

The Prentice Bulletin

Prentice Computer Centre

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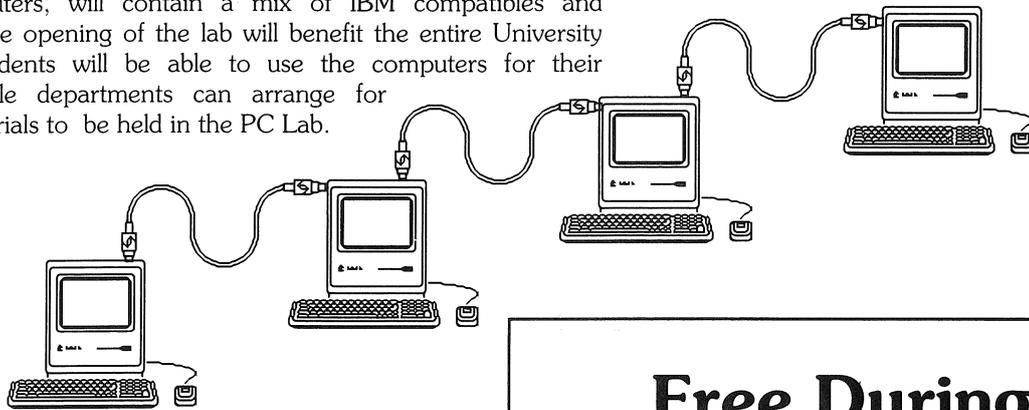
MR LOUVEL
COMPUTER CENTRE

October 1990

No **14**

New PC Laboratory improves student and departmental access to PCs

The Prentice Computer Centre is opening its new PC Laboratory after the mid-semester break on Monday, 1 October 1990. The PC Lab, with 60 computers, will contain a mix of IBM compatibles and Macintoshes. The opening of the lab will benefit the entire University community. Students will be able to use the computers for their coursework while departments can arrange for lectures and tutorials to be held in the PC Lab.



More and more students need access to a computer for their study and coursework needs. An expensive home computer is out of the question for many students. Others are confused with the many types and brands of computers on the market. Often academic departments do not have the funding to invest in a classroom of expensive computers, or the staff resources to utilise them in a cost effective way.

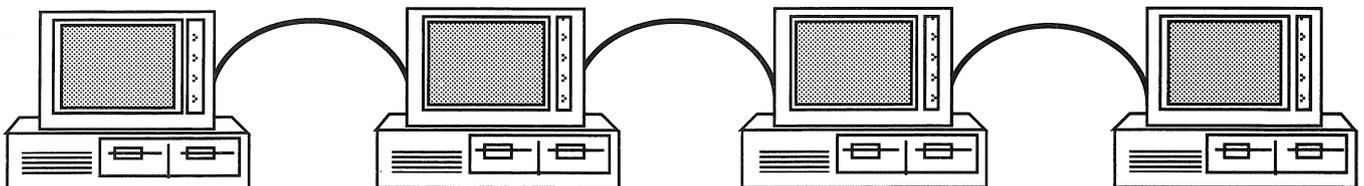
Now there's the PC Lab.

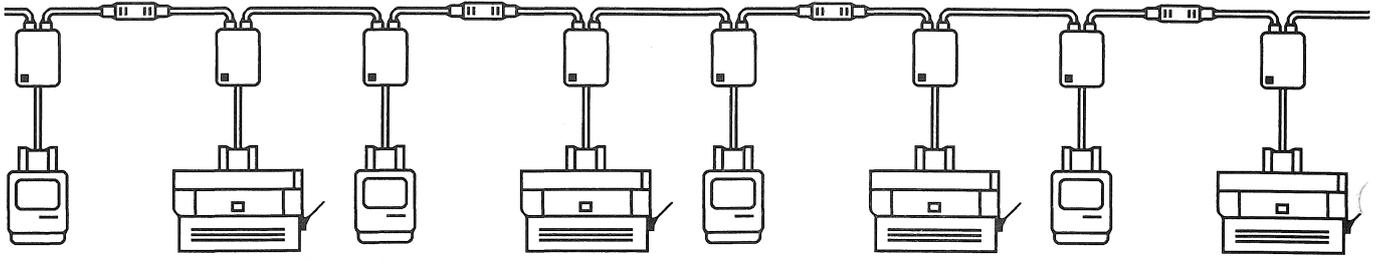
Students will be able to use the computers in the PC Lab for their coursework. Assignments can be keyed into a wordprocessing package for formatting. Laser printed assignments can replace handwritten ones! Students can calculate statistics in a spreadsheet, store data in a database, and build months of work into theses using a computer, all for minimum dollars.

