Minutes of meeting of the
Program Library Sub-Committee
held on Thursday, 11th June
1970 at 3.30 pm in the
William Robertson Building.

PRESENT
Professor P. Vandome (in the Chair)
Mr R.E. Day
Dr J. Fulton
Dr F.R. Himsworth
Mr D. Kershaw
Dr D.B. Taylor

Dr I.F. Christie (for item 3 only)
Dr G.T.S. Done (for item 3 only)
Mr J. Murray (for item 3 only)

Mr D.T. Muxworthy (secretary)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Professor D.J. Finney
Mr W.R. Paterson (item 3)

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes of the previous meeting, held on April 24th 1970, were approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   1. Messrs Cheeney, Fluendy and Thomas have been informed of Dr G.E. Thomas' replies to points raised.

   2. The fund for program purchase stands at over £2000 but some invoices have not yet been processed.

   3. The SPSS program is being well used despite the shortage of manuals. Transfer of the program to the System 4 is planned but not yet started.

   4. The Secretary reported that Dr D.H. Glass had accepted an invitation to this meeting but subsequently withdrew in favour of Mr W.R. Paterson.

3. LIBRARY PROGRAMS FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS
Each of the invited participants spoke about his department's experience with the program library and there followed a general discussion. Lists of individual programs mentioned are given in an appendix to these minutes.

Computer users in the departments represented were thought to be well satisfied with the current library although there were a number of suggestions for programs required. Considerable use is now being made of large packages, notably CSMP, and a need was felt for instruction in their use. Mr Day said that the Centre cold provide staff for giving instruction but thought that the initiative for organizing teaching should come from user departments. The question of the provision of documents for undergraduate computer teaching was also raised. The Chairman asked that these points be referred to the Committee on Computer Teaching.

The Chairman said that user departments should consult more readily with the Centre about problems
which may be solved by program and packages which may already exist. Equally the Centre should draw the attention of departments to programs which may be superior to those already in the Centre library. It would be the user's responsibility to evaluate the newer programs.

The visitors welcomed the intention to implement a "simple library" and were invited to suggest for inclusion. Dr Taylor pointed out that the simple library programs would also be available in a less restrictive form to users who could program.

Concern was expressed about the transfer to the System 4 and the Chairman asked the Centre make a statement about transfer as early as possible so that users could take appropriate action. Mr Day said that the Centre would endeavour to retain access to a 360 if sufficient interest was shown by users.

4. OTHER BUSINESS
   1. Mr Day said that the Centre's offer of making ASCOP 2 available to Newcastle University and University College London for evaluation had been accepted and

that the N.C.C. had been informed.

2. Mr Day said that the Centre had been asked to buy the program NETAL from Elliott Automation and as other universities were also interested the case could be one for submission to the Computer Board. It was however not yet certain that the program was marketable. The Chairman said the committee would welcome developments.

3. Mr Day remarked that it may now be possible to trade programs with ICI, rather than buy them from the company.

5. NEXT MEETING

No date was arranged for the next meeting. It was assumed that it would not take place before September 1970.

APPENDIX

LIBRARY PROGRAMS USED BY ENGINEERING SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS

1. Most used	G.T.S.D.:	CSMP; matrix routines.
	J.M. :	SSP, particularly Bessel functions and Fourier transformations; KDF9 optimization routines.
2. Used	I.F.C. :	Matrix routines; COMPFACT; ICES; Swansea finite element program.
	G.T.S.D.:	Random number generators; string functions; FORMAC; COMHESSE; COMLR; DIRHESSE; notation routines; solve eigenvalue problem; Univac Math Pack.
	J.M. :	ECAP; CSMP; DSL.
3. Planning to use	I.F.C. :	GENYSIS; CSMP
	J.M. :	PACTOLUS, PANE.
4. Required	I.F.C. :	Ability to modify ICES; better finite element program; British Integrated Highways Suite.
	G.T.S.D.:	Fast Fourier transform; FORMAC linked to CSMP; more data handling facilities, particularly analog to digital.
	J.M. :	Ability to call SSP from Watfor; better program than ECAP; logic simulation program.
	W.R.P. :	A program to determine the rank of a matrix whose elements are small integers. (submitted in a letter to the Chairman).