The Mathematics Department has equipped a mathematics classroom with a computer and is currently furnishing a computer laboratory to enhance the instruction of eight post-calculus courses servicing the needs of mathematics, computer and information science, secondary mathematics education, science, pre-engineering and premed students. The targeted courses include probability, statistics, linear algebra, differential equations, numerical analysis, a math course designed for prospective teachers and a problem solving seminar. The Department plans to integrate the computers both for classroom instruction and for student laboratory projects. The content and the presentation of the courses are being revised and instructional materials are being developed.

The classroom has a Compaq Prolinea 4/33 with 16MB computer with Mathematica and other software suited for the targeted courses installed. The computer is connected to two Mitsubishi 37” monitors which are mounted on the ceiling. Space has been designated by the College for the computer laboratory. Architects plans have been finalized and funding for the renovation of the space provided and the purchase of furnishings have been approved by the College. The laboratory will be equipped with 21 networked workstations. Workspace will be provided for two students per computer. Two printers will serve the laboratory. The laboratory will become operational during the Spring 1996 semester.

Since the installation of the computer in the mathematics classroom, instructors have been better able to present topics both graphically and numerically and thus deepen the students’ understanding of core ideas of mathematics and the classical interplay of arithmetic, algebra and geometry.