

# University approves new computer system

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The university has approval on the installation of a computer system, which will completely automate Collier Library according to Dr. Garry Warren, dean of Library Services.

The system is the Northwestern Online Total Integrated System (NOTIS) and according to Warren, was developed by Northwestern University.

"What we're trying to do is to organize and to provide our patrons with different, more effective access to the information which the library has," said Warren. "It's just going to make it a lot easier for everyone in the library because it will be one integrated system."

According to Warren, the computer will allow the cataloging, authority control, acquisitions, serials, circulation and public access cataloging systems to work off the same mainframe computer.

"We are putting all the bibliographic records of the library onto the university mainframe, the central computer," said Warren. "When you come in here to use the library, you will no longer use the card catalog; you will use the terminal. When you go to a terminal to see whether the library has a book on a partic-

ular subject, not only will it tell you that, but also whether that book is checked out. Also when you use the public catalog, you can look under author, title, or subject. In this system, you can type in as many words as you like to be as specific as you like and it will pull up exactly what you're after."

Warren said the public will not see a major change until January of 1989 but that a lot of behind-the-scenes work is being done now.

He added that the new system will be easy for faculty and the general public to use.

"This is something I feel like the faculty will be pleased with also," he said. "Since the Acquisitions System is a part of this, they will be able to come and use a terminal to see what the status of their book orders are."

He added that if someone is unsure about the spelling of a word, the computer system will give several options.

"This system is programmed to give several different options whereas if you're using the manual card catalog and you can't spell a word, you really just can't find it," said Warren.

He said that the system will eliminate a lot of the paperwork that librarians and student workers are having to do now.