JANUARY, 1989......VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

we faced an issue that came upon us all of a sudden. With the increasing network of capable IR friends that we are developing within RMAIR, I hope that each of us will feel free to call upon others who can be of assistance in answering questions that they have previously faced, giving suggestions on a procedure to solve a problem, sharing results from their own research at their institution, etc. One of the great opportunities that occurs within such a great group as RMAIR is to nurture a network support group to help each of us.

If you have suggestions on what RMAIR might do to help you, please feel free to contact me. If you need help that could be obtained through PANORAMA, feel free to request that help in its pages. I personally have appreciated all of you - my friends whom I enjoy being with at our professional meetings. Thanks for your help to me. Best wishes for a great 1989.

FROM THE EDITOR

Another historic milestone has been reached, the first anniversary of your PANORAMA. It was one year ago this month that the first issue of the RMAIR Newsletter was published. Thanks to all who have participated. A significant percentage of the membership have already contributed through news reporting, technical articles, and special features. The rest will get a chance. If you have an idea or a need that relates to PANORAMA please let us know.

Happy New Year!

CONFERENCE NEWS!!

RMAIR/SCUP'89 IN LAS VEGAS

The dates are set! RMAIR/SCUP'89 is scheduled for October 18-20. This western-style, informal setting combined with a formidable program and local arrangements committee promises to be an excellent professional event. Rooms have been blocked off at the St. Tropez hotel, within jogging distance of the UNLV campus. Details will appear in subsequent issues of PANORAMA.

Committee members are: Program-Jim Olomon, Julie Carnahan, and Kari Coburn ( Liaison with Local Arrangements ); and Local Arrangements-Kari Coburn, Diane Muntal, and "Nevada Volunteers."

PLANS FOR OCCASIONAL JOINT AIR REGIONAL CONFERENCE

At the last RMAIR business meeting, a proposal was made and approved to explore the feasibility and desirability of holding an occasional-say, once every 3 or 4 years—joint annual conference of RMAIR/SCUP and PNAIR, and/or perhaps other regional AIR groups that might be interested. This idea could be tried out, and then evaluated to see if it would be worth repeating.

On behalf of RMAIR, the proposal was presented to PNAIR by the University of Idaho attendee, Archie George, at their latest conference and the response was apparently very positive—i.e., "everybody thought it was a great idea." The possibility of a joint meeting in 1991 was discussed. PNAIR's President-elect, Dan Walleri, followed up on the idea with RMAIR's President-elect, Sarah Lindquist). Initial discussions for the joint 1991 conference are now underway.

To assist with planning this conference, RMAIR members are asked to provide any "input" and suggestions to Sarah Lindquist. To facilitate your input, the following summary of pros and cons has been prepared—(by Julie
Carnahan and Bruce Higley, with "editorial synthesis"

Please review this summary, jot down your thoughts and preferences in the blank spaces, then tear out or copy the summary, and send it to Sarah Lindquist by March 10th.

1. HOW DO WE IDENTIFY COMMON IR AND PLANNING ISSUES AND TOPICS?

PRO: Many states including those surrounding the Rocky Mountains share similar types and patterns of economy, population, and higher education conditions. Sharing IR, planning, and budgeting experiences would be mutually valuable and relevant to RMAIR members. CON: Issues addressed by other regions may be of little or no importance to most RMAIR institutions. It would dramatically increase the challenge to develop a program of interest to a majority of RMAIR members.

2. HOW DO WE BROADEN THE AGENDA AND TOPICS?

CON: If attendance were doubled, or more, by adding another regional group to a day-and-a-half agenda, a smaller proportion of members would be able to present papers, sharply curtailing the ability to help newcomers grow and develop by presenting. PRO: Drawing on topics and presenters from two regions would offer a broader range of subjects, information, and agenda items. This could enrich the program. The conference could be expanded to two full days and concurrent sessions perhaps offered to sustain adequate presenter participation from both regions.

