



COMPUTING AND DATA NETWORKING FACILITIES

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The University operates a variety of sophisticated, state-of-the-art computing and networking facilities to support its academic, research and administrative activities. The facilities include several powerful UNIX-based central servers, many distributed file servers running Novell Netware, 2,400 microcomputers and 50+ high-end workstations, all of which are interconnected via a high-speed data network.

Located in the Computer Center in Nevins Hall, three 3 hours Hewlett-Packard (HP) 9000 large-scale business servers, Models G50, G70 and K460, support all student and financial related processing, as well various other applications software systems. To meet VSU's fast growth, these three computers together comprise a total systems environment that provides one of the largest and most modern centers in the University System. As one of the first schools selected by the Board of Regents to receive the fourth-generation Banner Student Information and Financial Aid Systems, VSU has fully implemented those systems to greatly enhance student support operations such as admissions, registration, advising and financial aid processing. A new state-of-the-art Business and Financial Software System from PeopleSoft, Corporation, also centrally procured by the Board of Regents, will be installed by VSU in FY 1998.

Housed in the Data Communications Center in Ashley Hall, one Sun Enterprise 3000 provides electronic mail services for the students, faculty and staff and access to the state-wide PeachNet and other national and international networks. A Sun SparcServer 1000E provides Gopher, Listserv, Usenet and other similar services. A second Sun SparcServer 1000 provides World Wide Web service and operates as a specialized applications server for several academic departments with software products such as AutoCad, MathLab, GIS, C++, LISP and others. A third Sun SparcServer 1000 performs as the name server for the campus, allowing VSU to be registered with Internet and utilize the short address of valdosta.edu.

A very extensive and sophisticated fiber-optic based data network, with its central hub of bridges and routers located in the Library, provides Ethernet protocol (10/100 Mbps) communications between all servers and microcomputers. The 18 miles of fiber and 58 miles of copper wire connects the main campus buildings, as well as two on North Campus, the VSU Regional Center for Continuing Education and 12 buildings adjacent to the main campus. Other sites utilize dedicated modems to connect to the network. Additional remote dial-in modem access is supported, as well as outside access via PeachNet to other national and international networks.

Microcomputers are provided to every faculty member and all staff in administrative offices. A total of 600 microcomputers are available to students in 25 labs, with 10 - 50 machines each, located throughout the campus. Two labs are installed at Kings Bay Naval Base to support VSU operations at that location. All machines have the campus standard software installed ñ Microsoft Office Pro (Word, Excel, Power Point, Access) and all communications products (Netscape, Eudora, and other). Various microcomputer servers, Sun and Silicon Graphics high-end workstations, local networks and other facilities are located in the colleges and administrative offices to provide additional support to students, faculty and staff. The Library operates a DEC 4200 minicomputer, Sun SparcServer 1000, a student micro lab, 20+ Galileo workstations, a PC lab and 30+ terminals to support their operations.

Specific information on the above can be obtained at the Information Technology division offices located in Ashley Hall, Second Floor, South.



AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336, extends the prohibition against discrimination on the basis of disability in Section 504 to all programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments, regardless of whether those entities receive federal financial assistance. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states that no otherwise qualified disabled individual can be denied access to or participation in any federally funded activity or program solely on the basis of disability.