OHIO STATE WILL DELAY START OF WINTER QUARTER 2000

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University will delay the beginning of winter quarter 2000 by two days as a precautionary move in light of national concerns about computer problems related to the Year 2000 (Y2K). Classes will begin Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2000, instead of Jan. 3 as originally scheduled.

The university does not anticipate significant internal Y2K problems or difficulties with external suppliers, said James F. Davis, interim chief information officer.

"However, it is impossible to anticipate all Y2K-related problems or to predict all Y2K-related behaviors with 100 percent certainty," he said. "While the probability of major problems is now very low, there will continue to be a risk of glitches that will need to be addressed."

University officials' concerns focus primarily on student move-in, originally scheduled to begin Saturday, Jan. 1, because uncertainties about external suppliers and vendors' status will exist through Dec. 31, 1999, and could affect the university's ability to provide all essential services, Davis said.

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Date: Fri, 28 May 1999 15:01:34 -0400
Reply-To: langhurst.2@osu.edu
Sender: owner-liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-PH: V4.4@lists
From: Ryan Langhurst <langhurst.2@osu.edu>
To: liball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
Subject: Y2K Upgrades
X-Sender: langhurst.2@postbox.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-Listprocessor-Version: 8.1 -- ListProcessor(tm) by CREN

Liball - FYI, this was forwarded to me by Physical Facilities Personnel. Ryan

> >Ron Sharpe, Manager, Building Automation Systems, asked that I forward the
> >following information to all Building Coordinators:
> >Please be advised that the Building Automation Shop has contracted to
> >upgrade fire alarms and DDC control systems to make them Y2K compliant.
> >These upgrades will be performed over the next two months. We do not
> >expect more than a short interruption in service. You may experience a
> >short "downtime" in the air handling systems while we reload control
> >programs. Thank you for your assistance in disseminating this information.
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>********************************************

Ryan Langhurst
Coordinator, Library Facilities
125 Main Library
1858 Neil Ave Mall
4-4747 Langhurst.2@osu.edu
(614) 292-6151
From the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of the CIO

Ohio State will delay the beginning of winter quarter 2000 by two days as a precautionary move to minimize any possible computer problems related to the Year 2000. Classes will begin Wednesday, January 5, 2000 instead of January 3, as originally scheduled. Classes scheduled on Monday, January 3 will be rescheduled for Friday, January 7, and classes scheduled for Friday, January 7 will be cancelled.

The opening of residence halls will be delayed until Tuesday, January 4, 2000 at 9:00am. Meal service will begin with lunch that day. The delay of student move-in and the start of classes are considered the most prudent courses of action to allow Ohio State to resolve any Y2K-related issues before students arrive.

Appropriate staff will be on campus December 31 and January 1 to resolve any Y2K-related issues. University offices and operations will be open as usual on Monday and Tuesday, January 3 and 4, to provide additional assistance to identify and resolve any problems that arise.

A toll-free phone number dedicated to Y2K-related issues and the delay of classes will be activated on December 1 for callers to receive up-to-date information.
Dec. 20, 1999

SPECIAL Y2K NOTE TO EDITORS AND REPORTERS

Because the Y2K situation occurs over a holiday, there will be some changes in how you can reach Ohio State’s media relations staff. On Jan. 1 and 2, you may call 292-8424 (my office number) for updates and assistance. If, as we expect, there are no significant Y2K effects at Ohio State, we will not be staffing this number continuously, but will return calls left between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. within one hour. The Web site, www.osu.edu/year2000 will have updated information throughout the holiday weekend.

In the event of Y2K difficulties, we will staff the number until the problem is resolved. Please note that this number is for MEDIA ONLY. Do not give it to the public.

Public information is available on our Web site, www.osu.edu/year2000, or toll-free number, 1-877-OSU-CLAS.

Thanks and Happy Holidays!

Ruth Gerstner
Director, News Services
OHIO STATE IS PREPARED FOR Y2K

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University is confident that it is well-prepared for a problem with no precedent -- the so-called Y2K bug.

Planning began seven years ago to ensure that the university's computer support systems would not go haywire at the turn of the millennium and shut down, believing it to be 1900 instead of 2000. The university decided to use a risk reduction approach aimed at replacing outmoded systems, bringing workable ones to Y2K compliant status, and having an action plan in place in the event of unforeseen problems.

First on the agenda was replacing the university's existing accounting, human resources and purchasing systems. Once that was done, Phase II began. Plans were implemented in 1994 to fix or replace the university's other critical central systems, including its student financial aid and information systems. Phase III, begun in 1996, focused on the computer systems distributed throughout the university's colleges and administrative units.

In 1998, a Y2K Task Force was formed, charged with providing information on testing, prioritizing, fixing potential problems, and collaborating on a university-wide basis. Working with the task force are some 60 Y2K coordinators, identified by their academic or administrative units and responsible for ensuring their individual systems will operate as usual come New Year's Day.

University Technology Services (UTS) negotiated a quantity discount for 5,000 copies of a Y2K checking software program and made them available at a greatly reduced cost. Individual faculty, staff and students, therefore, had the opportunity to update their own personal computers.

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The Ohio State University's Y2K Timeline

**PHASE I** (began 1993) - Existing accounting, human resources and purchasing systems are replaced.

**PHASE II** (began 1994) - The university's other critical systems, including student financial aid and information systems are fixed or replaced.

**PHASE III** (began 1996) - Planning begins for Y2K compliance of computer systems distributed across campus in colleges and administrative units. Y2K checking software made available at a discount. Y2K coordinators identified and charged with responsibility of readying academic and administrative units' computer systems.

Y2K Risk Reduction Program (1998) implemented, directed by Dan Allen (614-688-3318). Key operating processes are identified, and institutional priorities are set.

Y2K Task Force formed (1998) to work with university leadership and Y2K coordinators to prioritize, provide information on testing, and to collaborate on a university-wide basis.

**PHASE IV** (began 1999) - refinement of processes. As of Oct. 1, nearly all 370 key operating processes are reported to be Y2K ready. Outside vendors are asked to provide material on Y2K readiness.

Contingency Planning Team formed to review key operations, ensure Y2K compliance, and develop plans in case of unforeseen problems.

Year 2000 Web Page set up at www.osu.edu/year2000/. The site includes newsletters, reports, organizational charts, timelines and frequently asked questions, among other Y2K-related material.

Emergency Operations Center tested to ensure readiness for possible Y2K-related disasters

Y2K Toll-free Phone activated to provide up-to-date information at 1-877-OSU-CLAS.

**PHASE V** (begins Dec. 31, 1999) - Contingency plans set in motion if necessary. New class schedule set to ensure smooth transition.

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