3. WHAT OTHER MUTUAL BENEFITS DO WE INCLUDE? NETWORKING AND AIR LINKS?

(A) NETWORKING.

PRO: Professional and career-future networks, established through in-person contact, could be expanded and enhanced across regions. CON: The current stature of RMAIR includes professional networking, strong friendships, and an increasing atmosphere of encouraging newcomers to present their findings.

(B) LINKS TO NATIONAL AIR OFFERINGS.

CON: The national Forum does a good job of addressing issues of general value to all regions of the country. Interregional meetings would compete with attendance at the Forums and dilute RMAIR collegiality. Interregional coalitions could, instead, be forged during AIR Forums. PRO: It would be of increased value to share between regions information from prior AIR Forums and about forthcoming Forums—papers, workshops, panels, and other program activities.

4. WHAT ABOUT MEETING LOCATION AND SIZE? PRO: It should be valuable for states in close proximity—representing regions such as RMAIR and PNAIRP—to occasionally come together for professional idea-sharing. Meeting locations close to regional boundaries would require only modest increments of additional travel for members in both regions. If attendance at such a joint conference doubled the usual RMAIR group—say, to 150 instead of 70, sufficient lodging and meeting facilities would be needed, but this larger group size would still be informal with easy interaction. CON: The larger size of joint regional groups would make it less feasible to host the conference on individual campuses or in intimate resort settings like RMAIR has enjoyed for many years. Travel costs would increase because such meetings would be held on the outer boundary of the Mountain region, for contiguous linkage with another region. Chances for hosting the conference at more central Mountain region sites and for staff with limited travel funds would be diminished.

5. WHAT SHOULD THE FREQUENCY OF JOINT REGIONAL MEETINGS BE? CON: The strengths of RMAIR—including such bonding agents as common issues, smaller size, and opportunities for genuine interest of members in one another—would be sustained by meeting as a separate entity. PRO: By meeting jointly only once every 3 or 4 years, the tradition of more intimate and informal RMAIR conferences would be sustained, with the occasional joint conference serving as a special event.

So...there you have it! Please send your thoughts, and any other suggestions that would help in planning the conference to: Sarah Lindquist, Arizona State University, University Office of Institutional Analysis, Tempe, AZ 85287. Results of this member-reader survey will appear in a subsequent issue of PANORAMA! Thanks for your interest.

SCUP NEWS: Conference Plans -- By Bill Deno, SCUP Mountain Region Communication Coordinator.

As we pencil 1989 events on our new calendars, let's remember to block out the last week in July for SCUP 24 in Denver.

Plans are afoot for a remarkable series of events all week long. Pre-conference and post-conference events have been scheduled, including Vail, Aspen, and visits to two nearby "landmark campuses." On Sunday, see the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs with the beautiful Rampart Range backdrop, and on Wednesday visit the Boulder Campus of the University of Colorado for lunch and an afternoon of planned activities.

During the conference, a Monday evening dinner at the historic Teller House in Central City is planned with entertaining light operatic selections provided by the music director and principal singers of the Central City Opera Company. The traditional High Tea will be held at the Auraria Higher Education Center campus in historic downtown Denver.
All this and exciting conference programs for your professional development, too! Local arrangements Chair is Dan Paulien, Paulien Associates, assisted by: Julie Carinahan, CU-Denver; Jim Schoemer and Warren Taylor, Auraria Higher Education Center; John Anderson and Martha Powell, Anderson-Mason-Dale; and Bill Deno, CU-Boulder.

FOCUS ON

TRANSFERRING FACILITIES PLANNING DATA ELECTRONICALLY -- By Dan K. Paulien, President, Paulien Associates.

One of our biggest problems in providing master planning or program planning services to higher education institutions used to be getting "base" data from institutions in an analyzable form.

We were either dependent on the willingness of institutional representatives responsible for maintaining a file to prepare a series of special reports for us or, if the file was small enough, required to key enter the data from hard copy to produce our own file so that we could do the necessary analytical work. Both instances were time-consuming and inefficient compared to electronic data transfer.

