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AUT (OR	Pahmlow, Harold F.; Dunn, James A.
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ABSTPACT

PIAN is an ungraded, computer supported, individualized program of education. This paper discusses the development of this program year by year. The first two years were limited, both in curriculum and content pacing. The third year was much more comprehensive. The fourth year will involve all grades, and will have lessons which are behaviorally and discretely defined, information about students, and rules for the use of this information. A program of study is developed by checking state and local school system requirements, the students academic history, and the students academic foundations. A core content of the students program is then set up. At the secondary level, this program is aimed at providing the student with preparation for at least two major long term goals which have been decided upon by him and his parents. The examples given in the second booklet on using student performance data show the data upon which revisions of PLAN modules were made as well as student performance on the revised materials. By first examining summary results for all items for an objective, it is possible to determine whether or not the general level of performance if acceptable, and further whether results indicate general misconceptions or errors in the instructional material itself. (SJ)



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SOME RESULTS OF USING STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR IMPROVEMENT OF INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTIONAL UNITS ¹

Harold F. Rahmlow²

American Institutes for Research

Introduction

The overall goal of any educational system should be the improvement of educational results. In order to improve educational results effectively and efficiently, there should be a strong emphasis on student performance data.

In the paper, "Use of Student Performance Data for the Improvement of Individualized Instructional Materials," read last year to the American Psychological Association, the kinds of data used to refine the individualized Instruction program and illustrations of this procedure were presented (Rahmlow, 1969). The purpose of the present paper is to look at some of the results of revision work.

 Presented as part of a symposium: <u>PLAN in Operation - A Summary</u> of Four Years' Experience in the Evolution of an Educational System for Divisions 5 and 15, American Psychological Association, Miami Beach, Florida, September 5, 1970.

2 Now associated with The American College of Life Underwriters, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

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Background

PLAN is a data-based system of individualized education. Previous papers give detailed background on the project (Dunn, Flanagan, Jung, Rhetts, Webster, and Wright in Education, 1970; Weisgerber, in press).

The basic organizational unit of PLAN is the module. A module consists of a set of behavioral objectives, learning activities for the student, and criterion-referenced test items for evaluation. Statents are provided with documents called teaching-learning units (TLU's) in which, in most cases, student objectives are stated along with a specification of the resources a student might use and the activities he might pursue as he works toward the achievement of the stated objective. Figure 1 shows portions of two PLAN TLU's. When the student feels that he can perform the objectives of the module, he is given an module test. Student responses are submitted for computer processing, and the results of this evaluation are reported on an overnight basis to the student and are also stored for future reference.

One of the uses of the stored data is for revision of the instructional program. The test data can then be retrieved and summarized by individual item and by objective, thus making it possible to evaluate the overall level of student performance on an objective as well as to evaluate student performance on individual test items.



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Because the system strives to assist students to master objectives, criterion-referenced rather than norm-referenced evaluation is appropriate. The distribution of summary scores of items for an objective should show a marked skewing in favor of correct responses. Likewise, individual items should be at the seventy to ninety percent difficulty level.

Example: Test Revision

If data on student performance indicate that the students are not accomplishing a particular objective, the problem can be attributed either to the student himself or to the system. During initial development, it is best to attribute random failure to students and mass failure to the system. If a problem is first analyzed for deficiencies in the instructional system, it is necessary to look at not only the instructional units but also the evaluation items. First we will examine a case which illustrates a problem requiring the revision of the evaluation instruments.

Let's consider a portion of a science module used by students who are in approximately their fifth year of school. The module is entitled, "Science of Learning: Forgetting and Relearning." The objective under consideration is, "Tell which variables were controlled in an experiment on forgetting and relearning." Figure 2 shows a portion of a test that includes a described experiment used to evaluate the student's ability to perform the objective. Figure 3 summarizes student performance on all

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five items for the objective. It can be seen that the distribution is more the type of a distribution that would be expected from a normative rather than from a criterion-referenced evaluation situation. The distribution indicated that very few students were really mastering the objective. It would seem desirable to investigate student performance on the individual items which have been summarized for Figure 3. Figure 4 shows the percent of students responding correctly to each of the individual items of the test. Items 8 and 10 do not seem to be providing a great deal of difficulty, whereas items 7, 9, and 11 are most likely the ones that are contributing heavily to the poor student performance noted in the summary in Figure 3.

An examination was made of the teaching-learning unit and of the individual evaluation items themselves. The teaching-learning unit seemed to be providing sufficient information and practice for the student to be able to acquire the behaviors necessary to perform well on the criterion items. One hypothesis advanced for the poor student performance was that the students were not able to pick out the significant information in the test item itself. The test item stimulus was modified as shown in Figure 5 to attempt to highlight the essential information. Furthermore, item 11 was eliminated from the test because there was not sufficient information provided within the stimulus upon which the student could make a definitive response.

Figure 6 summarizes the student performance on the four items for the revised test. As can be seen, the student performance has improved considerably, but there still is room for improvement. Again, an analysis

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was made of the individual items. Figure 7 illustrates this analysis. Item 7 is causing the most difficulty and is probably the major contributor to the somewhat depressed performance on the total objective. As can be seen from the revised test question, the information that is necessary for the student to answer item 7 has been highlighted; therefore, it could be concluded that whereas highlighting significant information within the stimulus improved performance significantly for some of the items, this was not the case for item 7. Probably future student improvement would not be gained by further refinement of the evaluation instrument but rather by refinement of the instructional procedure itself.

