STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD -

The following remarks were made by Provost William F. Miller Wednesday, Feb. 10, regarding the question of non-University use of campus computer facilities.

"It is our policy to conduct University operations with the greatest degree of openness consistent with the rights of individuals to privacy and the protection of confidential information. Although the information is open to the community, because the University is a large and complex institution with its day to day operations highly decentralized, it is not practical and has not been necessary to have to duplicate records of our daily operations routinely available for public scrutiny.

However, I will respond to any request for information about particular facets of University activities which can be made public without comprising personal rights of privacy. In this context, let me be specific in regard to the requests for information made recently:

1. Information concerning utilization of the Computation Center by non-University organizations and individuals, which is relatively minor and controlled carefully, will be available in the Reserve Book Room of the Meyer Library. Similarly, information on outside users of the technical information and reference services of our libraries will also be on file in the Reserve Book Room.

In reference to the Computation Center I would report that as of Sept. 1, 1971, I have had a study group functioning on the long range applications of computers on the campus. A significant portion of the report's discussion (which is dated Feb. 1, 1971) is the non-University use of the center. This question is now before the Presidential Committee on Computer Facilities.

- 2. Use of University facilities, whether by internal or external individuals must meet the appropriate policies which govern our institutions. The most obvious policy under which non-University usage of the computation center would fall is that governing research. I can report that all usage of the center falls within that policy, which by the way, was developed by our faculty.
- 3. Concerning information on faculty consulting, I report that the University maintains no central registry of such faculty activity. We consider the faculty's activities in this area to be their own responsibility.
- 4. Information on externally funded research and other educational projects is available at the Humanities Reference Desk of the Main Library and at the second floor of the Meyer Library. This information includes internal and external University financial statements as well as a list of current sponsored projects including project titles.

Concerning the particular program whihe was operated on the Computation Center by the Stanford Research Institute. I have been informed by SRI that this project will no longer use our facilities. Further I have been informed by SRI that they have instituted a temporary ban on all SRI usage of the University's computer except as specifically authorized by their vice president for finance. The reasons for this decision would have to be sought from SRI officials."

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Wednesday afternnon, SRI spokesmen said that "prior to the student disturbances, SRI decided to provide its own research computer facilities and, with rare exceptions, have used the University's facility infrequently. SRI does not envision use of the University computer facility in the future."

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