Facilities master planning within the public sector of the State of Colorado requires detailed analysis of instructional program requirements on a course-by-course basis, and of staffing patterns by unit. Hence, we need three data sets--course inventory, staffing, and facilities inventory. We once prepared a master plan for an institution with over 10,000 students using a 200-page printout of their course lists and preparing a series of 500 plus tables by hand showing the utilization patterns and space needs for classrooms and laboratories. A better means of capturing and analyzing the data was clearly needed!

ELECTRONIC DATA TRANSFER

In a project conducted in the past year for a higher education complex which houses three separate colleges, we had each institution's course information transferred on diskettes, and a central entity which handles the facilities inventory transferred the facilities data to us. These four entities each were using different computer systems. Transferral was not without difficulty, but we succeeded (with consulting assistance from Bill Tetzlaff, who is no stranger to these PANORAMA columns).

Using commercially available software, we prepared new databases which incorporated fields from the course and facilities files and then added new fields which we generated. This allowed us to prepare an analysis showing on a course-by-course basis the enrollments, the relevant state coordinating board facilities guideline, and the space generated. In this instance we were able to prepare the data for standard daytime analysis, evening analysis, and an agreed upon adjusted day which took the nine most heavily used hours. Our database analysis which incorporated the start and stop times from the course records allowed us to analyze various scenarios to determine the hours which would generate maximum utilization.

After receiving our completed report, the coordinating board requested that, in addition to the hard copy, they also receive diskettes with our data so that they could run additional analyses. This took electronic transference one step further.

ELECTRONIC DATA TRANSFER AS A STANDARD, EFFICIENT METHOD. We have been so pleased with results that we are asking all institutions for which we are doing projects to transfer relevant base data to us on diskette. This allows us to do our own investigative work without asking institutional data analysts for additional update reports. Sometimes we will require two or three different report alternatives before we find the information we need. Doing our own investigation speeds our work and reduces the workload of busy data analysts.

With an institution, data analysts should be able to provide data by downloading mainframe files which are batch updated and manipulate them (combining fields from different data bases and adding new fields) using commercially available database management software. This approach can be used to provide data for external consultants as well as for more direct internal analysis on PCs.

A WORD ON FAX. We have found one other mode of electronic information transfer--the Fax machine--to be a tremendous new tool in our planning activities. We have literally gotten a call in the morning from an institution asking us to fax some analysis to them by the end of that day. This significantly shortens turnaround time in review of draft materials and allows comments to be made on written or graphic materials while they are under telephone discussion. I would encourage planners and institutional researchers to gain access to this time-saving mode of communication.

AIR MEMBERS--VOTE IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION!

AIR election ballots will soon be out from the Executive Office. Remember to vote...and while you're at it, be sure to support our Rocky Mountain region candidates! They are: Melodie Chrisstal for Treasurer; Mark Meredith for Executive Committee Member at Large; and John Porter for Nominating Committee.

TECHNIQUES........

A FLEXIBLE REPORTING SYSTEM -- By Archie George, Assistant Director MIS, University of Idaho

Over the past few years I have developed a flexible approach to processing data from the institutional data files that may be useful to others.

We answer an endless variety of questions about students, faculty, staff and other aspects of our institution in two basic ways: (1) we provide several recurring, periodic reports that answer many "typical" questions; and (2) we conduct additional analyses to answer "other" questions. The prob-
lem in the latter case tends to be that a query will demand a different cross tabulation of variables or a different subset of population than was provided in the periodic report(s). We are frequently in the position of needing answers to questions that are asked not quite the way we expect.

Two choices, often impractical, for additional analysis to handle these frequent and sometimes trivial problems are: requesting modification of a standard report, and accessing mainframe data with our own software.

A third choice, instead, that is feasible and better is an easily modifiable approach involving (a) selecting data subsets from census date mainframe operating files, and building these subsets into SAS data files; (b) creating the necessary other files-data dictionaries and tables--that provide relationships between data variables and other needed information; and (c) creating SAS database management and report programs to access, process, and analyze the data.

