

we may need a reliable test server to allow new test pages to be tested. **John** will modify the config file for the test server so it has the so-called legacy mapping references in it.

Future Technologies

New tools for the Web are being released at such a rate that we cannot possibly keep up to date. As a WWW-Tech committee we ought to know something about these emerging tools. Bebo will be attending a WWW meeting in the near future and will attempt to learn of what is coming down the pike. One area we are particularly in need of better Web tools are things to manage Web pages etc.

VM Phaseout and Netscape

The VM committee wants to focus on Netscape as our recommended Web browser since it will or does provide News and Mail interfaces. This reduces the effort needed to bring people off VM since it provides two critical functions needed for the conversion. Concerns were raised about the quality of Netscape's mail and news interfaces. Also there are questions of other browsers which may be better in some area. For instance if BaBar needs some level of controlled access which could be met by Kerberos, then we might be better off to move the the NCSA server/browser. It was suggested that the WWW-Techgroup and the VM conversion group should get together to discuss how to proceed. **Bebo** will contact **Chuck Boeheim** to coordinate a meeting.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is the 6th of December 1995.

Action Items

- **Bebo** The Unix news to Mail gateway is unreliable, Bebo is investigating. This is causing loss of news postings to the mailing list. [Bebo will test to see if changes have fixed problem].
- **Bebo** will investigate the interactions of Netscape and the SLAC news server from Macs. [STARtraked, Bebo is working on.]
- **Tony and John** will confer on moving log files to another large partition.. [John is ready to do it, has sent mail, barring any adverse response, he will do it tomorrow].
- **Joan** will document the privacy of information vis a vis the logging and who has looked at what pages, in the Privacy Document. [Awaits home page completion work].
- **Tony** will modify Spiface to intelligently switch between the servers the 2 QSPIRES servers.
- **Les** will investigate when the News machine will arrive. This will result in a new version of the news reader, which it is hoped will help the Newsgate problem, and the problem with funny formatting of news items as seen by Netscape reported by Tony. [DONE, it is due early calendar 1996].
- **Joan** will talk to Bob Cook about the tradeoffs between a small number or large volumes and a large number of small volumes. Joan is concerned about people's reticence to manage a group's AFS space. [Joan discussed this with Bob, now another round is needed with Joan, John and Bob - no progress].
- **Bebo** will clean up /usr/local/www and in particular delete httpd.conf. [DONE].
- **Pat and Bebo** will come up with requirements for finding out information on what pages have been accessed and from where. [Pat and Bebo will meet on Friday 17th Nov].
- **Tony and Les** will merge their stats forms put them in a sensible place, and make them call the two scripts (also to be put in the right place). [This awaits the log file move - see above] **John** will check the security.
- **Bebo** will remove unnecessary old mail CGI scripts [DONE] and look at the sendmail man pages to see how to use the -t option to secure the remaining mail CGI scripts.
- **Bebo** will catalogue the purpose, and ownership of cgi-bin scripts. [DONE, see above].
- **John and Bebo** will provide Les with some pointers to FAQs to do with more on security. [DONE]. **Les** will put pointers in his "Writing Secure CGI Scripts" page to these references. [DONE].
- **Joan** will highlight this page in her WWW Resources page. [DONE].
- **Everybody** will disable obsolete (probably insecure) scripts from the cgi-bin directory. [DONE].

- **Tony and Les** will raise the issue of CGI bin scripts and the manpower required to qualify them at the WWW Coordinators meeting and/or the security committee.
- **Les** will look at modifying cgi-wrap to use an additional rules file if it is running on the test server. [DONE].
- **Bebo** has a new Web Developer Magazine which he will pass around.
- **Bebo** will rewrite the www server how-to-fix file. **John** will provide input on how to restart the server.
- **Les and Connie** remove references to netrepl, netdoc/ etc.
- **Bebo** will coordinate with Louise to determine the use of WWWTEST.

AOB

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 11/1/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *Les Cottrell, Tony Johnson, Karl Young, Philippe Argouarch, Joan Winters, Kathryn Hennis, Laurie Gennari, John Halperin, Bebo White.*

Agenda:

- Log file analysis continued
- Status of WWW Coordinating Committee
- CGI scripts
 - mailto vs suggest
 - Support for user written scripts
- 1996 Budget
- Test WWW Server
- Status of VM WWW Server
- Next Meeting
- Action Items
- AOB

Log File Analysis continued

Les came up with a simple script to get statistics on the number of hits to a SLAC page. Tony enhanced it to provide more detailed information on where (domain) it was accessed from. There were concerns about how much time it could take to do the more full analysis. The decision was to run it under "nice" in order to reduce the impact on others using the server. Whether or not it runs under "nice" may be determined by the number of days it was asked for.

In addition there will be a choice radio button at the top that will ask the user what kind of report they want, i.e. the short or long form.

Tony and Les will merge their forms put them in a sensible place, and make them call the two scripts (also to be put in the right place). John will check the security

Status of WWW Coordinating Committee - Pat Kreitz

This has been formed and letters have been sent to the members. Pat Kreitz is the chair. There are representatives from each division.

CGI Scripts

We agreed that where mailto: is appropriate it should be used instead of other mail scripts. Joan requested that the suggest script points to mailto:. Tony does not know whether this is possible, so suggest/ will be phased out. Joan may need help with a script to patch a set of her files (that access suggest/) accessed from the new SLAC home page.

Bebo will remove unnecessary old mail CGI scripts and look at the sendmail man pages to see how to use the -t option to secure the remaining mail CGI scripts.

Web Security Problems

John raised the question of how we should perform WWW CGI script security. At the moment, John in his spare times looks at scripts and notifies people of problems in scripts and hopes they fix the problems.

***Bebo** will catalogue the purpose, and ownership of cgi-bin scripts.*

There are problems with the time this takes, and that John may not be skilled at all the languages that people may write scripts in.

Les has a WWW page on writing Secure CGI scripts which we should publicise to people who are starting to write CGI scripts. ***John and Bebo** will provide Les with some pointers to FAQs to do with more on security. Les will put pointers in his "Writing Secure CGI Scripts" page to these references.*

***Joan** will highlight this page in her WWW Resources page.*

John expressed his appreciation to Les for fronting the requests for users who want to write new CGI scripts.

