

Courses offer help

Computers still confusing

By Julie Freeman
Of the Emerald

When it first started he never thought that it would continue. But more than one year later, Brian Emmen is still teaching members of the University faculty and staff how to use a computer.

Despite the recent revolution in computer use by many of the University's offices and professional departments, Emmen, a business manager for the University Continuation Center, says his classes continue because most people still are ignorant of, and sometimes frightened by, today's new technology.

His students come from every department on campus and have ranged from secretaries to Derrick Bell, former dean of the law school, Emmen says. And with the addition of some advanced courses to his basic programs, Emmen believes the flow will continue.

His courses, offered through the Continuation Center and School of Business, include an introduction to the Macintosh computer. Also offered are a

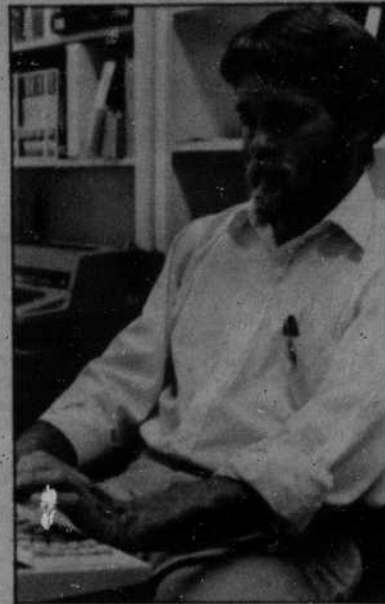
beginning Lotus 1-2-3 and word processing class, which are both taught on the IBM personal computers in Gilbert Hall.

Emmen has added some more advanced courses to this list in recent months and hopes to begin teaching a data-based management program in the future. The idea to teach a course such as this occurred to Emmen when he noticed a lot of computers around campus that were not being used.

"When the Physical Plant got its first personal computer, we were in a state of shock," says Lois Eagleton, an accountant in the office. "There it was just sitting there, and all I could think was what do we do now?"

Eagleton, along with others at the Physical Plant, took a beginning Lotus 1-2-3 course from Emmen. They were so impressed with what the program could do, the plant bought it for their own IBM personal computers, she says.

"The course did not make us experts, but it did get us off the ground and started," Eagleton says. "I really feel like we are



Brian Emmen

pulling ourselves into the 20th century now."

The courses are taught throughout the year by Emmen and are open to all University employees. The cost is \$45 and includes all the software and equipment needed.

For more information or to register for fall classes, call the Continuation Center, 686-4231.

Teachers return to school

By Julie Freeman
Of the Emerald

To honor teaching excellence in the fields of math and science, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education are hosting a two-week conference on campus for some of the best high school teachers in the Pacific Northwest.

A \$143,000 grant from the National Science Foundation is allowing the University to put on the program, which will give 60 teachers in the areas of biology, chemistry, earth science, mathematics and physics a chance to update their knowledge of science and applied mathematics.

"Even some of the best teachers don't have time to keep up with what is happening in their field," says David Sokoloff, a University physics professor in charge of the program.

The program will involve

several lectures and workshops by University faculty and work in campus research laboratories, Sokoloff says.

The group also will have the choice of taking a weekend field trip to the University's Pine Mountain Observatory near Bend, the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology at Charleston, or several geological study sites in the Oregon Cascades, he adds.

Over 600 teachers from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Nevada were nominated for the honor program that began Sunday.

An application process was used to identify the final teachers who should attend the program and receive academic credit plus a cash stipend for their work on different projects, Sokoloff says.

The institute also will offer a science and math interchange session that will encourage math and science teachers to

meet and discuss problems of cooperation between these two fields of study.

"It is very rare when science and math teachers get together in this way," Sokoloff says.

Problems often occur when teaching science because students lack necessary math knowledge. And math classes often need to let the student know that what they learn can be applied to something like science, he says.

In addition, Sokoloff says leadership workshops will be offered to try and teach the group skills that will help them share what they have learned with their colleagues.

The program will continue after the summer with two follow-up conferences at the University in November and January. The participants will be required to conduct regional workshops for fellow teachers in and around their own school districts in the spring.

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