This approach can be used for student, faculty, or other kinds of data. In the following example, student data are used.

**SELECTING DATA SUBSETS FROM THE MAINFRAME TO CREATE SAS FILES.**

I select a subset of fields from the university student records system that is sufficient for nearly all questions having to do with student enrollments. Most of these fields are included here, omitting some institution-specific items and spelling out variable names to eliminate guesswork (only 8-letter names are allowed in SAS):

- ID NO
- NAME, SEX, ETHNIC CODE
- BIRTH DATE
- HI SCHOOL YR GRADUATION
- STATE OF ORIGIN
- RESIDENCE STATUS
- HI SCHOOL RANK
- HI SCHOOL CLASS SIZE
- HI SCHOOL GPA
- ACT COMP
- ACT ENGL
- ACT MATH
- SAT MATH
- SAT VERB
- STUDENT LEVEL
- CUM GPA
- CUM NT CR
- PROBATION DISQUAL CODE
- ENROLLMENT LOCATION
- SEM NET CR
- DEGREE CODE, MAJOR CODE, FULL OR PART
- PART TIME, GRADUATION CODE.

**SEM NET CR, DEGREE CODE, MAJOR CODE, FULL OR PART TIME, GRADUATION CODE.**

Three times each year I run a mainframe program (MARK IV or COBOL) to access the large, complex student records file, extract these items, and create a point-in-time file for later use. These three times are: official fall reporting date for the Idaho State Board of Education, (the 10th day of classes); fall end-of-semester; and spring end-of-semester. End-of-semester files contain grades and status items such as probation, disqualification, and graduation. Some information is not retained in these files, such as multiple majors and all the course segments. My files are built so that they agree with officially published figures (e.g. students by level, major, and location). By capturing data on official census dates, consistency with reports from the registrar's office is greatly improved.

**CREATING NEEDED DICTIONARY AND TABLE FILES.**

The student data file does not contain academic department or the college of the student's major. So, to establish the relationship between degree(s), major code(s), and department(s) I create a SAS file called a "curriculum dictionary." This file contains the key fields DEGREE CODE and MAJOR CODE from the student data file and also the DEGREE NAME, MAJOR NAME, DEPARTMENT CODE, HEGIS CODE, and IPEDS CODE. Although the department to college relationship could be stored in yet another file, as some recommend, I put this information and other relationships that are not unique to the key fields in the same file for easier access. Thus, DEPARTMENT NAME, HEGIS NAME, IPEDS NAME, COLLEGE CODE and COLLEGE NAME are all in the same data dictionary.

**CREATING SAS DATABASE MANAGEMENT AND REPORT PROGRAMS.**

All of the above would not be worth the effort if not combined with a satisfactory reporting system. I have found SAS to be adequate as a database manager and report generator. SAS programs are very easily modified for the variety of questions with which we must deal. This system allows great flexibility in reporting.

For instance, this fall, the state Department of Transportation requested a report of all engineering majors showing student level, gender, and ethnic status. We have engineering majors in three colleges--agriculture, engineering, and mines. However, all of these majors have IPEDS codes starting with "14." I simply merged my student database with the curriculum dictionary, selected all students with majors classified as IPEDS "14," and used the TABULATE procedure to produce the report.

Variables from both the student data base and the curriculum data dictionary can be used to classify, select, and sort the data records, and also as "labels" on the report.

I have used the approach described above with faculty data as well as student data. It is fairly easy to match these data sets, using the DEPT variable, and thus to produce reports on student/faculty ratios and credit hours taught to majors and non-majors within a department or college. Also, because of the periodic nature of the files, studies of student retention and performance over time have been greatly simplified. Readers who are interested in sample program listings or more detailed information on this process may contact Archie George, Management Information Services, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, (208) 885-7994, MISOFICE@IDU11.

