
umbc computer center

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UMBC'S COMPUTER CENTER: FACTS IN BRIEF

I. PURPOSE

Welcome to UMBC's Computer Center, located on the third floor of the Social Sciences Building.

The Computer Center provides centralized, high-speed computing services for all academic computing needs, and is a major resource of the University's Baltimore County campus.

With provision for both individual research and classroom instructional accounts, the Center is a focal point for activities not only in the fields of Computer Science, Mathematics and Information Systems Management, but also in such diverse disciplines as Sociology, Engineering, Geography and Visual Arts, among many others. As the Computer Center endeavors to meet the challenge of constantly growing demand for resources, each semester brings a significant expansion in numbers of students served and software and services offered.

II. MAINFRAME HARDWARE RESOURCES

The primary computer in use at UMBC is a Control Data Cyber model 170/720 with dual CPU's and a NOS 2 operating system. The Cyber provides 196K words of main memory (60-bit words), with 2 megabyte words of extended memory. There are 90 ASCII terminal ports at present, as well as three synchronous ports. The system includes two 885-12 disk drives containing 2.7 gigabytes of storage capacity, as well as two 679-5 tape drives capable of processing 160K or 625K characters per second.

Access to the Cyber system is gained through UMBC's Gandalf data switch, which routes communications to and from the campus' administrative computers as well. The Gandalf configuration also permits routing to the University of Maryland's other campuses,