***Everybody** will remove obsolete (probably insecure) scripts from the cgi-bin directory.*

***Tony and Les** will raise the issue of CGI bin scripts and the manpower required to qualify them at the WWW Coordinators meeting.*

1996 Budget

Les raised the question of how much money should be budgetted for software for WWW. The types of things we may need are: newer more secure servers (guesstimate \$5K), WWW software management, Livewire (~\$700) to fix up moving links, a sitewide license for a new Web browser. Things are changing so fast it is very difficult to estimate needs. Les will put some money in his Network budget to try and cover this.

Test WWW Server

Les has raised the question of setting up a test server to allow testing of CGI scripts in a test environment. Such a server could be restarted on a daily basis to clean out dead processes.

Some testing can be done by setting environment variables, running the script, piping the output to a file, and looking at the output with the browser's local file option. However this does not see the same environment (e.g. user id etc.)

There is already a test WWW server at port 5080. Several other options were discussed. It was decided to use the 5080 server as a test vehicle. *Les will look at modifying cgi-wrap to use an additional rules file if it is running on the test server.*

Status of VM WWW Server

Bebo brought a question from the VM phase out committee as to how long we will continue to need the VM WWW server. There are 3 issues: plain pages; SPIRES pages; SLD has a lot of stuff on VM that is tied to their production system that it is planned to move off within a year. For the plain pages Joan expects the bulk of the pages to be moved when the new SLAC home page goes into production. This is being gated by the Institutional page being ready. Kathryn plans to have this ready by Thanksgiving 1995.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is the 15th of November 1995.

Action Items

- ***Bebo** The Unix news to Mail gateway is unreliable, Bebo is investigating. This is causing loss of news postings to the mailing list. [Ready to be tested].*

- **Bebo** will investigate the interactions of Netscape and the SLAC news server form Macs. [STARtraked, Bebo is working on.]
- **Tony and John** will confer on moving log files to another large partition.. [They have conferred and Tony is ready to confer again].
- **Joan** will document the privacy of information vis a vis the logging and who has looked at what pages, in the Privacy Document. {Awaits home page completion work}.
- **George** will look at cloning the QSPIRES server, and/or increasing the memory available to it in order to reduce the number of crashes. [Awaits configuration by Tony].
- **Les** will investigate when the News machine will arrive. This will result in a new version of the news reader, which it is hoped will help the Newsgate problem, and the problem with funny formatting of news items as seen by Netscape reported by Tony.
- **Joan** will talk to Bob Cook about the tradeoffs between a small number or large volumes and a large number of small volumes. Joan is concerned about people's reticence to manage a group's AFS space. [Joan discussed this with Bob, now another round is needed with Joan, John and Bob].
- **Bebo** will clean up /usr/local/www and in particular delete httpd.conf.
- **Pat and Bebo** will come up with requirements for finding out information on what pages have been accessed and from where. [Pat is away].
- **Joan** will populate the <http://www/icon/> directory with icons from Les' icon directory (minus any suspiciously copyrightable items). [DONE.]

AOB

Bebo has a new Web Developer Magazine which he will pass around.

Joan showed her new sparse and dense pages. There was discussion about the use of the Top button which was generally agreed to be a bad idea, since there are other ways to get to the top and bottom of a page (middle button on Motif, Home and End keys on MacOS, Shift-Home and Shift-End on WNT etc.) In lieu of the Style Committee meeting to decide on this, Joan agreed to remove the Top button.

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 10/18/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *Les Cottrell, Bebo White, Tony Johnson, Karl Young, John Halperin, Pat Kreitz, Joan Winters, Katherine Hennins, Laurie Gennari, George Crane.*

Agenda:

- Update on Harvest System - KarlY
- AFS/log file space issues
- SPIRES Log handling
- Discussion of Icon Library proposal - Joan
- Status of WWW Coordinating Committee - Pat Kreitz
- Status of home page survey
- Next Meeting
- Action Items
- AOB

Update Harvest System - Karl Young

Karl has Harvest installed, and has a test version running. He has run the indexer on 10 SLD pages. To look at see <http://www/Harvest/brokers/SLDtest/query.html>.

Karl heard from Netscape that we can get Livewire cheaper (about \$600) than Liverwire Pro, it runs on the platforms we support (AIX and SunOS), it can look for and find bad links and can be used to help in managing pages when they move (i.e. update links).

AFS/log file space Issues

Joan noted that the WWW AFS space was running out. It was being used up by a few big users, including someone in BaBar and the logging. A discussion ensued on whether user groups should have their own AFS volumes to enable them not to impact or be impacted by other groups. *Joan will talk to Bob Cook about the tradeoffs between a small number of large volumes and a large number of small volumes.* Joan is concerned about people's reticence to manage a groups AFS space. Tony will split out his logging space.

Since we have started using SPIFACE the logging has increased, *John and Tony will figure out where the SPIRES logging will go and also where the server logging will go in the next 2 days and move them.*

Bebo will clean up /usr/local/www and in particular delete httpd.conf.

Patricia and Tony have talked about what the library needs from the logs. There are 3 log files, the VM QSPIRES, the VM HEP, and the VM SPIRES logs, the Unix SPIFACE logs and the server logs. Louise and George will deal with the VM logs. Tony will deal with the SPIFACE and server logs.

Kathryn raised a need for a report to tell a user what pages belonging to a user have been accessed, how often and by what domain. She gets something similar to this from her Internet WWW service vendor. This report gives number of accesses and from what domain for a given page or set of pages. While such a feature appears to be extremely useful, there were concerns about the effort, resources (network, cpu etc.) involved in creating them. Also it is probably easy to bias the results by using an automaton to hit some pages. *Kathryn, Pat and Bebo will come up with requirements..*

SLAC Icon Library - Joan Winters

Joan reviewed her proposal for how icon storage should be stored. She proposes 2 subdirectories under

/afs/slac/www/icon. One would be for "structural" items. This would be managed by TechPubs. The other would be for user contributions.