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**TIDBITS****

**Boren's Laws of the Bureaucracy:**
1. When in doubt, mumble. 2. When in trouble, delegate. 3. When in charge, ponder.

**Cole's Law:** Thinly sliced cabbage.

**Third Corollary:** The difficulty of getting anything started increases with the square of the number of people involved.

(Source: *The Official Rules* by Paul Dickson.)
NEWS FROM STATES AND PROVINCES

ALBERTA.....Reported by Ted Fullerton

Enrollment -- Preliminary estimates on Fall, 1988, fulltime enrollment figures in Alberta's post-secondary education system are as follows: universities down 1.2%; colleges up 5.6%; technical institutes up 0.8%; private colleges up 5.7%. The biggest single factor affecting enrollment figures in Fall 1988 was the decision by Alberta's two major universities (the University of Alberta in Edmonton and the University of Calgary) to restrict or cap enrollment growth. Enrollment control was instituted by the two universities in response to the continually increasing gap between real funding and enrollment growth. The result of enrollment control was to shift some first-year enrollments out of the universities and into the colleges, a shift that was supported by the Alberta government through the expansion of university transfer programs within colleges (see Panorama, Summer 1988 for details).

Long-range enrollment forecasts based on population projections suggest little growth in future enrollments, but current demand pressures combined with significantly perturbed student flow at the University of Calgary suggest that other factors need to be included in enrollment forecasts. Significant attention is currently being focused on the university transfer issue and on the general issue of accessibility to university-level education in Alberta.

Funding -- The Alberta government recently announced a 5% increase in operating grants to post-secondary education for the 1989-90 fiscal year. This is welcome news after the previous two years of funding announcements -- minus 3% in 1987-88 and plus 1.5% in 1988-89.

WCIRP Conference -- The Western Canadian Institutional Researchers and Planners met on December 3-4, 1988 at the University of Calgary. Attendance included representatives from many colleges and universities across the four western provinces, a representative of Statistics Canada from Ottawa, and representatives of the Alberta Department of Advanced Education in Edmonton. Topics ranged from PC production of factbooks to program costing models to measuring and influencing academic outcomes to more philosophic discussions of Institutional Research's role and survival in academic institutions. The 1989 conference is tentatively scheduled at Vancouver in early November. Contact Walter Watamaniuk, Director, Office of Analytical Studies, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia 604-291-4256 for details.

ARIZONA.....Reported by Art Ashton

The Board approved, in concept, the Arizona University System Mission Statement as a working paper for the strategic planning process, pending formal adoption by the Board in Spring of 1989.

The state universities received authorization to market collegiate license plates during the 1988 legislative session. Revenues will go to scholarship fund accounts, authorized by the Board for each of the universities, with the State Treasurer.

The Board endorsed the common high school transcript format developed by the Arizona High School/College Relations Council for use by high schools throughout the state.

The executive search firm of Heidrick and Struggles, Inc., was selected to assist the Board in its search for a new president for Arizona State University.

The Board endorsed a proposal from the Arizona Education Telecommunications Cooperative that would seek a legislative appropriation of $230,160 to conduct an educational needs assessment to determine what services are needed and where they should be delivered as part of the Cooperative's goal of developing a telecommunications network throughout Arizona.

The Board approved the plans of the three state universities for the expenditure of funds allocated to them for recruitment and retention efforts aimed at disadvantaged/underrepresented students as provided in HB 2108 which was passed during the 1988 legislative session.

U.S. Secretary of Education, Lauro Cavazos, as part of an initiative to focus national attention on the need to re-prioritize education as a national goal, readdressed the Programs Committee of the Arizona Board of Regents at its November 3, 1988 meeting.

COLORADO.....Reported by Mark Meredith

The November "Amendment 6" ballot item proposing that no tax increases be allowed without a two-thirds tax election majority was defeated by a 2-to-1 margin.

The 57th Colorado Legislative Assembly has convened with the following new "constitutional amendment" rules: a committee vote is required on every introduced bill (no pocket vetoes through non-scheduled hearings); binding party caucuses, at which leaders try to line up votes on bills before they reach the floor, are outlawed; and the legislature must complete all business within 120 calendar days.