I'd like to summarize the points made in this section. On the basis of student performance data and from an examination of instructional units and evaluation documents themselves, it was decided to modify the evaluation instrument in an attempt to clarify the criterion situation. The revision did seem to produce improved student performance for some items but not for all. On the basis of data collected on students who had used the revised materials, it would be hypothesized that further refinement of the criterion items would not produce significant results but rather that improved results could only be improved by the refinement of the instructional procedure itself.

Example: Reorganization of a Module

Let's now consider an example of a data-based modification of an objective as well as a reorganization of instructional materials and the evaluation



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items. This example is taken from a module in science designed for students who are in approximately their tenth year of school. Figure 8 shows the objectives from the original module and the revised module.

The original objective was, "Measure the volume of solids and liquids in metric units to within one millimeter." The learning activities asked the student to read about the measurement of solids and liquid . It also had the students do a number of practical exercises in which they used a graduated cylinder and beaker to actually measure different amounts of water. Because it was anticipated that students would have to do some conversions from one type of unit to another, there are also some activites requiring such conversions, for example, from centimeters to millimeters.

Figure 9 shows the summary across all items of student performance data for objective 6685 in the original module. Since the distribution of correct responses does not indicate a pattern of mastery and, furthermore, since only 12.6 percent of the students answered all four items correctly, it appears that students were having difficulty mastering the objective. An examination was made of the item responses for each of the four individual items. The summary by items is presented in Figure 10. As can be seen for items 12 and 13, thirty-three and thirty-live percent of the students respectively were selecting the correct from. An examination *Ci* both items 12 and 13 indicated that each was a conversion *item* rather than a direct measurement item, whereas items 14 and 15 dealt with actual measurement of volume. This lead to an examination of some other items for other objectives. It was then discovered that there were a number of items



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throughout the test which, although related to different types of measurement, were primarily problems in conversion from one system of measurement to another. The decision was made to reorganize the module and to add an objective dealing specifically with conversion.

The new objective that was added on conversion was, "Define each of the prefixes used to indicate different units of measure in the metric system (Milli-, Centi-, Deci-, and Kilo-). Given a measure of length, volume, or weight in any metric unit, convert the measure to any other metric unit of length, volume, or weight." The learning activities of the module were then reorganized so that those dealing with the conversion were grouped under the new objective and those pertaining primarily to the measurement of volume were classfied under the appropriate objectives.

Figure 11 indicates the test results for the revised module. For objective 6685, the pattern is better in the revised module than in the original module; but, still, there is a relatively small percentage of students (27.9) who were getting all items correct. On the other hand, for objective 6702, the distribution of correct responses is family satisfactory.

Reviewing the pattern for objective 6685, it would again be useful to investigate the particular item responses to see if something can be learned from the data. A summary of the individual item responses for objective 6685 is given in Figure 12. It can be seen that item number 14



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is causing a severe amount of difficulty, whereas items 15 and 16 are quite satisfactory. Figure 13 shows item 14. Although this item deals with measurement of volume, it could more correctly be described as a question involving conversion from cubic centimeters to liters. The other two items — items 15 and 16 — deal directly with measurement skills. On these items the students seem to be doing satisfactorily. We could, therefore, conclude that with respect to the objective 6685 itself. the students were performing satisfactorily; although it would be good to have more items to evaluate student performance. Item 14 is a misplaced item dealing with conversion.

It is interesting to note that item 14, on which the students were having severe difficulty, is the same as item 12 on the original test. Looking back at the previous test results in figure 10, it can be seen that item 12 was answered correctly by thirty-three percent of the students initially, whereas it was answered correctly by thirty-nine percent of the students in the revised module. This is an improvement, but not the type of improvement that would be desired.

Examining the item responses for item 14 in Figure 12 more closely, it can be soen that although incorrect options A, B, and C each received a large number of responses, item C was selected most often. Looking back at the item responses for item 12 (Figure 10) from the previous year's test, the same is true. Looking at option C, it is son that the response is 500 cc's, whereas the correct response is 5,000 cc's. It would appear that the students are mistakenly assuming that a liter contains 100 cubic centimeters rather than 1,000. It can be assumed that



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the students are not having difficulty with the conversion between milliliter and liter since this is the performance required in item number 11 where eighty-one percent of the students are attaining the correct response. The real difficulty, then, seems to be the conversion from cubic centimeters to milliliters. An examination of the teaching-learning unit indicates that there are numerous opportunities for the student to practice conversion within the same system — that is, converting centimeters to milliliters, or converting milliliters to liters, but there is little emphasis given to converting cubic centimeters to milliliters. Thus, the data has indicated a potential source of difficulty, and this potential source of difficulty was, in fact, found in the materials themselves. Future revision should take this problem into account.

Summary

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The improvement of the educational process is an ongoing activity. Attempts at improvement can be completely heuristic or can be based upon student performance data. The examples presented have shown the data upon which revisions of PLAN modules were made and have shown student performance results on the revised materials.

The data analysis process is not cut and dried, and yet there are some general rules which can be followed. By first examining summary results for all items for an objective, it is possible to determine whether or not the general level of performance is acceptable. A mastery type distribution is desirable. Although the initial examination is made on the summary of test items, it is possible to know a little about the individual items even



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from this summary. If the summary is good, then no individual item can be too bad; but if the summary indicates difficulty, it is necessary to look at the individual items to see where the difficulty is.

After looking at the items summarized for the objective, it is desirable to examine individual test item response patterns. Clearly, a uniform distribution of wrong responses indicates general misconceptions, whereas a heavy loading on specific wrong responses signals errors in the instructional material or the test itself. Also, a particular alternative may clue a wrong response.

Overall, the improvement of instructional units using student performance data is in the "pre-scientific" stage. Through continual work in this area, we hope not only to be able to improve student performance on specific objectives but also to discover generalizable paradigms for general improvement.