A discussion ensued about the desirability to have a well managed central repository for icons versus the overhead of managing this space, e.g. what is the mechanism for qualifying, storing such icons etc.

Tony proposed getting a set of structural icons in place and worry about the user contributions later. Tony proposing they get stores as <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/icon/>. This was agreed upon. *Joan will populate will them from Les' icon directory (minus any suspiciously copyrightable items) in <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/~cottrell/icons/>.*

Bebo reported that RAL uses icons heavily for navigation. Each group is required to have its own icon. Also they have restrictions that all icons should have ≤ 8 bit color so they do not look disgusting on machines with limited capability. Bebo also mentioned that the server has its own set of icons that may be useful. these are used for example for displaying a directory icon for a Postscript document. These could be copied into the public icon library to make them more accessible. This all might be useful information to include in Joan's Icon proposal.

Status of WWW Coordinating Committee - Pat Kreitz

Jean Lee will nag D. Leith to get this finally kicked into life.

Status of Home Page Survey - Joan/Kathryn

The survey is done. Now Kathryn and Joan are working on the implementation. The external default will be the Institutional page. There will be both a dense and a sparse home page for users to customize to. Kathryn proposes that we get the sparse and dense home pages up ASAP, even if it means hand crafting. The script to automate it will come along later.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is the 1th of November 1995.

Action Items

- **Bebo** install latest versions of SunOS and AIX Lynx. [DONE.]
- **Bebo** The Unix news to WWW gateway is unreliable, Bebo is investigating. This is causing loss of news postings to the mailing list. [Bebo hopes to resolve this within the next 2 weeks, i.e. before the next meeting.]
- **Bebo** will investigate the interactions of Netscape and the SLAC news server form Macs. [STARtraked, Bebo is working on.]
- **Tony and John** will confer on moving log files to another large partition.[See above].
- **Joan** will document the privacy of information vis a vis the logging and who has looked at what pages, in the Privacy Document.
- **George** will look at cloning the QSPIRES server, and/or increasing the memory available to it in order to reduce the number of crashes.
- **Les** will investigate when we will get the News machine will arrive. This will result in a new version of the news reader, which it is hoped will help the Newsgate problem, and the problem with funny formatting of news items as seen by Netscape reported by Tony.
- **Katherine** Progress the Institutional Page.

AOB

Bebo reports that in December he will be attending the Web Conference in Boston. He is soliciting issues that

he should investigate while he is at the conference. E.g. what are people doing with indexers, what are people doing about statistics, what about cgi scripts.

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 10/4/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *Les Cottrell, Bebo White, Tony Johnson, Kathryn Henniss, Karl Young, Joan Winters, George Crane, Pat Kreitz.*

Agenda:

- Harvest System - KarlY
- Status of Log file analysis - tonyj
- Obsolete links in Yahoo
- SLAC visitors center web
- SLAC Icon library
- Report from CHEP?
- Status of institutional page
- Status of policy committee
- Status of home page survey
- Next Meeting
- Action Items
- AOB

Harvest System - Karl Young

Karl has been investigating a search engine for SLAC use. His criteria were:

- Standards conformance
- Unix based
- Efficient
- Good performance for user
- Easy to use & maintain
- Functionality (e.g. Boolean operators)

He looked at WAIS, SWISH, Glimpse, GILS, and Harvest. Harvest appears to satisfy most of the criteria, CERN and ESnet are using it, it has good press on netnews, it seems like a superset of some of the others, the authors (from University of Colorado) seem to be very responsive. He chose to start with Harvest.

The recommended way to run it is with the "gatherer" running (this runs once in a while to collect out of the file system information such as keywords, author names, and titles) on the server. This will not be possible for non Unix servers. For these the gatherer will have to run on a separate Unix machine. The information from multiple gatherers is retrieved by a broker which suppresses duplicate information. The broker can be replicated. Harvest has lots of options for how deep to search etc. It also can handle multiple filetypes including postscript, html, TeX, RTF, mail gathering different information based on template files. It allows a separate indexer, Karl thinks we will start out with Glimpse.

Several questions came up, for example, can it gather authors of pages, can it verify links for all of SLAC and one level out, can it set up sub-indexes (e.g. how would SLD be able to only search SLD pages), can it be set up to search all the WWW servers in the SLAC domain? Karl will put it up and investigate how it meets our needs, or could be extended to meet them. Karl estimates he will get a trial version up by the end of next week.

There is a demonstration service at the University of Colorado.

Status of Log File Analysis - Tony Johnson

The analysis of the server (on www1 and SLACVX) log files is now completed using wwwstat and gwstat,

and running automatically. *Bebo and Tony will confer to check whether Tony's analysis is a superset of Bebos.* As part of the cron job, Tony can also get rid of the log files. Then the question is how long to keep the files and how much disk space is there. *Tony will confer with John to move the log files to another large disk partition.* Pat wants to be sure that she has the right info extracted for her reports before anything is deleted. One could consider tarring the log files into a single file on a monthly basis and then backing up to the silo. John raised the question of privacy of the information (e.g. who checked out what books)? Pat Kreitz said this is not an issue, but that *Joan should record the fact in the privacy document.* SPIface also keeps a log of accesses. Maybe this would be a better source of data to be analyzed for Pat Kreitz.

Obsolete Links in InfoSeek & Lycos - Les Cottrell

Agostini reported that InfoSeek and Lycos were pointing to obsolete SLAC home pages, Joan wrote to Lycos. The problem appears to have been fixed.

SLAC Visitors Center Web - Tony Johnson

Some concerns were raised about Web browsers in the visitors center being able to access pages which would be inappropriate to be left on the screen when a congressman walks in. Also there may be an issue of escaping to the shell, and the issue of being able to see SLAC pages which are supposed to be invisible to the outside world. Tony will set up a special proxy server, see if Netscape has a kiosk mode (if not maybe we will need to use Mosaic which does have a kiosk mode).

SLAC Icon Library - Joan Winters

Joan handed out a proposal. She asked that we read it and discuss at the next meeting.