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education is requesting a $40 million-plus 1989-90 budget increase for public colleges and universities in a continued effort to bring support to levels comparable to those in other states. Indications from the legislature, however, suggest that projected revenues will be insufficient to cover this request. A bill to be introduced in this session would abolish the Auraria Higher
Education Board of Directors and replace it with a panel composed of chief executives and members of the governing boards of the three Auraria institutions plus non-voting faculty and student representatives and three Denver-area citizens. The three institutions are CU-Denver, Metropolitan State College, and Community College of Denver. In this proposal, CU-Denver admissions standards would be raised from "selective" to "highly selective"--the same as for CU-Boulder.

Another bill to be introduced would enable the University Hospital of the CU-Health Sciences Center in Denver to reorganize as a not-for-profit entity separate from the state. Such action would allow the hospital to operate as a more competitive and profitable enterprise while continuing its teaching and indigent care missions.

At CU-Boulder, spring registration and drop-add has gone smoothly, and problems that occurred with the "inaugural" of the new Student Information System last fall have been resolved.

Regis College is selling the Loretto Heights campus--a financially troubled, 450-student, private liberal arts campus--to Teikyo University of Tokyo which will run the campus starting in 1990 and eventually expand facilities to accommodate 2,000 students from Japan.

Keith Ickes, new Director of Institutional Research at Colorado State University reports that the IR office has been reorganized and is comprised of former Budget and Planning staff plus some Admissions and Records staff. The office is going through a transition of realigning projects and dealing with changes in operating data systems.

Steve Bronn at the University of Southern Colorado reports that their strategic planning process is now continual and annual updates are to be made to the plan. Final arrangements have been made for donating USC land to the City of Pueblo for development of a golf course, with construction to start next fall. In a separate transaction, land surrounding the golf course will be sold to a residential housing developer in increments and proceeds will be invested by the USC Foundation in an endowment for academic program enhancement.

The Fall CAPIR meeting (Colorado Association of Planners and Institutional Researchers) was held October 28th at the Colorado Community College and Occupational Education System offices in Denver. Presented topics included: Colorado Ethnic Student Flow Model; Statewide Computing Issues and Their Impact on Higher Education; Colorado Supernet; Telecommunications in Colorado; and Myths, Misconceptions, and Abuses of Statistics. The luncheon speaker was Dr. David Longanecker, Executive Director of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

IDAHO....Reported by John Grah

Idaho's legislative session began January 9, and the state board has submitted an appropriation request of $177.9 million for the college and universities and $7 million for community colleges, up 13.6% and 15% respectively over last year. One reason for this is a rare budget surplus which, by some estimates, could reach $20-$25 million by the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

The appointment of Rayburn Barton as Director of the State Board of Education has been made permanent. Trudy Anderson has been appointed Acting Director for Vocational Education. A search is underway for a new president at the University of Idaho.

Boise State University has declared this the Year of the Student, and on January 10 commenced a combination of scholarship drive and new program offerings in recognition of this. Student services are being boosted. BSU also has a new student registration system and is cooperating with the University of Idaho on a financial aid package.

Ricks College has installed a new student information system, and it has surprised them with some new information: last fall 1,263 of their 7,694 students were transfers. Alan Clark thinks this is a rather high proportion for a junior college, although Idaho students do seem rather mobile.

MONTANA....Reported by Jim Olomen

Eastern Montana College -- Fall Quarter 1988 headcount enrollment was 3994, up 1.7% from Fall quarter 1987. Non-resident enrollment increased 14% over the past fall. The student population is 64% women and 36% men with an average age of 27.3 years.

Of the 65,000 individuals who took the national CPA examination in May 1988, only 126 candidates achieved scores of 95.5% or above -- four of which were 1988 graduates of EMC's Accounting degree program.

EMC was selected by AASCU to host two Australian college presidents in early December 1988.

