

## Status Report on the ACME System

October 3, 1966

The program is roughly on the same schedule as predicated in enclosure 1. However, IBM has announced several delays in hardware components and in operating system software for which we cannot fully compensate by our own efforts.

We may therefore expect to have the computer operational by January 1, 1967, for remote terminal access and some specialized laboratory inputs. However, routine data lines will probably be delayed three or four months.

The 1800 computer has been delivered and is being checked out. The larger 360-50 system is in shipment at this writing.

An excellent nucleus of programming staff has been assembled under Mr. Wiederhold's direction and they have already done outstanding work in designing the time-sharing system, which promises to be of wide application at many installations. Applications programming has lagged, however, partly on account of incomplete funding, but we are ready to begin with this on short notice.

A Clinical Application Committee has been organized under the direction of Dr. Peter Rosenbaum (Associate Professor of Psychiatry). It is studying the ways in which the computer facility can be used to help the management of problems in the clinics and on the wards. We are paying particular attention to the system proposals that the Lockheed Corporation is putting together, some announcement of which in connection with the Mayo Foundation you may already have seen.

Until the studies of this committee and the needed effort in self and mutual education have been completed, the main emphasis of the ACME system will be on the management of laboratory research information, and in the education of medical and graduate students in the use of this tool.