Report from CHEP

There was not an enormous amount of Web activity at CHEP95. Karl Malamud made an interesting presentation on the Internet World's Fair. Bebo has a CHEP95 trip report in the SLAC netnews group slac.scs.trips.

Status of Steering Committee - Pat Kreitz

The ADCOC has a revised charter. David Leith hopes it will be established on this Friday.

Status of Home Page Survey - Karthryn Henniss

Kathryn handed out a summary of the questionnaire. Joan and Kathryn are working on this.

Next Meeting

Action Items

- **Bebo** install latest versions of SunOS and AIX Lynx. [The binaries do not exist, they may exist on campus. Bebo will complete this by the end of week.]
- **Bebo** The Unix news to WWW gateway is unreliable, Bebo is investigating. This is causing loss of news postings to the mailing list. [Bebo hopes to resolve this within the next 2 weeks, i.e. before the next meeting.]
- **Bebo** will investigate the interactions of Netscape and the SLAC news server.

AOB

Karen Heidenreich went to an Oracle fair and got a lot of information that she will present to the WWW-Tech.

Bebo went to the Seybold conference last week. There was a heavy Web presence from many vendors.

Netscape 2.0 is almost ready for release. It has Java support (not clear what platforms), macromedia. They also have a lot of tools for publishers (e.g. to update links etc.)

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 9/13/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: Les Cottrell, Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Laurie Gennari, Karl Young, Diana Gregory.

Agenda:

- Report on Recent Stanford WWW Meeting
- Goals & Milestones
- Updates
- Next Meeting
- Action Items

Report on Recent Stanford WWW Meeting

John reported that Stanford has raised the visibility of the Web to the level of the President. They are already putting in considerable resources to supporting the Web, and are **hiring** to increase the resources. The official Stanford Web servers run by DCCS at Sweet Hall are being looked after by 2 FTEs. There are 2 servers, the official `www.stanford.edu` server used for the institution home page and other university and DCCS documents, and another server, `www-leland.stanford.edu`, on which users and groups with Stanford affiliation can publish their own pages. They are working on mods to the NCSA `httpd` server to allow multiple servers to look like a single server (i.e. URLs will use the same servername part, and delegation to various servers and parts of the AFS file space will be based on the name after the '~'). They will also be putting up shadow WWW servers using Roland's load-balancing nameserver to distribute the load. They have put Kerberos into the NCSA browser and server, and NCSA is taking back the mods. Apparently Netscape appears to have no interest in putting Kerberos into its browser, nor are they interested in working with Stanford, or providing exits which Stanford could use. Consequently, the Stanford WWW people are strongly recommending that people who put up official stuff must use standard HTML 2.0 without extensions, and to use Kerberos where authentication is needed, even though this currently limits the browsers to Mosaic.

Goals and Milestones

Some projects include:

- Get all non-SPIRES WWW pages off VM.
This will need to be led by Joan and she hopes to have it done by Spring '96.
- Get all pages out of ad-hoc space such as:
 - `/pub/winters/`
 - `/net/`*This will need to be addressed by Joan, Les and Connie.*
- Converts SPIRES access to use SPIFACE.
This is actively in progress and covered by Harvey, tony and Diana.
- Searchable index of SLAC WWW pages.
CERN is looking at various searcher packages including Harvest (Glimpse), and Free-wais. We need to make sure that the SLAC requirements (e.g URLs on multiple servers) are met. Part of such a task would be to do a short review of packages available and compare with Tony's explore script. Things to review would include the use of HEPNRC's Verity engine, use of SPIRES, and Swish (simple & free). Also it should include a specification of SLAC's needs. It looks like a potentially very useful, and high visibility project which significant progress could be made in 3 months.
- Web to Oracle interface.
Ian and George have an production cgi-script interface to Oracle. The underlying layer is "C" programs which are accessible from Perl or REXX. They also looked at Oracle's tools but found them hard to understand and very Oracle-centric.

- WWW statistics online.
This is being handled by Tony, "Slim" and Pat Clancey. They hope to be finished by the end of September 1995.
- Security
 - Provide security guidelines for writing CGI scripts
 - Enhance/rewrite the cgi-wrapper and publicize
 - Look at WWW password mechanisms
 - Advertise the security concerns of CGI scripts and use of the wrapper.

This could be controversial, e.g. would people agree to use cgi-wrap, and how restrictive should it be. So it may require higher level guidance (e.g. a security committee or the WWW Coordination committee). Stanford official servers don't allow user written cgi scripts, but do provide canned procedures to do many of the needed functions. Maybe we should look at such functions for their applicability at SLAC.
- Mirroring for BaBar.
Sounds a bit like a code distribution problem. As such it probably be driven by the collaboration. AFS or proxy service maybe an alternative for some things. John thinks that it may be a good match for Karl Young's skills and may be a 3 month project.
- Web interface to Unix man pages.
This is suspended due to lack of interest from the Unix folks
- Build a Unix web test area equivalent to the one on VM. Needed for testing page design, authentication and cgi-bin.
This is needed but no resources available now.
- Web tools support, e.g. browsers, editors, formatters, especially w.r.t. the PC users. We need evaluation, documentation, training etc.
Probably leave the PC support to the PC folks. For Unix this may be a Unix server group issue, and raises the bigger issue of central support for applications.
- Do something about formats, e.g. Postscript is big and slow for use by worldwide collaborations such as BaBar.
PDF looks like a good replacement for Postscript. SLAC publications are tracking the availability of PDF helpers for the various platforms.
- Review new Web servers for applicability to SLAC, in particular w.r.t. security.
Bebo has been looking at some servers. Netscape server maybe free to SLAC. Netscape has 2 servers a communications (free to education) and the commerce server (not free, but has more security and cost \$5K.) SLAC's needs may be different from the market needs, e.g. we are not selling T shirts to the community and want to get paid. Maybe we should investigate, get inline with the campus efforts since they are closer to our requirements. Tony has concerns about being in a niche which does not reflect where the market forces are driving. It may be too early to expend a lot of effort in this area. This does not look like a 3 month project, maybe a follow on project.

Updates

The SPIRES-HEP WWW interface now uses SPIFACE.