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SAMPLE TEACHING-LEARNING UNITS

10-251-4	DICTIONARY SKILLS AND SIMPLE SENTENCES (0,00)									
Step 2. (3353)										
<u></u>	USE	DO								
from <i>Rea</i> Company,	the Word?" Part II Suffixes, d <i>ing for Meaning</i> , Houghton Mifflin 1966, filmstrip. p viewer.	 (a) View the filmstrip. (b) List suffixes or word endings used in the filmstrip. Example: (1) -ness (6) (2) (7) (3) (8) (4) (9) (5) (10) 								
Book." Open Hig	hways, Book 5, "Think-and-Do hways, Book 5, "Think-and-Do eacher's Edition.	(c) Do the exercise on p. 38. Write just the answers. Check your work in The Teacher's Edition.								

13-315-3 WHEN AND HOW TRANSFORMS, WORD CLASSES, COMPOSITION (0,00)

Step 4. Objective: AFTER READING A SELECTION OF LITERATURE, WRITE AN ORIGINAL (3912) COMPOSITION ABOUT THE PERIOD OF TIME COVERED IN THE SELECTION.

USE	DO
The Roberts English Series, Book 6. Spoken English to Accompany the Roberts English Series, Grade 6, Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., record set.	 (a) An author, whose works you will read as you continue through school, is William Shakespeare, who wrote in England about 1600. Many people consider him the world's greatest poet. Cn p. 107, there is a little song about winter from one of the plays he wrote. As you listen to a recording of this poem on Record 6A, Side One, you should remember that at the time it was written, winter was a very difficult time for both the poem.

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ORIGINAL TEST QUESTIONS

30-264

MODULE TEST

Page 2

Three of the students in Mrs. Bryon's class were doing some experiments. Experiment I is described in the paragraph below. Read this paragraph carefully before you answer questions 7 through 11.

EXPERIMENT I

Each of the three students was given a different list of three-digit numbers and allowed one hour in which to memorize his list. The students practiced in a quiet area, and when they were finished, took Test I to find out how many numbers they had memorized. They all took Test I at the same time, in the same room. Six weeks later, they took Test II to see how many of the numbers they had remembered. Each student took Test II in a different room. None of the students had been allowed to practice between Test I and Test II.

Now, answer questions 7 through 11 by using information given in the description of E.:periment I, above.

7. The list of numbers memorized by the students was

A. a controlled variable.

B. an uncontrolled variable.

- 8. The amount of practice time allowed for the students to memorize the list was
 - A. a controlled variable.
 - B. an uncontrolled variable.

9. The time of day when the students took Test I was

A. a controlled variable.

B. an uncontrolled variable.

10. The time between Test I and Test II was

- A. a controlled variable.
- B. an uncontrolled variable.

11. The noise in the room where the students took Test II was

A. a controlled variable.

B. an uncontrolled variable.

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SUMMARY ACROSS ALL ITEMS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR ORIGINAL TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 3102

Number of !tems Correct	Frequency	Percent
0	6	11.1
1	5	9.3
2	8	14.8
3	20	37.0
4	11	20.4
5	4	7.4
TOTAL	54	100.0
MEAN		2.69
STANDARD DEVIATION		1.39



SUMMARY BY ITEM OF PERCENT OF STUDENTS RESPONDING CORRECTLY TO ORIGINAL TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 3102

Item Number

1

Percent of Students Responding Correctly ì.

7	34
8	91
9	50
10	79
11	51



REVISED TEST QUESTIONS

30-264

MODULE TEST

Page 2

Three of the students in Mrs. Bryon's class were doing two experiments. The first experiment is described in the paragraph below. Read this paragraph carefully before you answer questions 7 through 10.

EXPERIMENT I

Each of the three students was given a <u>different</u> list of numbers and allowed one hour in which to memorize his list. The students practiced in a quiet area and, when they were finished, took Test I to find out how many numbers they had memorized. They all took Test I at the same time of day, in the same room. Six weeks later, they took Test II to see how many of the numbers they had remembered. The students took Test II at the same time but in different rooms. None of the students had been allowed to practice between Test I and Test II.

Now, answer questions 7 through 10 by using information given in the description of Experiment J above.

7. The list of numbers memorized by the students was

- A. a controlled variable.
- B. an uncontrolled variable.
- 8. The amount of practice time allowed for the students to memorize the list was
 - A. a controlled variable.
 - B. an uncontrolled variable.
- 9. The time of day when the students took Test I was
 - A. a controlled variable.
 - B. an uncontrolled variable.
- 10. The time between Test I and Test II was
 - A. a controlled variable.
 - B. an uncontrolled variable.



SUMMARY ACROSS ALL ITEMS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR REVISED TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 3102

Number of Items Correct	Frequency	Percent	
0	3	2.0	
1	12	8.0	
2	20	13.3	
3	61	40.7	
4	54	36.0	
TOTAL	150	100.0	
MEAN		3.	01
STANDARD DEVIATION			. 99



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SUMMARY BY ITEM OF PERCENT OF STUDENTS RESPONDING CORRECTLY TO REVISED TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 3102

Percent of Students Responding Correctly
48
89
95
80

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OBJECTIVES FROM ORIGINAL SCIENCE MODULE AND REVISED SCIENCE MODULE

Objective from Original Module

TAP

6685 Measure the volume of solids and liquids in metric units to within one milliliter.

Objective from Revised Module

- 6685 Measure the volume of solids and liquids in metric units to within one milliliter.
- 6702 Define each of the prefixes used to indicate different units of measure in the metric system (Milli, Centi, Deci, and Kilo). Given a measure of length, volume, or weight in any metric unit, convert the measure to any other metric unit of length, volume, or weight.



