



Carolina Population Center

In 1966, the Carolina Population Center was founded at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. To celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2006, a project was conducted to document the history of the Center. This transcript is an excerpt from an oral history interview.

Interviewees: Boone A. Turchi and Chirayath M. Suchindran

Interview conducted by: Grace Camblos

Interview date: February 24, 2006

Boone A. Turchi has been a CPC Fellow since 1977. Chirayath M. Suchindran has been a CPC Fellow since 1977 and a Statistical Core Consultant since 1984.

BT: We were the first program to take microcomputers seriously.

GC: Hm.

BT: And I remember the first time that we went in on a grant proposal saying that we were going to network microcomputers and that sort of thing, they all laughed and said, "that's crazy, you can't do that." And, you know, we had a five year advantage over, over the other centers on that.

CS: I don't know if you were in the council, when we were in the council Udry asked, okay, all of us to write down what your dream look like and then he wanted us to bring to the table. So I remember bringing to the, while sitting in my office I wanted to, you know, read some paper and I wanted to write something and give to my secretary during the day. Things like that. And then Udry said, "Okay, we need to get a consultant to do networking." And I thought, I remember that.

BT: Yeah.

CS: I don't know if you were there or not.

BT: I can't remember.

CS: Then the first, that year's Center grant would be we got the money for first year consultant to start the networking.

GC: Oh, wow.

RB: Ah.