Some people are setting up Web pages for the Visitor's Center. Thus they want the Web browsers in the Visitor Center to be able to look at a subset of all Web pages, e.g. the subset of pages at SLAC, CERN, FNAL. Tony thinks it is fairly easy to do this via a proxy server.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be first Wednesday of October (4th).

Action Items

- *Bebo* install latest versions of SunOS and AIX Lynx..
- *Bebo* The Unix news to WWW gateway is unreliable, *Bebo* is investigating. This is causing loss of

news postings to the mailing list.

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 9/6/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *Les Cottrell, Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, Pat Kreitz, Laurie Gennari, Kathryn Hennis.*

Agenda:

- Discussion with Tom Glanzman about BaBar Web support needs
- Report on Web questionnaire and plans to deal with
- Goals & Milestones
- Discussion of cgi-wrap
- USPIRES
- WWW Steering Committee
- Maintaining WWW System Files
- Next Meeting
- Action Items

Discussion with Tom Glanzman about BaBar Web Support

Tom presented information on the dependence of BaBar on WWW for supporting the large international collaboration. A major problem is the poor transatlantic and intercountry WWW performance.

1. To avoid the long intercountry WWW delays, they are considering mirroring the BaBar WWW tree in each major (from BaBar's viewpoint) country.
2. They also want to move more and more to relative URLs to support the mirroring. The idea is that a user would be provided with a list of mirroring sites to select from. Tom claimed problems with relative URLs not working with some browser. One particular feature is the use of "../" fails with some browsers. There are other ways to specify such URLs which may be acceptable. The new URC features may one day meet these needs.
3. They are looking at using AFS access to provide restricted access to some files (e.g. executive board documentation). They need to know how to specify the AFS path, and then how to invoke the AFS authentication. The latter is possible by using the local file feature of some browsers. A question was raised as to whether all important browsers support this in a standard fashion.
4. They also have a question of how to support cgi-bin scripts. They make heavy use of the registration script written by Ingrid/Bebo. They also need cgi-bin scripts to have access to Oracle. George has something on this. On top of this they need to mirror this somehow. Tony pointed out that using a proxy server may meet some of these needs which may be a lot simpler than mirroring script. There would still be the problems of slow links.
5. They have a lot of complaints about document formats. For example Postscript is big and slow, and there are not good Postscript helpers on some platforms (e.g. Macs). PDF might be a future solution, however, the viewer (e.g. a new version of Ghostscript or the Adobe PDF viewer) isn't yet supported on AIX. Publications are looking at a way to automate selection of the filetype to view based on client platform.
6. After a couple of years on WWW, BaBar needs to rethink the layout of their space, and the style of their pages.

Report on Status of Web Questionnaire

Joan got replies from 10 questionnaires, plus comments from the news group. Joan is scanning, in particular reading the comments. The survey results were positive towards the architecture of the new home pages. There does not appear to be an overall consensus as to which page (sparser, sparse, dense) home page should be emphasised. Also Joan is working directly with some of the respondees. Joan will summarize the results and present to SWUG, WWW-TECH. Then she will modify and put on the Web.

Goals and Milestones

In discussions with several people Tony was reminded that we have started a number of projects which are languishing somewhat due to lack of manpower. We thought it might be useful to at least set some goals for when things might be completed, so they do not get completely forgotten. Some projects include:

- Get all non-SPIRES WWW pages off VM
- Get all pages out of ad-hoc space such as:
 - /pub/winters/
 - /net/
- Converts SPIRES acces to use SPIFACE
- Searchable index of SLAC WWW pages
- WWW statistics online
- Provide security guidelines for writing CGI scripts
- Advertise the security concerns of CGI scripts and use of the wrapper.

Discussion of cgi-wrap

Les passed out handouts on How to Use cgi-wrap and How cgi-wrap is Implemented. He then went over the implementation explaining how cgi-wrap works. In essence cgi-wrap checks whether the user's command has been registered, and whether the input to the script is dangerous. A concern is the amount of expert time that would be needed to review user's scripts to ensure that they are safe. It works when there are no more than a couple of scripts a month to review. There does not seem to be an automated mechanism by which a script can be checked to ensure that it does not expose a security hole. Many sites are so concerned about user CGI scripts that they ban them.

There is some documentation on how to write CGI scripts in REXX which provides information on security concerns. It has not been publicised. It was agreed to make a presentation on writing CGI scripts at the October SWUG meeting, and to make a big issue of the security. Pat Kreitz agreed to send personal invites to those people who already have CGI scrips.

USPIRES

Pat Clancey is running USPIRES on zaugas to see the effect of using a local file system with the SPIRES emulator.

WWW Steering Committee

Pat Kreitz reported that the membership of this committee has been determined. She hopes the committee will be formed in the near future.

Maintaining WWW System Files

John proposed moving the WWW server rules file, master.conf, to AFS. This would allow better access control and would not require people to login to www1 to view or edit the file. The 'make' script would need modifying to install the working config files back on www1. John also proposed renaming the top-level 'admin' directory in WWW AFS space to '.admin', and putting the master.conf file there, along with other www system admin files in the future. Since .admin would exist in the WWW AFS space, but should not be visible on the Web, a new rule would be needed to block off this part of the AFS tree. Both these proposals were agreed to, and John will implement them.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be next Wednesday 13th September. A major topic will be the outstanding goals.

Action Items

- **George** will look at the crash dumps for *QSPIRES* on VM to try and discover what is causing them. John will provide George with dumps to look at. [Looking at the common ones they appear to be due to long delays due to large output. There is no cost effective answer to this problem apart from migrating off VM, so we will close this item. DONE]
- **Bebo** install latest versions of SunOS Lynx..

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 8/2/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: Les Cottrell, Bebo White, John Halperin, Ingrid Kuehn, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, Pat Clancey, Laurie Gennari, Diana Gregory, Kathryn Hennis

Agenda:

- Update on www "policy" committee - Pat & Les
- rules file updates - Tony, John
 - we're not obeying our procedures -- do we need to change them?
 - why aren't we using CVS?
 - cleanup of "obsolete" rules
- mail-sending forms
- cgi scripts vs security -- proposal to use Les's wrapper or have script checked by John
- BaBar info on new Stanford Sunsite? - TonyJ?
- Action Item from last time
- Announcements/AOB

Update on WWW "Policy" Committee

Pat was unable to be present, so Les gave a brief report on the ADCOC's view on the creation of a WWW Coordinating Committee. John raised concerns about security representation on the committee.

