

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

COMPUTER CENTRE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DATE : WEEK ENDED 8 AUGUST 1972
AUTHORIZATION : DIRECTOR OF THE COMPUTER CENTRE

1. OPERATIONS

1.1 PDP-10 SYSTEM

FRIDAY 4 AUGUST SYSTEM IN NULL JOB, 1140-1155, RESTARTED.

MONDAY 7 AUGUST SYSTEM IN LOOP, 1155, RESTARTED
PINK SCHEDULING LOOP, 1212-1219, RELOADED
MONITOR
COPIED LIBRARY ROUTINES FROM PUBLIC PACK,
1219-1233.

TUESDAY 8 AUGUST SYSTEM FAILURE, OFFLINE 1503-1524, RELOADED
MONITOR

WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST NEW MONITOR LOADED
SYSTEM FAILURE, OFFLINE 1255-1315,
RESTARTED
SYSTEM FAILURE, OFFLINE 1324-1350,
RESTARTED
CENTRAL TELETYPE INACCESSIBLE, SYSTEM
CLEARED OF USERS, FIXED PARITY ERRORS ON
ACCOUNTING FILES, OFFLINE 1400-1512
SYSTEM FAILURE, 1633, RELOADED MONITOR,
DELETED BAD RECORDS FROM ACCOUNTING FILE
CONTAINING PARITY ERRORS, SYSTEM ONLINE
1655
MONITOR RELOADED, 2145-2155, DUE TO LOGOUT
HARDSHIP.

THURSDAY 10 AUGUST INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN TWO ACCOUNTING
FILES, COULD NOT RECONCILE THEM, SET ALL
ACCOUNTING FILES BACK TO TUESDAY 8 AUGUST,
SYSTEM OFFLINE, 0930-1040.

SCHEDULE FOR FORTHCOMING WEEK: MAINTENANCE 2700-2920
OPERATIONS 0930-2300.

1.2 GE-225 SYSTEM

SCHEDULE FOR FORTHCOMING WEEK: MAINTENANCE 0700-0830, 2000-2130
OPERATIONS 0900-2000, 2130-0400.

2. ADDITIONAL CORE MEMORY FOR THE PDP-10

IN ITS SUBMISSION TO THE AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION FOR CAPITAL FUNDS FOR COMPUTING, THE UNIVERSITY NOMINATED ADDITIONAL CORE STORAGE AS THE ITEM OF HIGHEST PRIORITY.

IN ANTICIPATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE AUC, AND TO ENSURE THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE INSTALLATION SHOULD FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE EARLY IN 1973, THE CENTRE HAS PLACED A LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 64K WORDS OF 650 NSEC CORE MEMORY. ALTHOUGH CONFIRMATION OR OTHERWISE OF THIS INTENTION WILL BE KNOWN BY 30 SEPTEMBER, WE ARE ADVISING CLIENTS OF THIS INTENTION NOW AS THE LIKELY INSTALLATION OF SIGNIFICANTLY MORE CORE MAY AFFECT CLIENTS' FORWARD PLANNING.

ONE OUTCOME WOULD BE IMPROVED TERMINAL RESPONSE AND BATCH TURN AROUND TIMES. AT THE MOMENT THE PDP-10 IS RUNNING AT ITS LIMIT OF 24 ACTIVE JOBS FOR THE GREATER PART OF ITS TIME. THE MAIN ADVANTAGE OF MORE CORE WILL BE THAT MORE JOBS WILL RESIDE IN CORE, THEREBY REDUCING SWAPPING OVERHEADS.

IT WILL ALSO BE POSSIBLE TO INCREASE THE USER'S CORE LIMIT, BUT IF THIS WERE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, THE NUMBER OF CORE RESIDENT JOBS WOULD DECREASE AND SWAPPING OVERHEADS WOULD AGAIN INCREASE. FOR THIS REASON, SHOULD THE MEMORY BE INSTALLED, THE MAXIMUM LIKELY INCREASE IN THE USER'S CORE LIMIT WILL ONLY BE TO 30K.

3. RUN ERROR

THE COMBINATION

RUN(MAP,DDT) . . .
WILL NOT WORK AT PRESENT BECAUSE OF THE INCORRECT LOADING SEQUENCE CREATED. USERS SHOULD OMIT THE MAP OPTION IF THEY WISH TO RUN WITH DDT.

THIS ERROR WILL BE CORRECTED IN DUE COURSE.