Classes may be held in the PC Lab. The lab is divided into three separate areas. Two of these areas are self-contained classrooms, one equipped with IBM compatibles, the other with Macintoshes. These can be booked by departments on a regular basis or as needed. The PC Lab will suit your department's budget!

Free During Opening Week

During our opening week, 1-5 October 1990, PCC invites you to come to the PC Lab and use a PC for free! We only ask you to pay for your printing. Come in, have a look around and use a computer. Staff will be available to assist you.





Where

The PC Lab will be on the ground level of the Prentice Building (no 42 on University maps). The PC Lab replaces the old Engineering drawing offices. Follow the signs!

Opening Hours

The PC Lab will be open from 8.30 am to 10.30 pm Monday to Friday during semester, so students can do their computing at night as well as during the day between lectures. During university breaks, the PC Lab will be open from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Charges

Opening week is free to all users, although we do ask you to pay for your printing.

After opening week, charges will be \$2 for the first hour, then \$1 for each additional half-hour or part thereof. A minimum charge of \$2 applies.

Output

Users can print to laser printers, plotters, and the Centre's new phototypesetter. Output can be to paper, sticky labels, overhead transparencies, or bromide (output from typesetter). Future services include colour printing.

Laser printing on A4 paper is 20 cents per sheet. A detailed list of all printing charges is available at the Help Desk (377 3025).

The Computers

The PC Lab will have 40, 386-SX computers (IBM compatible) with VGA colour monitors. Each will have 5.25" and 3.5" floppy disk drives. PC users will have access to a variety of popular software packages. Additional software will be introduced as the further needs of users are identified. Software provided initially will include:

Wordprocessing	Word WordPerfect v5.1
Spreadsheet	Excel Quattro-Pro
Integrated	Works (<i>wordprocessing, spreadsheet, database</i>)

The PC Lab will also have 20 Macintosh computers. Initially, Mac users will have access to:

Wordprocessing	Word
Spreadsheet	Excel
Graphics	MacDraw II
Integrated	Works (<i>wordprocessing, spreadsheet, database</i>)

Manuals for supported packages will be available for loan while users are in the PC Lab.

Data Storage

A temporary work area on the computers is provided for users whilst in the PC Lab. Information should be transferred to floppy disk or mainframe storage before leaving the lab as the temporary work area will be accessible by subsequent users.

Academic staff can arrange the loading onto the lab file server of any additional software or data they need specifically for their classes or tutorials. Access to this information is then, of course, restricted to members of those classes.

Frequent PC Lab users may consider a mainframe account for online data storage, whereas infrequent users will find floppy disk storage to be adequate. Floppy disks will be on sale in the PC Lab.

Access

Bookings are not necessary for individual students. However, departments will need to book the classrooms. Bookings will be taken at the Help Desk (377 3025).

We ask that Student cards be left at the counter so student information can be recorded. Staff will need to produce identification, typically a library card.

More Information

For any queries concerning the PC Lab, contact the Help Desk (377 3025).

Free Courses!

So, you've never used a computer in your life. We'll teach you! We are running free introductory wordprocessing courses using Works. Come along and see how easy it is! Bookings will be accepted at the Help Desk (377 3025).

Dates and Times

Tuesday 9 October 19901.30 pm to 4.30 pm
 Wednesday 10 October 1990....9.30 am to 12.30 pm
 Friday 12 October 19909.30 am to 12.30 pm

More detailed training courses are held throughout the semester at our normal fee of \$30.