Rules File Updates

John reminded us (with the original memo) of the procedures needed for updating the rules file. Bebo set out a list of goals for how updates should be made. The stages, after some discussion, included:

- Pre-announce intent to make changes to file to www-tech.
- Changes should be documented (e.g. as comments including changer ID and date and reason in the rules file).
- Make sure there is a backup rules file in case the change has to be backed out.
- Announce changes after they have been made in chglog.

There was a discussion as to whether we should be using CVS. It may be overkill. Simple procedures, on the other hand, may lose the history information. Since one has to do a make after updating the rules file, maybe the make could do the history using diff. We agreed not to use CVS and not to modify our make procedure at this time, rather reviewing our experience of how the above suggested procedures work. It was agreed to continue to limit the people authorized to make changes to the rules file to: Tony, Bebo, and John. Any change in this list of people will need to be brought before www-tech.

As for the obsolete rules they will need to be relooked at, and brought up at a later www-tech meeting.

There is still an issue of the need for a test server on Unix, but no resources to address it.

Mail Sending Forms

John has discovered several Trojan Horses lurking behind several SLAC Email Form CGI scripts. We believe these have been fixed up.

There are also authentication issues with the way the current Web client/servers work that are not limited to SLAC. This allows the sending of anonymous mail to somebody. Some of these SLAC Web mail forms may not be essential, but others are. An example of the latter is the use of the Web front end to Gnats (the SLD

problem tracking system). Another example is the BaBar conference registration form. John advocated using the native mail application on the client for mail rather than using the Web to send mail. Diana also raised the issue of some clients (e.g. Macs and PCs) which may not have enough memory to run Netscape simultaneously with the mail application.

John recommends not to cc: a copy of the mail back to the purported sender (since the user of the form may enter a bogus ID). However, would the person from whom the mail is supposed to have originated, prefer to know that mail may have been sent out under their ID, and is this a deterrent to the actual originator? The downside is that this allows a way of sending mail anonymously to the purported "sender". He also recommends that the addressee of the mail should be checked versus a list of expected addressees. Mailto: may be better for simple suggestions. No decision was reached.

Presentations for the SWUG

Joan and Kathryn are talking about the prototype of the SLAC 3 page core.

SPIRES timing and overall Web performance.

Security issues (scripts, mail, authentication).

Supported browsers and HTML standards (Miguel's document)

Next Meeting

We adjourned at 5:45pm without addressing the remaining agenda items. Tony will try and schedule a meeting in the next week or so to address the unaddressed agenda items from today's meeting and the "Future Agenda Items" (see below).

Action Items

- **George** will look at the crash dumps for QSPIRES on VM to try and discover what is causing them. John will provide George with dumps to look at. [John has given George 3 or 4 logs which George looked at. They are all consistent with the previous model of some client got stuck accepting a long request. We may need to reduce the amount of data sent out in response to a request for other things than the HEP data base. John will also look out for PROPVMA CMS forced abends to see if we can discover the cause of that type of failure.]
- **Joan** will refer REASON cluster users with OmniWeb browser problems to Dave Aston and Paul Kunz. [Done.]
- **Diana and others** add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page. [Done]
- **Les** will rework the Email tool used by Suggestion to put the Submit box closer to the top. [Done.]
- **Diana** will restate to Pat Kreitz et al her questions on moving the SPIRES URL database, and work with Louise on understanding. [Done.]
- **Bebo** will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [To be completed by 8/7/95. There is a technique to allow AFS writes by IP address which may help some of the problems encountered.]
- **Bebo** install latest versions of SunOS Lynx..
- **Tony** will work with John to extend WWW SPIRES monitoring. [Done.]
- **Pat Kreitz** will get the SWUG meeting added to the SLAC seminars list. Pat will talk to Nina about how (for example via a form) she can take suggestions for seminars. In the meantime Laurie will submit request by Email to Nina.

AOB

Future Agenda Items

- *Caching disk space used by browsers -- Boeheim*
- *SPIRES timing -- Tonyj*

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 7/5/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: Les Cottrell, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, George Crane, Louise Addis, Pat Clancey, Katherine Hennis, Herve Galic, Igrid Kuehn, Pat Kreitz, John Halperin

Agenda:

- SPIRES Timing Updates
- Miscellaneous
 - OmniWeb OS/2 browser problems
 - /usr/local status
 - slac search indices
 - SLAC icon library
- Action items
- AOB

SPIRES Timing Update

Tony has made some more measurement on SPIRES response time. Using the WWW server rather than the proxy server we see larger fluctuations which is as expected. Maybe there is hope that a clone of the QSPIRES server for the WWW server would help (make more consistent). John reported that WWWproxy and the WWW servers on VM are crashing several times a day. Tony is continuing this work, he will set up a server QSPITCP which will by-pass the CERN server and talk directly to SPIRES. This will require the use of SPIFACE. Louise pointed out the need to separate BINLIST traffic by setting up another server. There was also talk of setting up another WWW server for the HEP list. This is becoming a more serious problem for users as response times elongate. John asked that someone look at the crash dumps together with console logs etc. *George agreed to look at, John will provide George with the dump files.*

Miscellaneous

Tony has made links to the SLACVM home page point out that this is the wrong address.

OmniWeb and OS/2 problems: George Irwin is contacting the NeXT OmniWeb vendor to try and resolve the problem. A user who wanted to put the SSI information on the Web was using OmniWeb and is very frustrated. Joan wanted to help but was unable. *Joan will refer the user to George Irwin.*

SLAC Search Index: Dave Martin of HEPNRC at FNAL has used the Verity search engine to index the SLAC pages for Web searching. Tony will provide the URL after the meeting.