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SUMMARY ACROSS ALL ITEMS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR ORIGINAL MODULE

Objective 6685

Number of Items Correct	Frequency	Percent
0	27	4.5
ĩ	139	23.1
2	225	37.4
3	135	22.4
4	76	12.6
TOTAL	602	100.0
MEAN		2.16
STANDARD DEVIATION		1.06



SUMMARY BY ITEM OF NUMBER OF STUDENTS RESPONDING CORRECTLY TO ORIGINAL TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 6685

Item Number	Options						Percent of Students Responding
	Α	\mathbf{B}^{+}	С	D	E	Omit	Correctly
i							
12	84	107	187	196*	28	0	33
13	70	47	219*	161	103	2	36
14	396*	17	106	83	0	0	66
15	38	31	487*	45	1	0	81

*Correct response



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SUMMARY ACROSS ALL ITEMS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR REVISED MODULE

Objective 6685

Number of Items Correct	Frequency	Percent
0	33	8.4
1	84	21.3
2	167	42.4
3	110	27.9
TOTAL	394	100.0
MEAN		1.90
STANDARD DEVIATION		.91

Objective 6702 Number of Items Correct Frequency Percent 21 5.3 0 11.9 47 1 61 15.5 2 26.1 3 103 162 41.2 4 100.0 TOTAL 394 MEAN 2.86 1.21 STANDARD DEVIATION



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SUMMARY BY ITEM OF RESPONSES OF STUDENTS RESPONDING CORRECTLY TO REVISED TEST QUESTIONS

Objective 6685

Item Number		Options					
	A	В	Ç	D	Е	Omit	Responding Correctly
14	64	55	101	154*	17	3	39
15	285*	24	33	52			72
16	28	30	309*	2 5	1	1	78

Objective 6702

Item Number		Percent of Students Responding					
	Α	В	С	D	E	Omit	Correctly
10	19	258*	27	18	71	1	65
11	26	23	318*	9	18		81
12	9	27	22	307*	29		78
13	64	72	243*	13		2	62

***Correct response**



Item 14 -- Revised Test

14. How many cubic centimeters (cc) of water could be contained in a 5 liter container?

- A. 5 cc
- B. 50 cc
- C. 500 cc
- D. 5,000 cc
- E. 0.5 cc



The Development of Procedures for the Individualization of Educational Programs

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James A. Dunn

American Institutes for Research

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Presented at the American Psychological Association Convention Niami Beach, Florida; September 5, 1970

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The Development of Procedures for the Individualization of Educational Programs

Project PLAN is an attempt to develop an educational system which will more fully meet the needs of today's youth. More specifically, PLAN is an ungraded, computer supported, individualized program of education. PLAN is learner oriented. Content, rate, and instructional materials are tailored to the individual student. Performance requirements are criterion referenced and success focused. Tests and materials were developed to an 80-80 target, i.e., 80% content mastery by 80% of the students, on first completion of the material. The acronym, PLAN, stands for Program for Learning in Accordance with Needs. As the name of the project implies, the student's program of studies is the heart of the system. The purpose of this paper is to review the development of the PLAN procedures for individualizing these programs.

During the first year of PLAN operation in the schools, because of the modest scope of instructional -iterials available (PLAN had been in operation as a project only six months when school opened and only grades 1, 5 and 9 were involved at that time), student planning was perforce quite simple. The POS was, in essence, linear. That is, once a student was placed in a particular reading program or course, all students in that course, assuming no teacher intervention, were generally recuired to take the same instructional materials in the same order. It was the teachers' responsibility to ensure a satisfactory rate of student progress through the materials. The only POS related service offered through the computer at that time was test scoring and, upon satisfactory student completion of a lesson, the assignment of the next lesson in the sequence.

During the second year of PLAN somewhat more flexibility in curricular assignment and somewhat better control over content pacing was achieved. During this period the student and his teacher jointly planned what lessons the student would take, the order in which they would be taken, and the number to be taken. Teacher-pupil planning of this type took place as soon as possible after school started and was repeated quarterly throughout the school year. Of course, whenever a pupil, or his teacher, thought he was



falling behind in his commitment, they could, and frequently did, enter into renewed planning to arrive at revised agreements that were more realistic and thus, more psychologically binding. A sample of the form used by the teacher and the pupil in their planning is given in Figure 1.

This procedure was considerably more effective in individualizing students' studies than the earlier linear procedure, but it was far from what was originally envisioned for PLAN. It is clearly unrealistic to expect the teacher at the beginning of the year to be intimately knowledgeable about all of the children in her class, their interests and abilities, their general approaches to learning, their long range goals and aspirations, and the like.

During the third year of operation we were ready for transition to a more comprehensive system. We had nine levels of instructional materials to draw from, we had fairly extensive testing procedures to use, and we had histories on prior PLAN performance for two-thirds of our students. At this point we were ready to begin testing procedures wherein the power of the computer might be used to generate tentative, or recommended, student programs of study. The general rationale and characteristics of this procedure were reported in some detail at APA last year.¹ Samples of these early data suggested POS's are given in Figure 2.

This year, for the first time, all 12 grade levels will be represented in PLAN. To operate an individualized system such as PLAN, one must have a relatively large number of lessons which are discretely, and behaviorally, defined. And each of these must have their own assessment procedures. In PLAN we have approximately 2,500 teaching-learning units representing 1200 instructional units or modules. Each module has its own criterion test which is taken immediately upon completion of the module and which must be mastered before the student proceeds to the next module.

