Machine grades, student-set finals please Registrar

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James C. Morehead, Registrar, said he was “more than pleased” with the results of students’ scheduling their own finals and with the IBM System of recording grades. Both methods were tried for the first time during the past exam period.

The only problem that Morehead found with the finals system was with a few students who had legitimate reasons for changing their finals schedule after the exam period had begun. In most cases these changes were necessary because a take-home final or a paper was due on the day the final had been scheduled.

Students were allowed to make those necessary changes and, Morehead added, “They didn’t ask for changes unless they had a good reason.”

The plan, which was instituted by the faculty on a trial basis only, will be reviewed by the Faculty Council for possible acceptance on a permanent basis.

Although the IBM System of reporting grades had been tried out for Thanksgiving grades, this is the first time it had been tried on an all-University scale. Morehead said that grades are out sooner than they had ever been before.

The only modification in the system that will be tried in June will be to put the grades on student’s transcripts before they are sent to the students themselves. If this is done, those students who need to have transcripts sent out will be accommodated a few days earlier.

If a student is in academic difficulties he will still be able to find out what his grades are as soon as they are reported to the Registrar.