Public Icon Space and Naming: A directory for public icons has been created. The URL is <http://www.slac/www/resource/icon/> Now the problem is how to decide on the naming of the icons. It was decided to use this in experimental mode. People will have their own subdirectories under this directory for trying out, and later we will address what should be in the SLACwide icon directory.

/usr/local Visibility outside SLAC: The SLAC /usr/local directory was set up for users at SLAC. However much information has been placed there which should be visible worldwide via the Web. However, there is information under /usr/local which is not suitable for visibility outside SLAC in general. We should encourage information that should be worldwide visible information be moved (for example to AFS) and made visible from there.

Action Items

- *Bebol/George will look at why the VM server is limiting lines at 120 characters.* [This has been

fixed, there was a FILDEF that needed fixing.]

- **Diana** will add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page. [Herve's summer student (Chris) has fixed this. It will be put into production, after we hear from Diana.]
- **Les** will rework the Email tool used by Suggestion to put the Submit box closer to the top.
- **Diana** will restate to Pat Kreitz et al her questions on moving the SPIRES URL database, and work with Louise on understanding. [Louise and Diana will work on this 6/15/95.]
- **Bebo** will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [Bebo now has a Majordomo to WWW interface (lwgate). There is some problem with Majordomo writing into AFS space. Bebo continues to work on this.]
- **Bebo** install latest versions of Lynx & Mosaic. [Done apart from SunOS Lynx, for which Bebo is unable to find the latest executable].
- **Tony** will work with John to extend WWW SPIRES monitoring. [Ongoing]
- **Pat Kreitz** will get the SWUG meeting added to the SLAC seminars list. Pat will talk to Nina about how (for example via a form) she can take suggestions for seminars. In the meantime Laurie will submit request by Email to Nina.
- **Joan** will publicise WWW-tech endorsed Style Committee report. [Done]
- **George** will look at SLACVM WWW crash dumps, John will provide George with the dump. files.

AOB

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 6/14/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *Les Cottrell, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, George Crane, Louise Addis.*

Agenda:

- WWW-Tech meeting schedule
- WWW SPIRES measurements
- Action items
- AOB

WWW-Tech Meeting Schedule

We agreed to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday's of the month at 3:30pm. This avoids conflict with SWUG. The next meeting will be June 28th (5th Wed of month).

WWW SPIRES Measurements

Tony showed measurements made by Tony and John on response time from client thru WWW/Unix server to WWWProxy2 (on VM, this is an unloaded VMS service machine), thru QSPIWWW and to SPIRES. The results indicate that a null (i.e. error code so no SPIRES search) takes about 2 secs. There is no noticeable extra time to get SPIRES to not find a record. The big impact appears to come when one gets a hit in SPIRES and returns a few hundred lines. This can take 10 secs on average. It may be due to the SPIRES formatting of the output.

Tony also made measurements as a function of time of day. The overhead (i.e. before calling SPIRES) seems to be pretty independent of time of day. The no hit SPIRES search gets a factor 2 worse (2 secs to 4) as a function of time of day. The SPIRES hit also appears to be fairly independent of time of day.

Tony and John will continue to look at. In particular they will run it thru the regular WWWProxy server, and also try the new SPIRES. There is particular interest to see whether the regular WWWProxy server gets much worse or spikey during the day.

Action Items

- **Bebo/George** will look at why the VM server is limiting lines at 120 characters. [This has been verified as being exactly 120. Louise says it is a problem for developers. It maybe a Filedef problem. George and Bebo will continue to pursue.]
- **Diana** will add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page. [Diana has made no progress on this due to higher priority work on the "Flex" and BAS projects. Tony will check with Herve whether he can get the student to help.]
- **Diana** will restate to Pat Kreitz et al her questions on moving the SPIRES URL database, and work with Louise on understanding. [Louise and Diana will work on this 6/15/95.]
- **Bebo** will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [Bebo now has a Majordomo to WWW interface (lwgate). There is some problem with Majordomo writing into AFS space. Bebo continues to work on this.]
- **Bebo** install latest versions of Lynx & Mosaic. [Done apart from SunOS Lynx, for which Bebo is unable to find the latest executable].
- **Tony** will work with John to extend WWW SPIRES monitoring. [Ongoing]
- **Pat Kreitz** will get the SWUG meeting added to the SLAC seminars list.
- **Joan** will publicise WWW-tech endorsed Style Committee report

AOB

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 5/31/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: Les Cottrell, Tony Johnson, Ingrid Kuehn, Kathryn Henniss, Louise Addis, Bebo White, Pat Kreitz

Agenda:

- WWW-Tech meeting schedule (should we meet fortnightly)?
- Endorsement of Style Committee Report
- Update on WWW Steering Cttee - P.Kreitz
- SPIRES
 - Status of SPIRES BINLIST reconstitution
 - Status of SPIFACE
 - Speed problems
- Action items
- Ongoing project
 - UMI cgiwrap
 - Current state of /owner, /glossary, /contact, where do they point?
 - How to Install Pages in SLAC's Web
- AOB

WWW-Tech Meeting Schedule

How often should we have these meeting, now that the pressure to get off VM has been reduced. People agreed to meet every other week, and will try and avoid the SWUG meeting, i.e. the WWW-Tech will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, the SWUG is on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The WWW-Tech committee endorsed the Style Committee report.

Update on WWW Steering Committee

Pat Kreitz reports she will hand deliver the recommendation to Leith on his return (June 12th, 1995).

SPIRES

- The reconstitution of the SPIRES BINLIST database is still underway.
- SPIFACE is Tony's new version of SpiForm. It has lots of new logging info. It also uses a different Web proxy server on VM to the rest of SPIRES. This will tell us whether we get queueing on the Web proxy server as opposed to the QSPIRES server.
- Louise and others (e.g. at FNAL) are getting slow response SPIRES searches on the Web. Tony has made mods to SPIFACE to improve monitoring. Tony also wants to monitor various WWW SPIRES accesses, e.g. no hit, a hit, an error. SPIRES searches now allow you to continue a truncated search (e.g. over 100 hits) by pointing to "More". Louise and others are considering reducing the number of hits returned now we have this feature.