One also needs considerable information about students, their interests, abilities, achievements, and aspirations. This Spring a two-day battery of tests was administered to every student. This testing included PLAN



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¹ James A. Dunn, The Accommodation of Individual Differences in the Development of Personal Programs of Study. Presented at the 1969 APA Convention.

Achievement Tests for each of the subject matter areas studied by the student and a Developed Abilities Performance test (patterned after the Project TALENT tests which measured such developed abilities as vocabulary, reading comprehension, arithmetical reasoning, and the like). Information on student interests was also collected at that time. In addition we also have the student's previous academic history, which has been accumulated via module tests throughout the student's tenure in PLAN.

Finally, one needs a set of decision rules, i.e. specifications and guidelines, by which the information about students and materials can be interconnected to produce meaningful programs of study. This year's specifications for POS consist of over 200 pages of detailed instructions, charts, and diagrams; plus an additional 400 pages of detailed tables and module coding information describing the characteristics of the J200 modules in the PLAN repertoire.

Currently, a PLAN student's program of studies (POS) is developed in the following manner. First, state and local school system requirements are considered and a check of the student's academic history is made to see if he has met those requirements. Then his history is reviewed to ascertain that he has completed the essential elements of the previous year's work; that is, a check is made to see if he has the necessary academic foundations to pursue the work that will be expected of him in the coming year. Next, the child's achievement test results are considered to see if there is anything from last year's material that needs to be reviewed and what, if anything, from the coming year's work he may already know. These procedures define what might be described as the core content of the student's future POS.

These core requirements are then projected across the time remaining for the student to study that particular area. In the early primary grades, for example, reading programs generally are of three years' duration. Thus, an entering second grader should normally work to finish his basic reading instruction in the next two years. It is not essential that he do so; it is simply a more or less reasonable target. A high school student entering as a sophomore would have three years to continue his mathematics studies; unless of course, he indicated he planned to take mathematics a fewer



- 3 -

number of years.

After the basic, or core requirements are identified and distributed across the balance of the time expected to be devoted to the study of that content, attention is then turned to determining how much of the requisite material should be taken in the immediately ensuing year. If n is the number of years remaining to study in an area, then the student is assigned at least 1/n of the required modules. Typically the core requirements constitute much less than a year's worth of study, so attention must shift to the assignment of modules to augment these basic core modules. To do this, consideration must be given to determining what is a reasonable amount of work for the student to cover in a year.

This is determined by taking into consideration both the student's level of developed abilities, as determined by a battery of tests administered in the Spring, and also the number of modules the student completed the preceding year.

In the event that a student's quota is not filled by the 1/n requirement (an almost guaranteed condition), the POS then begins to assign lessons that are considered highly desirable for the student to take. These are lessons not considered to be absolutely essential for further academic progress but which are nevertheless considered to be very important, basic, content for the student to learn.

If upon completion of assignment of these highly desirable lessons the student's quota for the year is still not filled, the remainder of the quota is divided evenly between lessons expected to appeal to the special interests of the student and to the assignment of required modules. from the next higher level. Assignment of modules of this latter type penaits some measure of student acceleration without sacrificing curriculum enrichment.

After these lessons, or modules, have been selected, attention is then directed toward making recommendations as to which particular instructional materials (Teaching-Learning Units) the student should use in the study of his lessons. The primary factors considered in these recommendations are reading difficulty level and amount of social involvement required.



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Samples of this year's elementary school POS's may be found in Figures 3 through 8.

In the case of secondary school students, the process is somewhat more complicated due to the fact that the student's long range educational and vocational goals must also be considered. Twelve long range goal clusters, or families, which have been identified empirically from Project TALENT data are being used in PLAN. An attempt is made to keep studentparent planning focused on these general goal clusters rather than on specific occupations. This allows us to keep as flexible as possible in planning for students.

From what is known from TALENT, and other sources, about job mobility and the generally poor quality of current student vocational and educational planning, PLAN has adopted the philosophy that as many reasonable options as possible should be kept open to the student for as long as possible.

The POS is developed to consider not only the long range goal expressed by the student and/or his parents, but also a second "goal" which is the result of the best professional judgment that can be made, given the data available for the student. Thus, at the secondary level, the student's program of studies aims at providing the student with preparation for at least two major long range goal areas. This is felt to be a very important characteristic of the secondary level program of studies. Its importance is reflected in data obtained in PLAN last year.

Nearly 2000 PLAN students, and their parents were asked to carefully consider their long range educational and vocational plans in order that we might accommodate them in their suggested programs of study. 82% indicated vocational goals that required a college education, but only 28% indicated that they had plans to, or expected to, attend college. (See Table 1.) Had educational planning been carried out, as is usually the case, on the expressed college-non college expectation of the student (and presumably his parents), a large number of families and students would no doubt have been very disappointed at some future point in time.

Similarly, when the expressed vocational goals of students were compared to the vocational categories for which they had the ability, it



- 5 -

became quite apparent that large numbers of parents and students were selecting long range vocational goals well below their ability levels. (See Tables 1 and 2.)

This year PLAN includes a rather extensive set of guidance materials aimed at helping students and their parents become much more realistic in long range goal formulation and planning.

As one would expect, PLAN POS's will vary considerably in type and amount of content covered, and in the rate and sequence in which that content is covered.

With this approach the concept of <u>a</u> curriculum tends to become meaningless. Obviously, from an operational point of view, there are as many different curricula as there are discrete programs of study. The unit of instruction becomes the individual rather than the class, and the unit of credit may be defined in terms of content mastery rather than content exposure (e.g., the Carnegie Unit or the semester hour).

