

PANEL SESSION: LOCAL AREA NETWORKS

Lillian N. Cassel, Chair Elizabeth G. Davis

Local Area Networks are of interest and importance in two aspects of the college environment: they are increasingly common tools with which students must become familiar and they are a significant part of the efficient operation of the computing facility.

In this panel presentation, Lillian Cassel will provide an overview of the LAN scene. This discussion will pertain to LANs in general and will deal with some of the characteristics of networks that provide valuable services and also serious challenges to the user community. Some history of Local Area Networks and a brief description of current research interests will provide a perspective on the LAN environment.

Elizabeth Davis will share her experiences as computing center manager at a small college using a network of microcomputers, and her further experiences as network specialist for a computer store. She will discuss questions of security, sharing code and files, and the requirement to deal with software license restrictions.