word. With their own blackboards, they respond graphically as well as orally.

Educators view the electronic blackboard as a training breakthrough and a conferencing innovation.

If you haven’t talked systems with your Bell Education Specialist lately, you’re missing something. The system is the solution.

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1. Portable Radio
   - Offers two-way voice communications from central control to custodial, maintenance and security personnel. Also offers person-to-person communications. Lightweight, rugged and easy to use, it assures full communications to isolated personnel.

2. Mobile Radio
   - Offers two-way voice communications from office to vehicle and from vehicle to vehicle. It may be used in schoolbuses, security cars, food preparation, maintenance, custodial, and yardcare trucks, vans, and tractors. It's also a must where key administrators must travel extensively, yet maintain management responsibility.

3. Radio Paging
   - Offers one-way communications to the person on the go. Alerting is selective so that each person hears only his own messages. He knows where he's needed and why. He can react instantly to changing conditions. Paging equipment can also be used to form weather alert warning systems.

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Bits & Pieces, continued:

Speaking of Business Communications Review, if you haven't read "Some Odds and Ends" by Leo F. Goeller in the November-December issue; DO SO! I found the discussion on Electronic Telephone Sets and Equalizing the Load most interesting. Well worth reading!

While I am thinking about Christmas and the New Year, I really would like to take a few lines to THANK all of our advertisers in the ACUTA News. What a super group of people to work with and we certainly appreciate their support of our organization:

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THANKS TO:

Infotron Systems
Motorola C & E, Inc.
Gandalf
TMI - Telecommunications Mgt Corp
The Bell System

Merry Christmas from some of my super staff at Nebraska. Sandi, our receptionist; Steve Gross, billing; Julie Curran, my very neat secretary; your editor and Kris Rutford, billing. Both Steve and Kris are business majors (full time students) and Steve is planning on entering Law School. This was taken by Bev Rosse, head of our billing department, so you will have to meet her another time...

acuta
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From the Kiplinger Washington Letter, Nov 23, 79, comes this bit of info:

"Plans for electronic mail...transmitted through post offices...may end up in the dead-letter office due to jurisdictional hassles. The Postal Service and Federal Communications Comm are squabbling. Besides that, the Postal Rate Comm is leaning against electronic mail. Leaves USPS high & dry...It was counting on money from electronics to offset decreasing letter volume as businesses go for faster service. Postal rates will probably go up in early 1981...the soonest. First-class stamps jumping to 18c. Rates for other classes also up.

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A few interesting tidbits from the Nov-Dec issue of Business Communications Review; Communications Lites by Harry Newton:

...Bell is testing a new Custom Cllling feature by which a customer can access central office answering & recording equipment from a remote location to receive messages.....

...Bell intends soon to introduce a new service which allows a subscriber to record and store a message to be sent later, such as a birthday or anniversary greeting. The service will first be tried in New York, Philadelphia and Dallas.

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I was extremely pleased to receive the article "The 1980's: A Telecommunications Opportunity", which appears in this issue under 'Party Line'. For those of you who are new to ACUTA, the author of this article, Lou Robb, was the first president of ACUTA and the long-time editor of the newsletter. Lou is with The Pennsylvania State University, Allentown Campus, and due to a change in responsibilities and promotion, Lou is no longer involved only in communications. For those of us who have been in ACUTA long enough to remember the tremendous impact Lou had on our organization, we say Welcome back! We feel this is the first step of re-involvement and assistance from Lou.

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I hope the rest of you have been ready for the Holidays for this entire month instead of like me, rushing about trying to get what I want two weeks before the big event and find what I want is gone. Every year my number one resolution is to complete my Christmas shopping during the summer---and every year I go through this same wild two week period..... Makes Christmas seem more real!

For the first time, our institution is closing over the holidays. We will close on December 21 and re-open on January 7th. As you might suspect, the closing is to accomplish fuel savings. Only a few buildings will remain open, those with experiment plots and/or animal research projects going on. The Telecommunications Center will remain open however. Our operators handle the fire alarms and security alarms for the campus and in addition, we answer the state government phones. It is difficult to tell you how complicated it has been to organize closing down for the first time. We are all certain we have forgotten something and it will haunt us all next year.

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