Finally, with regard to some simple operating characteristics, student programs of study are run on an IBM Model 50 computer. Over 140,000 units of core storage are required just to store curriculum information about the 1200 instructional modules in the PLAN system. The remaining 8,000 units



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of storage are required for processing. The processing time for each elementary student's POS (one in each of four subject matter areas: math, science, language arts, and social studies) is approximately 10 seconds. While this seems like a very brief time, and indeed is very economical, 10 seconds of continuous computer processing on a machine such as the 360-50 represents an extremely large number of decisions for each student.

In conclusion it should be indicated that, regardless of the nature and degree of planning that has gone on, the teacher is the final authority in the classroom. The teacher uses the recommended POS as he or she sees fit. She may implement the program of study in its entirety; she may make minor revisions to it; she may make major revisions to it; or she may even ignore it completely and develop an alternative program of studies for the student. Whatever her final course of action, she at least will have had the best counsel we could offer.



- 7 -

		Long l	Range Goal Cate	gory
		College	Non-College	Total
TABLE 1	College	538 28 %	121 6%	659 34%
Student-Parent Educational Goal	Non-College	1035 54 %	221 12%	1256 66%
	Total	1573 82%	342 18%	1915

Student-Parent

 $x^2 = 12$ with 1 d.f.

Student-Parent

		Long	Range Goal Cat	egory
		College	Non-College	Total
TABLE 2	College	681 50%	22 16%	903 66%
Data Suggested LRG Category	Non-College	278 20%	184 13%	462 33%
	Totał	959 70%	406 29%	1365

 $\chi^2 = 33.25$ with 1 d.f. $p \ge .001$



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2. M Si		the c essful	heck-; ly.	oints li	sted in	your 1	ndividual	ized Sch	dule in	order	to con	plete y	our Prog	gram of :	Studies
3. H	eai	any a	dditio	onal peri	ormance	requir	ements li	sted on	he back	of th	n is page	; and			
4. So	:Gr(e at s	ntisfa	ictory le	vels on	any Su	rvey Test	s you tai	e durin	g the	time pe	riod pl	anned.		
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	THE FOLLOWING MODULES ARE SUGGESTED FOR YOUR PROFRAM OF STUDIES FOR THIS YEAR.			
10-052-3 $10-053-3$ $10-054-3$ $11-058-3$ $10-055-3$ $10-051-3$ $12-051-3$ $12-052-3$	POLK TALES ANJPAL STORIES PUN WITH LANGUAGE Sullivan BOOK 4(A) ToPSY-TURYY ANJPALS Sullivan Book 7(B) About Ryself Sullivan Book B(A) Sullivan Book B(A)			
10-102-3 12-053-8 10-103-8 12-034-3 81-100 10-104-8 12-095-3	PY PRIENDS Sullyan Book 9(A) Pictures With Words Sullyan Book 9(B) Plan Achievement TBBT Jingles And Anymes Sullyan Book 10(A)	-		
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10-105-3 12-054-3 10-104-3 41-104 12-057-3 10-107-3 12-058-3 12-054-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3 12-064-3	THE SOO HATS OF BARTHOLDHEN CUBBINS JULIYAN BOOK 1018) STDRY TELLING PLAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST SULIYAN BOOK 1148) DRAMATICS SULIYAN BOOK 1168) PLAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST SULIYAN BOOK 1318) SULIYAN BOOK 1318) SULIYAN BOOK 1318) SULIYAN BOOK 1318) SULIYAN BOOK 1483 SULIYAN BOOK 1483 PLAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST THANK YOU, MR, BELL			

