April 9, 1986

SUBJECT: Commitments for Data Processing and/or Computing Equipment -- PM-58

This memorandum supersedes PM-58 dated April 29, 1980

LRS 39:196, et seq., specifies that the selection, purchase and installation of data processing equipment or services shall be approved by the State Central Purchasing Agency.

Act 698 of 1985 enacted LRS 39:199 F. The Attorney General has rendered an opinion that this new section exempts public colleges and universities from having to obtain the approval of the State Central Purchasing Agency when procuring data processing equipment, software, and maintenance services of $100,000 or less.

I have designated the Vice President for Administration and Finance as the coordinator of all data processing functions within the University System, including auxiliary enterprises, with responsibility for processing proposals through the State Central Purchasing Agency. In view of the Attorney General's opinion, all requests for acquisition, lease, or rental of data processing equipment and/or software, including equipment used in instructional and research activities that exceed $100,000 should be processed through the Office of the Vice President for Administration and Finance.

Allen A. Copping
President