

## ECONOMICS COMPUTING RESOURCES AT BOSTON COLLEGE



### **Eleven Apple iMac systems** (room 480A)

These Unix-based systems, with Intel Core Duo processors, run Mac OS X 10.4 ("Tiger") and support ssh, Fetch, TextWrangler, TeXShop/beamer, Firefox, Safari, Stata 10.0, MATLAB r14, Ox 3.4, Mathematica 6, MS Office X, Acrobat, iTunes and iPhoto. All machines are equipped with CD burners, DVD players, and read and write DOS format floppy disks and zip disks via external drives. Log on as "grad", password "grad". Use the departmental file server (ecxserv.bc.edu) for secure storage of your materials.

### **One Apple iMac system** (room 480A)

This system, to the immediate left of the printers, is configured to run Microsoft Windows XP Pro. It supports access to the Datastream financial database.

### **Personal laptop connectivity** (room 480A: 4 jacks; room 480Q: 2 jacks)

These locations (tables in middle of 480A and on left and right walls of 480Q) provide Ethernet connections and AC power. You may connect any Ethernet-equipped laptop to the campus network at these stations. The first time it is used on campus, it must be "activated" with your username and Agora password. Wireless-equipped laptops (e.g. MacBooks, MacBook Pros, certain Dells) may be used anywhere on campus.

### **Economics file server** (ecxserv.bc.edu from Mac OS X or MS Networking)

Contains personal directories for each graduate student,

which may be used to store limited amounts of materials and exchange files with faculty. You log on to this server with University username and assigned password. From any departmental system, do "Connect to Server" and enter ecxserv.bc.edu. Use your space on this server to store personal items. Items left on the shared computer systems will be removed without warning.

### **Laser printer "econgrad.bc.edu"** (room 480A)

High-speed Hewlett Packard printer, accessible via Ethernet from any machine (Mac, Unix, Windows) on the BC network.

### **Laser printer "ec-c33c.bc.edu"** (room 480A)

High-speed Hewlett Packard HP 4100 printer, accessible via Ethernet from any machine (Mac, Unix, Windows) on the BC network.

**Remote access to the BC network** (via your own Macintosh, Linux or Windows machine) From off campus, you can access all features of the BC network, including e-mail, mainframes, Library, campus file servers such as ecxserv.bc.edu and the Internet from any home system with a modem. This gives access to the departmental file server `ecxserv.bc.edu` as long as you are dialing into the BC network (via 617-552-2790). Broadband (cable modem, ADSL) access to campus services require the use of VPN (Virtual Private Network) software on your Mac OS X or Windows XP system.

### **Virtual Data Center: economic/financial data**

(<http://fmwww.bc.edu/VDCpub>) Access to many economic and financial databases via web browser, with facilities to download data extracts in a format readily usable in spreadsheets or statistical packages (data transformation files for Stata provided).

**Departmental compute server** (ssh: [ecxserv2.bc.edu](ssh://ecxserv2.bc.edu)) Supports MATLAB (5-user license) and Stata/SE (9-user license) in a character-mode environment with 6 Gb RAM, 750 Gb disk space. Graduate students must request an account on [ecxserv2.bc.edu](ssh://ecxserv2.bc.edu), and justify their need for this system.

**High performance computing facility** (ssh: [scorpio.bc.edu](ssh://scorpio.bc.edu)) This University resource supports MATLAB and Stata/MP4 (Multiprocessor edition) along with Fortran and C/C++. See <http://www.bc.edu/offices/researchservices/cluster.html> for details on access to this system.

### **World Wide Web resources**

(<http://fmwww.bc.edu/EC/>) The Economics Department home page, with links to a number of useful sites for both information and data, such as *Resources for Economists on the Internet*. The "Resources" links "Economics Information Resources", "Economics Data Resources", "Economic and Financial Data at Boston College" and "BC Libraries Statistical Data Catalog" are particularly useful. All BC working papers and a BC-maintained software archive are accessible via IDEAS or EconPapers services from <http://repec.org>.

### **Technology Consultant**

(room 458, 2-6310, email: [tc1cas@bc.edu](mailto:tc1cas@bc.edu))

The TC, Ken Porter, and GTC, Kim Drago are responsible for support of all Department workstations. Contact them by voicemail or email to report any problems with hardware or software. Systems in shared spaces will not be fixed unless you report problems!

**Information Technology Services** / Research Services  
(O'Neill Library, <http://www.bc.edu/offices/researchservices>)

Research Services provides support for research and instructional needs of faculty and students. The ITS staff includes professional research consultants, graduate statistical assistants (GSAs) and graduate web assistants (GWAs) as well as the TCs and Media Technology Services personnel. The GSAs may be of particular assistance with your statistical computing and dataset access needs, including downloading datasets in various formats and transforming them for analysis.

Kit Baum  
Faculty Technology Contact, Department of Economics  
Faculty Moderator, Faculty Micro Resource Center,  
Office of the Provost  
voicemail: 552-3673, email: [baum@bc.edu](mailto:baum@bc.edu)