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003	INNACULATE I	HEART LEVEL B	MATHEMATIC	E FAS	L 1970
	NODULE NUMBEL	MODULE NAME	NO 78	101	- 1 × 4 0 1 × 4
		YDUN TEST RESULTS SUGGEST THAT YOU KNOW SOME OP THE Objectives of these hodules in Your Pagaan of Studies, after reviewing each module carepully, Consider challenging et.			
	20-039-3 20-060-3 20-061-3 20-102-3 20-103-3 20-103-3 20-103-3	INTRODUCTION TO BUBTAACTION Subtaction of 1-digit numbers from 1-digit numbers Introduction to number sentences Compinations through 10 Addition constations through 18 Subtaction Compinations through 18 Addition and Subtaction of tho-digit numbers			
		THE POLLOWING HODULES ARE SUGGESTED FOR YOUR PROGRAF Of Studies for this year,			
	$\begin{array}{c} 20 - 059 - 3 \\ 20 - 060 - 3 \\ 20 - 061 - 3 \\ 20 - 101 - 3 \\ 20 - 102 - 3 \\ 20 - 102 - 3 \\ 20 - 103 - 3 \end{array}$	INTROBUCTION TO SUBTACTION Bubtaction of 1-digit numbers from 1-digit numbers Introduction to number benefices Mathematical Bentevces Combinaticas Through 10 Addition Combinations Through 18			
	20-111-3 20-104-3 42-100 20-103-3 20-113-3 20-104-3 20-104-3 20-107-3 20-107-3	PONEY 2 SUBTRACTION COMBINATIONS THROUGH 18 Plan Achieverent Test Addition and Subtraction of Tho-Digit Numbers Limbar Heasure 2 Place Value To Three Digits Addition with Regrouping Subtraction with Regrouping			
	20-114-3 82-101 20-110-3 22-112-3	TINE 2 PLAN ACHIEVENENT TEET Entroduction to multiplication NBORUCTICH_TO_FRACTIONA			. .
104-11-15-1	WIDLI Numet	MODULE NAME	Me P	Pate StatleD	Ling The Ling Tree D
	#2-102 20-107-3	PLAN ACHIEVENENT TEST DDD and Even			
1 27-02		TAKS ANY 1 OP THE FOLLOWING 2 MODULES. When you are ready to seen work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number st-o23.			
	18-112-3	ADDITICH WITH THREE ADDENDS ADD and Subtract 4-digit nukers fithdut regrouping			
	20-192-3 20-193-3	BABIC ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION Place value to pour digite and expanded notation			
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VV X 003	INNACULATE N	BART LEVEL B	SOCIAL STUDIES	FALL 197
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	H00:11 MANGE	MODULE FIAME	10074 DATE	
		YOUR TEST RESULTS SUGGEST THAT YOU KNOW BORE OF THE Dejectives of these modules in your pagear of Studies. After reviewing sight module carefully, Consider challenging it.		ı I
	40-130-3 40-116-3 40-117-3 40-118-3	CONSTRUCTING BUILDINGS Where we get dur food Hdw yb USE dur food Where we get dur cloth		-
		THE FOLLOWING MODULEB ARE SUGGESTED FOR YOUR PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THIS YEAR,		, , ,
47-008	NEIGHOURHOO	O BUILDINGS TARE ANY 1 OF THE FOLLOWING & HODULEB, When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number 47-008,		
	40-120-3 40-121-3	CONSTRUCTING BUILDINGB Pactories in the neighborhood		
47-003	NEICHBOAHDO	O TYPES Taks any 2 DP The Following 4 nodules, Mhen You are ready to begin work on this set, ask Your teacher to start set number 47-dos,		
	40-102-3 40-103-3 40-104-3 40-105-3	SMALL-TOWN NEIGHBOANDODS BIG-CITY NEIGHBOANDODS Suguaban Neighboandoos Paam Neighboandoos		
22 W 12 1300 4 K 4	MOD: RT No.41	MODUE NAME	1-20 OF Da'l	26) (P# PT
r 47-004	NEIGHROAHDO	D INSTITUTIONS Take any 2 of the Following 3 modules, When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number 47-004.		
	40-307-3 40-108-3 40-110-3	STORES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD Guvernment in the Neighborhood Schools in the Neighborhood		
1 47-001	B4-100 COMMUNICATI	PLAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST On		
		TAKE ANY 2 OF THE FOLLOYING J RODULEE. When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number 47-009.		, , ,
	40-111-3 40-112-3 40-113-3	COMMUNICATION Mass Media TV Program		
T 47-DOG	BASIC NEEDS	TAKE ALL B OF THE FOLLOWING 3 KODULES. When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start bet number 47-006.		
	40-116-3 40-117-3 40-118-3	WHERE WE GET DUR FOOD MCW WE USE DUR FOOD Where we get dur cloim		
	84-101 40-129-3	PLAN ACHIEVENENT TEBT Getting There from mere		
	*00.4t	MODULE NAME		<u> </u>
1 47-007	HEIGHBORHOD	D CHARACTERISTICS Take Say I of the following & nodules, When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number 47-007.		•
	40-109-3 40-119-3 40-124-3	HON NEIGHBORHDOOS CHANGE PEDELE IN THE NEIGHBORHDOD Hoa Neighborhdods Solve Probleks		* 1
	4C-151-3 40-152-3 40-153-3 40-177-3	WHAT 15 A COMMUNITY? Wy dyn Community and its resources A Look at Dther Communities Rap StudyRegions of the World		

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FIGURE 6

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003	SHRAGULATE I	MBART LEVBL 4 7	KATHEMATS	(3 P/	LL 1970
(0441-04 (001	405U	HODULE NAME	NO 04	Dall Siauto	Da i
		YOUR TEST ASSULTS SHOW THAT YOU SHOULD SEVIEW THE Colectives of these houses wich the to completes last year, od not submit status on test cards por them.			
	89-185-8	PLACE VALUE TO FOUR DISITS AND EXPANDED ROTATION			
		YOUR TEST RESULTS SUGGEST THAT YOU KNOW SOME OF THE Delectives of these hodules in your froenam of studies, after revening sach hodule carefully, consider challenging it.			Ì
	18:134:3	SUSTRACTION OF THREE-DISIT NUMBERS Rultiplication with rescouping			
		THE POLLOVING MODULES ARE SUBPRETED FOR YOUR PROGRAM Of Studies for this year,			
•		SUSTRACTION OF THREE-SISIT NUMBERS NUTTELICATION WITH AFBROUPING Invaduation to division Division from to division Points, Lines, and Angles From TS, Lines, and Angles			
	30-115-5 92-203 20-153-5 20-153-5 10-205-5 10-504-5 32-200 10-505-5 50-107-5 20-107-5 20-107-5	CIRCES FLAM ACHISYENENT TEST FLACE VALUE TO BEVEN DIBITE FDOFERTIES OF UMOLE RUNBERS PONULTIFLICATI. N Nultiflication algerithm Bivision Algerithm FLAM ACHISYENENT TEST The Praction Bynedi Fractions on a Line Bigenent Fractions on a Line Bigenent			
	80-809-3	BEULVÁLENT PAACTIONS			Fair -
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	10-110-3 93-101 20-167-3 10-163-3 30-293-3	IPPAOPER PAACTIONS Plan Achievent test Areauxistent of Length and Kap Scales Time 3 Addition and Subtraction of Pova-Disit Muxeers			
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003	ENXAGULATE	HEART LEVEL 4	BOCIAL STUDIES FALL 1970
COMPLETION CODE	NODUAT NUMBER	MODULE TAMME	The second s
		THE POLLOWING MODULES ARE SUGGESTED FOR YOUR PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THIS YEAR,	
	40-177-5 40-178-8	MAP STUDY - REGIONE OF THE WORLD Map Study - Land And Mater	
ou r	CONHUNT 14	TYPES TAKE ANY 2 OF THE FOLLOWING 4 SEUS.	
T & 47+02L	ARCTĮC ÇOM	MUNITIES Munities Tage all 2 of the pollowing & Modules, Then you are reacy to ergin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set number 47-011,	
	40-157-3 40-158-3	ARETIE EDADUNITIES 1	
T # 47-912	TROPICAL R	AIN POREST COMMUNITIES TAKE AL. > OF THE POLLOWING S MODULES. When vois are ready to broin work on this sst, ask your teacher to start set junser 47=018.	
	40-140-3 40-141-3	TABPISAL RAIN POREST COMMUNITIES B	
IT \$ 47-013	MOUNTAIN C	DANUNITIES TARE ALL & OP THE POLLOWING & ROOULES. Hhen you are ready to begin work on this set, asx your teacher to st'rt set number 47-015.	
	40-163-3 40-184-5	HOUNTAIN COMPUNITIES 1 Mountain Compunities 2	
LOUALION	HCCAR HUMBER	MODULE NUME	NO OF DATE CAT THES INSTID STATED FASSES
T 4 4T-010	DESERT COM	KUNITIES TARE ALL 2 OF THE FOLLOWING 2 HODULES, When you are ready to begin work on this set, ask your teacher to start set humber 47-010.	
	40-154-3 40-155-5	DESEAT COMMUNITIES 1 Deseat communities 2	
	40-168-8 40-169-3 40-209-2 40-209-2 40-209-3 40-209-3 40-209-3	CORPARING COMMUNITIES A Planmed Cormunity Defining Huran Prolens Searching for Information Attack a ProblemNatural Resources Your State Using Maps Legends and Symbols	
	\$4-200	FLĂN ĂĞMĨEVENENŢ TĒST	



