

Information Systems Department (Reynolda Campus)

The Information Systems Department supports University instruction, research, and administrative needs. The University has three mainframe computers. A Hewlett-Packard series 3000/959, used by the administration, has 128 million bytes of memory and 20 billion bytes of disk storage. Academic and library computing use two nine-node SP2 Parallel computers. These systems currently offer three billion bytes of memory and 700 billion bytes of storage.

All students on the Reynolda Campus are given a network login ID; the login is maintained as long as the student is enrolled. This account provides students access to electronic mail and software packages. Upon matriculation, and again at the beginning of the junior year, students receive an IBM ThinkPad. The current ThinkPad model has a 233 megahertz Pentium II processor, 64 MB RAM, dual scan SVGA display, 4 gigabyte hard drive, 16 bit sound card, CD ROM drive and diskette drive. Software on the ThinkPad includes Windows 95, Microsoft Office 97 and Netscape Communicator.

Computer languages available on the academic network include FORTRAN 77, COBOL85, Pascal, C++ and Java. Statistical packages such as SPSSX and SAS can be used for data analysis, forecasting, and financial modeling. Maple, a symbolic algebra package, is also available. The ThinkPads have access to a large variety of instructional and classroom resources through the campus network. These resources include the Library CD ROM network, OCLC FirstSearch and computer-based training.

Many departments on campus have their own computing resources in addition to those available through the Information Systems Department. For example, Physics and Chemistry share six DECA Alpha, six IBM PowerSeries, two SUN SPRAC, and an SGI Indy workstation. The Wayne Calloway School of Business and Accountancy and the Department of Education have their own microcomputer labs.

Wake Forest has access to computing resources outside the University. The University is a member of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), located at the University of Michigan. Membership in the ICPSR provides faculty and students with access to a large library of data fields, including public opinion surveys, cross-cultural data, financial data, and complete census data. The University is a member of EDUCAUSE, a national consortium of colleges and universities concerned with computing issues.

Wake Forest has a 20 megabit connection to the Internet. Through this connection, Wake Forest has access to CRAY supercomputers located at the MCNS/North Carolina Supercomputing Center in the Research Triangle.

The Information Systems Department supports and maintains the University's high speed, 622 MB ATM campus network. This network currently connects all academic and administrative buildings and provides robust interconnectivity for independent building Ethernet networks. Each residence hall room is equipped with two Ethernet connections.

The Information Systems Department provides assistance by telephone, and supports walk-in customers, from 8AM until midnight, Monday through Thursday; 8 AM until 5 PM on Friday; 8 AM to 5 PM on Saturday; and 4 PM to midnight on Sunday. A voice mail retrieval system is activated on Saturdays to respond to calls and questions. Residential computing support is available from Resident Technology Advisors (RTAs).

The Information Systems Department also supports an extensive online information system that includes documentation, computer-based training, class schedules, University-wide activity calendars, and the electronic version of the *Old Gold and Black*. The Wake Information Network (WIN) provides the university community with faculty, staff, and student databases and directories, an alumni directory, meeting room information and reservation procedures, a forms and policies library and a message board.