150 Years of Computing - the mid 1960s

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UF Information Technology

UFIT

2046 NE Waldo Rd, Suite 2100
Gainesville Florida 32609-8942
(352) 392.2061
<editor@cns.ufl.edu>
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150 Years of Computing - the mid 1960s

The so-called "third generation" of computing, covering the mid- to late-1960s, ushered in a
time of tremendous change in the fledgling computing industry. New technology such as
integrated circuits, or ICs, and various forms of parallel processing transformed the way
computers worked. Computers began to shrink in size at the same time as their computational
power grew by leaps and bounds.

Object-oriented languages such as Simula grouped data and instructions into blocks called
objects, and languages such as BASIC were developed that were easier to learn than their
predecessors.

And then there was UNIX: In 1969, two Bell Laboratories programmers developed the UNIX
operating system. UNIX quickly secured a wide following, particularly among engineers and
scientists.

Meanwhile, at UF:

1966: A Calcomp Pen Plotter was installed in an IBM 1401 system and support was added for
remote terminals.

1967: Stephen C. O'Connell was the first UF alumnus to serve as president of the university.
The IBM 709 computer was replaced by an IBM 360/50 (.1780 MIPS), and rate reductions
were announced. On Wednesday, December 6, the Data Center ran 504 jobs - a new record!

1968: The UF Computing Center moved from the farm area to its present location at the
Bryant Space Sciences Research Building. Interactive services such as TCP, FLORTRAN, and
/RJE were initiated.

1969: The Annex area opened in Johnson Hall. Support was added for remote card readers.
The /50 computer was replaced by an IBM 360/65 (.6800 MIPS).

Sources:

http://tdi.uregina.ca/~complit/comphist.htm
http://csep1.phy.ornl.gov/ov/node12.html#SECTION00034000000000000000
http://www.computerhistory.org/timeline/
http://www.cns.ufl.edu/info-services/history/hist60.html

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