SSRIC MINUTES

February 11, 1988

CSU, San Luis Obispo

Present: Rich DeLeon, Penny Crane, Gene Turner,

Carole Barnes, Larry Giventer, Jeff Johnson, Jon Ebeling,

Bruce Haston, Dick Shaffer, Ed Nelson, Hal Hubbard,

Paul Strand, Richard Serpe, Ted Anagnoson, Charlene Leonard,

Jim Ross, Don Dixon, John Korey.

A. General Announcements

1. State Support for Campus Institutes - Rich DeLeon reported that he had spoken before a joint legislative committee about the activities of the Public Research Institute at SFSU. He indicated that the activities of such groups are generally invisible to the legislature, but that they are interested in what the institutes are doing. It is possible that there could be state-supported funding for such institutes. Rich said he knew of 7 campuses who had well-developed institutes and asked if anyone new of others and their activities. It was felt that the SSRIC might become involved by providing a descriptive package of SSRIC activities or by developing, encouraging, and monitoring these institutes. There was concern expressed that the Chancellor's office should be involved and support this to avoid problems.
2. LISREL Workshop - Richard Serpe gave a status report on a LISREL workshop scheduled for March 10 and 11. He said he would try to run two levels simultaneously. There would be an introduction to LISREL on Wednesday and an intermediate level presentation on Thursday. Possibly an advanced level presentation would be held on Friday.
3. CATI Lab - Carole Barnes said that she was working on the establishment of a CATI (Computer Aided Telephone Interview) Lab at Sacramento State. She was interested in a package from Sawtooth Software which cost $10,000 for a 20 unit system. If one campus buys it, other campuses could get a system for $4,000. An extended discussion followed about the merits, cost, and performance of various interview software packages. Some felt the Sawtooth package was too slow and generated very large files which would have to be downloaded at the end of a day. The price, however, was very good. Performance could be improved by running the package on single AT or 386 machines. Jon Ebeling indicated that a package called CASES was very good, but more costly.

Jeff Johnson said he would establish a CATI network on CYBER mail so that interested persons could communicate about this. Campus reps were encouraged to locate others who might be interested.

1. Summer 87 ICPSR Workshop - Dick Shaffer indicated that he had an "interesting" time at last summer's workshop. The developments in CD-ROM hardware seemed particularly promising. Other attendees included Bruce Haston, Paul Strand, Charlene Leonard, and Ed Nelson.

Ed wasgiven authority to choose the participants, but he will consult with Rich DeLeon before making a final decision.

1. 1988-89 SSRIC Workshop - Ed Nelson said he would rework an earlier proposal for a summer workshop on social science data handling. The new proposal for a workshop to be held at Fresno would be put forward for funding to the Chancellor's office in the name of the SSRIC. Richard Shaffer and Richard Serpe said they would chair a committee to select from interested faculty.
2. Student Research Conference - Ted Anagnoson distributed posters for the spring conference to be held at CSU, LA on April 28 and 29. Housing will be available in dorms (2 to a room) for students at $20 and for faculty at $25. Attendees will need to apply for a room by April 1st.

No luncheon speaker had been selected. MSP to ask former California governor Pat Brown to speak at the meeting.

- Lunch at the Vista Grande -

B. Field Reports

1. Students Interns - Ed Nelson distributed a letter from Greg Chew about Greg's experiences as a student intern last summer. Currently Kevin Nash is working as a phone interviewer. Next summer John Kiesler will serve as an intern.
2. Question Credits - Ed reported that Elliot Barkan's questions approved at the May, 87 meeting were accepted by Field and an expanded version was used by Field. These used up all our question credits for the 87-88 year.

New proposals were received from Humboldt and San Diego State, however, neither proposal was judged adequate. Letters will be sent informing the applicants.

1. Faculty Fellows - No applications have yet been received, however, time is still available for application.

C. SSIMS ProJect

All 5 training packages were coming along well. Four were about 90% drafted and under review. Some were made available for examination.

D. CCR/SWRL Report

1. Jeff Johnson reported that the GSS codebook for the 1980-87 Cumulative survey has had some problems. The 87 data is available in 7ETPDBA. A bug was also found in SPSS which *gave* a "corrupt system file error" message. Contact Jeff if this is encountered. A 1986 codebook prepared by John Korey is available as GSS86CB under account 7ETPDBA.

Version 2 of SPSSPC+ is now available as is SYSTAT. Some discussion of SYSTAT then followed. Site licenses cost $1000

per year and each machine is to have *a*book at $18.

Jeff said the electronic mail list has been updated. Anyone wishing to contact Elliot Barkan can find his BITNET address in DLSSRIC. It is possible to access BITNET via the local CYBERS using the Register command.

2. Penny Crane reported that the 88-89 budget has come and that 500 workstations are available. Monies will be allocated to buy a number for each campus according to a formula. On the negative side, $200,000 for mini supercomputers and $75,000 for software did not survive. However, the budget is based on a conservative outlook of the future.

1. The 89-90 budget is now being developed. Discussion then followed about a request from Tom West of the Chancellor's office for input about needs for resources. In particular, resources available on other campuses (level 4) and resources needed off campus (level 5) should be addressed and reported to him. The value of the Central CYBER, the X25 network, and the data services were cited as examples of important needs. This issue should be addressed by the SSRIC and individual campuses.
2. RFP's to the ACE Committee for $400,000 in grant monies should be made by May 2. ARC/INFO at SFSU and Northridge was a recent recipient of funding.
3. $144,000 is available for faculty workshops.
4. An SPSSPC+ Workshop is scheduled at San Diego State University.
5. A networking task force has been formed to consider such topics as data, voice, and video communication. On March 23 the first meeting will be held at the Chancellor's office. It is open to all interested persons.
6. The Wilshire computers will be moved to Seal Beach. The central CYBER may be down for two weeks sometime between mid August and mid September.

**E.** CYBER Replacement

**A** lengthy discussion followed in which participants expressed some concern about impending changes in the mainframe computer situation at various campuses and the Chancellor's office. Penny Crane indicated that campus instructional coordinators expressed many of the same concerns at a recent meeting they had. Rich DeLeon said he would write a letter to Tom West about the importance of the compatibility of systems and software. In particular, the following needs were expressed:

1. ability to run SPSSX
2. accessing and downloading information from ICPSR
3. use of the X.25 network
4. the effect on data archiving and subscription to such organizations as Field, Roper, and ICPSR
5. the need for a central authority to coordinate activities
6. the need for technical support especially on large projects
7. the concern about lack of resources on small campuses

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| F. Future Meetings |   |   |   |
| Apr. | 28-29, | 1988 | CSU, | Los Angeles |
| Oct. | 13-14, | 1988 | San | Francisco State Univ. |
| Feb. | 16-17, | 1989 | San | Diego State Univ. |
| May | 4- 5, | 1989 | CSU, | Sacramento |

G Next Year's Chair

Gene Turner, CSU, Northridge was elected president for the 88-89 year.

Meeting Adjourned