EMC completed the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges Accreditation team visit and evaluation in October. A successful Accreditation review was given EMC at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Northwest Association in Alaska on December 3-6.

Jean Horst is Director of Institutional Planning at EMC. Address: 1500 North 30th Street, Billings, MT 59101-0298. Telephone: (406) 657-2038.

Montana State University -- MSU's fall quarter headcount enrollment was 10,024, an increase of 1.5% over the previous fall. Most administrative departments have been caught up in the conversion of personnel, financial, and student data systems to Information Associates' software packages. All three systems are now in use, with the old student record systems being run concurrently during this academic year.

During the past several months a team of professional employees led by the Associate Director of Administration has been planning an administrative salary equity study, which should be completed sometime next spring.

Cel Allard returned to MSU last September after a two-year leave of absence and has resumed some of the IR functions. She may be reached at
University of Montana -- UM's fall quarter headcount enrollment was 8,879, an increase of 4.8% over the previous fall's enrollment.

UM is in the process of selecting a new Vice President for Administration and Finance who will replace Glen Williams. The finalist pool has been determined and a selection should be forthcoming.

Other News
The Montana Legislature convened on January 2. A combination of a severe drought, almost no agricultural production, and low oil prices have created a dismal fiscal picture. In addition, another year of extreme fire activity, with attendant containment costs, is expected.

The new Republican governor (first in two decades) has indicated he supports higher education but the level of commitment to that support is still unknown. Priority items for the University System include funding faculty salary increases of 3% for each year of the biennium and increased library support. It appears highly probable that a new funding formula will be adopted by this legislature. The new formula is a simplified version of the one used since 1981 and is an outgrowth of the funding study done this past year which shows that approximately $100 million is needed to bring individual units of the Montana University System to the levels of their respective peers.

NEVADA.....Reported by Janice Brown

University of Nevada System -- The System Office has released the Fall 1988 enrollment report, which shows that the System is currently serving 56,246 students, an increase of 5.8% from 1987. Between Fall 1981 and Fall 1988 the enrollment at UNS institutions has increased 36.3%. Overall, 70% of UNS students attend part time, 55% are female, and 15.4% are minorities.

University of Nevada-Las Vegas -- In the last PANORAMA the UNLV headcount enrollment for Fall 1988 was reported incorrectly at 10,506. The correct figure is 14,673. Everyone please note, as your reporter, from Reno, is in disgrace. The IR Office at UNLV is upgrading its computer equipment with expanded hard disks, 286 386 boards, and adding a new laser printer for graphics and desktop publishing. THEY ARE LOOKING FOR SUGGESTIONS on the type of IBM-compatible laser printer to buy. Current top contenders are the Apple Laser Writer II and HP Laserjet. If anyone has some advice on the laser printer selection, call Kari or Diane at (702) 739-3771 or send a BITNET message to CC34H00@UNEV.

University of Nevada-Reno -- The Office of Planning, Budget Analysis is welcoming a new institutional research trainee, Virginia Moore. Virginia will be working with Jan Brown, and will eventually be responsible for publication of the UNR Databook.

A post baccalaureate degree program in Construction Engineering has been approved for UNR's College of Engineering-an intensive one-year program, partially funded by the Nevada Chapter of the Associated General Contractors.

NEW MEXICO.....Reported by Richard Cady

New Mexico's Legislature has its long (60-day) session this year. Funds are again tight and Republican Governor Carruthers is not disposed to favor increasing taxes. Public schools, which absorb approximately 50% of the state operating budget, will make a major thrust toward funding increases in teachers' salaries and implementation of the public school reforms enacted in 1986. Higher education could, with luck, get 4.5% for compensation. No major revision of the woefully obsolete funding formula can be expected. Funds for capital improvements are also scarce due, in part, to recession in the gas and oil business upon which the state is very dependent. (Funds for capital improvements may be approved, causing dislocation of the Legislature for up to two years.)

A bill for a statewide instructional TV network will be introduced by the technocrats. Universities do not have this ITV network at the top of their priorities.

