ANS-UNM
Department of Nuclear Engineering
MSC01 1120
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
(505) 555-1234

September 19, 2025
Tim Johnson, Director of Campus Outreach and Engagement
UNM Information Technologies
Buildings 153, Scholes Hall
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I'm writing to bring to your attention complaints that we, the UNM student chapter of the American Nuclear Society have about the computer labs on campus, especially that of the Farris Engineering Center and Centennial Engineering Center.

We are having problems with the inconsistent architecture to facilitate coding and word processing on the computers. Students have had time lost to switching computers, or traveling to other computer labs across campus. This comes at a cost to efficiency and performance. In some cases, grades on assignments and projects suffered due to time wasted on unreliable software.

We depend on these facilities to help us and are grateful that MatLab has been installed on all computers, but many of our projects require other languages such as Rstudio, Python, or FORTRAN. There are times that Python is installed, but we do not have the administrative privileges to install the libraries we need for data analysis.

In addition, we rely on typesetting software to develop our lab reports and papers. We know that some of the computers have the TeXworks application, but the inconsistency between computers is burdensome.

We also notice that Microsoft Word and Excel are only installed locally on some computers. It's our experience that the exclusively online Microsft 365 does not meet our needs. The online services are not flexible, have slow responses, and many features are missing from their offline counterparts (i.e. macros support for Excel). We need the flexibility that the offline applications bring for our papers, worksheets, and presentations.

What we need installed on all computers are:

1. Python version 3.11 or later with a compatible editor or IDE such as Spyder via the Anaconda distribution, along with the Numpy and Matplotlib libraries.

2. Applications that allow LaTeX typesetting such as TeXworks or LyX.

3. Fully functional offline versions of Microsoft Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.

We are thankful for the efforts already made towards meeting some of our needs, and will appreciate your help. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this. You can call me at (505) 555-1234 or email me at kpahe@ans.unm.edu

Sincerely,

Kristian Pahe
Secretary
ANS-UNM Chapter