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) nd	PREGRAM OF STUDIES	6166 EDV.	NDØ BYRON	l
008	SHHACULATE H	IBART ČEVIČ & I	LANGUAGÈ	1478 I	ALL 1970
(0447:04 100)		MOOULE NUME	NO OF	04% \$144%0	
	8-301 7-02 1-008-8 1-108-8 1-107-9 1-177-9 1-52-4 1-125-4 1-125-4 1-125-4 1-115-4 1-15-4 1-15-4 1-15-4 1-15-4 1-15	THE POLLOWING MODULES ARE BUDDESTED FOR YOUR PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THIS YEAR. PLAN PROBLAM OF STUDIES FABLES ARC LOSENDS INDEFENDENT READING-ANIMALS PACTURE INFORMATION, SUPPLYSS INCEFENDENT READING-ANIMALS PACTURE INFORMATION, SUPPLYSS INCEFENDENT READING-ANIMALS PACTOR NEEDED, CLASSIFICATION OF LITERATURE INDEFENDENT READING-SUPPLY NECTOR CIMION, SHOUT NOVEL REPORT FACT OR NICTION, MADINES PACT OR NICTION, BHOUT NOVEL REPORT FOUR STORMAR READING-SUPPLY PACT AND CIMION, SHOUT NOVEL REPORT FOUR STORMAR READING-SUPPLY PACT AND CIMION, SHOUT NOVEL REPORT FOUR STORMAR READING-SUPPLY PACT AND CIMION, SHOUT NOVEL REPORT FOUR STORMAR STORMARS NUMPRITIEND, STORMARS AND ANALIS, DEAL REASING NUMPRITIEND, SHOUND-SIGAREL FIGITON INFARING, FACTURE INFORMATION REFAILS FACTURE INFORMATION REFAILS FACTURE INFORMATION REFAILS AND SUPPLY RAMSPORMATION MADE SOLE AND SUPPORTING DETAILS SAUTHORS WEE OF WERDED			
BET 17-047	11-319-3 A&P&A&H\$3	MAIN ISBA AND SUPPORTING DETAILS, AUTHORIS USE OF WORDS TAKE ANY 1 OF THE PALLOWING 2 MODULES, WEN YOU ARE SAABY TO ESSIN WORK ON THIS SET, ASK YOUR TRACHER TO ETART SET WURDER 17-047;			
	13-221-1	III JULTIN RUSPILL			
	11-310-3 11-381-8 81-390 11-392-8	REQUENCING, DRAVING CONCLUSIONS AND CHARACUSRISATION Apprended Reills Play activity test Note taking, quylining and report vaiting			
Condition		ADDLE MINE	NO OF	DAT NATE	Call Philippo
.cog fit 17-846	ANALYFIE	TAKE ANY B OF THE POLICYING & MODULES; Meny You are ready to seein york on this set, ask Your tou are to start bet towers in-dat;			
	11-355-3 11-317-5 11-317-5	NYSTERY STORIES 1THE NYSTERIOUS SCHOOLMASTER Critical Readirs, Avalyzins a play PCETRYimasefsbowd,and McOd			
887 17-090		TAKS ANY 1 OF THE POLIOWING & MODULES When you are ready to bigin work of this set; Abx your teacher to start set number 17-080;			
	18:111:1	STREETS AND STAGES			
	}-];+-]]-];-]]-];-]]-];-]]-];-]]-];-]	RELATIVE CLAUSE TRANSPORMATION TFAREITIVE AND INTERMESTIVE-PASSIVE TRANSPORMATION MCRAMJUOYT-JERIVED SUPPIXES AND PREPIXES PLAN ACMEEVENENT TEST ACVERTISIND			
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