A bill appropriating a modest start-up sum of $150,000 for getting started with pilot studies in student assessment will be introduced. Colorado’s H.B. 1187 is not popular here.

The NM Commission on Higher Education seeks $1.5M in discretionary funds to make categorical project awards which support the new statewide PSE plan.

NM Tech intends to install baccalaureate programs in electrical engineering and in management, a controversial move because other campuses have these programs. Tech’s enrollment has slipped.

NMSU seeks relief from the 3-year moving average of enrollment for formula funding because it has experienced substantial undergraduate growth.

There is high interest, rhetoric and emotion on minority enrollment and success in post-secondary education. Ditto faculty and staff.

SASKATCHEWAN.....Reported by Jack Billinton

The new President of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology is Eva Lee, former Dean of Home Economics at the University of Saskatchewan. Professor Lee took up her new appointment on December 1, 1988.

Several studies have just been completed at the University of Saskatchewan including an Accessibility Report studying the broad question of student admission to the University. Complementing this, a University
Studies Group has a quota study underway for the College of Arts and Science, including a survey of qualified applicants not admitted because of quotas. This is a follow-on to a similar study done last year.

Marjory Benson, Director of the University Studies Group, is on educational leave doing graduate work at Harvard University. Barrie Dubray is Acting Director during her absence.

The Office of the Vice President, Planning and Development, is undertaking a major review of the College of Medicine. The purpose is to define the scope of its responsibilities in relation to the health care needs of the Saskatchewan population. Sponsors of the review are the provincial Departments of Education and Health, and the University. Chief among the objectives are to reconcile conflicting demands for teaching, research, and public service, and to match demands and expectations with available funding. Dr. Kerr White, of St. Andrews, Virginia, a health care consultant, has been named to chair the Steering Committee. Professor Blaine Holmlund, University of Saskatchewan Vice-President, Planning and Development, will direct the review.

Recently the University of Regina released a commissioned report chaired by Dr. H. Ian MacDonald (President Emeritus, York University) titled "From Reflection to Renewal. It is a report of the Academic Review Task Force and has many far reaching recommendations in the context of a comprehensive strategy for the University of Regina over the next several decades.

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UTAH.....Reported by Gail Norris

Report not available at press time. Following is an excerpt from the January 4th Chronicle of Higher Education.

Legislative session: January 9 to February 22.

Appropriations request: $281.4 million, an 8.4 percent increase.

Outlook: Mindful of the sentiment that brought a state tax-cutting measure to the ballot in November, higher education officials say this is the smallest increase they have sought in many years. But although the measure was defeated—with their help—they say they expect the legislature to remain quite conservative in spending this year, which could hurt chances for their requests. Besides money for general expenses, the budget includes requests for extra money to expand nursing-training programs.

Legislators this year are expected to consider adoption of some sort of tuition savings plan. A proposal to increase tuition 9 percent at the four-year institutions and 7 percent at the community colleges could also prove controversial.

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WYOMING.....Reported by Roger Hovey

Institutional Research personnel at Wyoming's seven community colleges are in the midst of gathering data requested by the Community College Commission preparatory to the inception of a new formula funding system scheduled to go into effect in 1990-91. The process of clustering institutions based on enrollments and square footage is a hotly debated topic right now, as it will affect the way funds are eventually allocated. The objective, of course, is to bring institutions closer to conforming with the statewide average cost per FTE. Final draft of the formula will likely be settled within the next two to three months.

Researchers are also in the process of conducting program reviews for their institutions. The Community College Commission mandates that 20 percent of all instructional programs be reviewed each year. Western Wyoming College goes a step beyond that in reviewing its non-instructional programs as well. Most agree that despite the heavy workload in gathering and analyzing the data, the process is worthwhile and supportive of long-range planning.

The University of Wyoming recently organized a new institutional research office entitled the Office of Institutional Analysis. Dr. Constance Brizuela is the Director with Susan Jones and Reta Gates at Research Associates.

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