Action Items

- *Bebo/George* will look at why the VM server is limiting lines at 120 characters. [This is still actively under investigation.]
- *Diana* will add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page. [Diana has made no progress on this due to higher priority work on the "Flex" project.]
- *Diana* will restate to Pat Kreitz et al her questions on moving the SPIRES URL database, and work with Louise on understanding.
- *Bebo* will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [Bebo now has a Majodomo

to WWW interface (lwgate). There is some problem with Majordomo writing into AFS space. Bebo continues to work on this.]

- **WWW-Tech** will read the revised Style Committee report and endorse it if appropriate. [Done.]
- **Bebo** Install latest versions of Lynx & Mosaic. [Done apart from SunOS Lynx, for which Bebo is unable to find the latest executable].
- **Bebo** provide a synonym from mosaic to xmosaic. [Done]
- **Tony** will work with Les and John to extend WWW SPIRES monitoring.
- **Pat Kreitz** will get the SWUG meeting added to the SLAC seminars list.

Ongoing projects

- **UMI cgiwrap**. This is a mechanism to allow a CGI script to run in the user space of the author of the script. It requires the server to run in root mode and so we decided not to recommend it. We will continue to experiment with the SLAC cgi-wrapper.
- Current state of /owner, /glossary, /contact, where do they point? /owner & /contact point to VM, and /glossary points to USPIRES. /owner and /contact have to stay with VM until the SPIRES BINLIST is reconstituted.
- **How to Install Pages in SLAC's Web**. Joan and/or Les will make a presentation at the next SWUG on this document. Coincidentally it will be made public.
- **Log file analysis**. Pat Clancey has got some stuff for the analysis. Tony has tried to make it easier to generalize by making it table driven.

AOB

Les Cottrell

WWW-Tech Mtg 5/17/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: *P. A. Moore, Les Cottrell, Tony Johnson, Pat Kreitz, Judy Nowag, Katherine Hennis, Joan Winters, Bebo White, John Halperin, Diana Gregory, Karen Heidenreich.*

Agenda:

- Update on WWW Style Ctte Recommendations - P.A. Moore
 - we could also discuss menu bars, home pages briefly while PA is present, since I note there has been much discussion on this recently
- Update on WWW Steering Ctte - P.Kreitz
- Report from Interlab 95 - Tony
- Rules file procedures & whatis vieweps
- Whither Xmosaic & Lynx
- Ongoing projects.....status report?
 - URL memo
 - Log file analysis
 - Current state of /owner, /glossary, /contact, where do they point?
 - How to Install Pages in SLAC's Web
- Action Items from last meeting
- UMI cgiwrap
- AOB

Update on WWW Style Ctte Recommendations

Philosophy was to provide a limited number of recommendations since recommendations reduce flexibility. The recommendations include an owner on each page, titles/headers to conform to common usage, a date of creation or modificatio, institutional identifiers (icon or word), legal information (for accountability).

For the SLAC home page a 3page model was recommended including an institutional (brochure) page, and dense and sparse working pages. No recommendation was made as to what the default home page is (i.e. what comes up for <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/>)

For the future the recommendations are to continue to meet to implement the model, and to establish a policy group.

There was a discussion of how and when the decision should be made on what should be the default SLAC home page. If we were to move to the institutional page as the default home page, then we have to decide how to transition. The feeling was that there is an **urgency** to get this changeover made. Kathryn & Pat K will be working on the Institutional page in the next 2 weeks. At the July SWUG meeting there will be a new Institutional page from Katherine. There will also be a draft of the new sparse page. There will also be draft of the procedures needed to make the transition. When we have these then we can transition to the Institutional page as the default.

A second topic discussed what to do about menu bars. There are several ways to proceed: ignore menu bars in the style committee; make a suggested menu bar form (maybe in a template page) together with some guidelines. The Style Committee will return to the menu bar issue after the home page issue has been decided.

We discussed where the template page should point to for the Institutional page, should it be to <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/>? It was agreed to this.

Update on WWW Policy Committee

Pat K has drafted a charge for a small group to decide on the appropriate management structure for the Web at SLAC. It was handed out in the meeting. WWW-Tech will provide feedback by Email by COB Friday 5/19/95.

InterLab '95 Report

Tony has written up his trip report and will post to www-l.

Rules File Procedures and what is Vieweps

Bebo is the only one who edits the rules file (and Tony in Bebo's absence). Updates are to be communicated with WWW-Tech. John found a mod (vieweps) that had not been communicated. John strongly reminded modifiers of the need to communicate and this was accepted as necessary.

Whither Xmosaic and Lynx

Tom Glanzman asked www-l how Xmosaic and Lynx are supported. They are both back-level. Nobody has responded to Tom. The question then comes as to how to focus limited support on the most appropriate browsers. There is currently (and probably won't be in the future) a single best (in all areas) browser for all people. Lynx is needed by the library for testing purposes. Bebo does not think that installing new versions of Lynx or Xmosaic is a big deal. We do not currently keep statistics on browsers used to access or server. This could be done for SPIRES accesses. *Bebo will update Lynx & Xmosaic. Also he will put in an alias of mosaic for Xmosaic.*

URL memo

It was agreed that the URL recommendation will be endorsed by the WWW-Tech by COB Friday this week, unless there are serious, documented reservations.

Log file analysis

Tony will fix up the hourly statistics.

All Other Items

These were deferred to the next meeting, due to lack of time.

Action Items

- *Bebo/George will look at why the VM server is limiting lines at 120 characters*
- *Diana will add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page.*
- *Bebo will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [Bebo needs to put the archive in an AFS writeable space. Bebo understands etc. how to htmlize the files. It will be created under /afs/slac/www/slac/www/wwwtech/mailarchive/. It will be SLAC-writeable. John will check with the systems folks, and if OK, set up, and let Bebo know, then Bebo will copy the stuff there.]*
- *Bebo reflect www-l with slac.www.general. [DONE]*
- *WWW-Tech will read the revised Style Committee report and endorse it if appropriate.*
- *Louise bring up issue of slow Web service.*

AOB

WWW-Tech Mtg 5/3/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: Pat Clancey, Les Cottrell, Diana Gregory, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Bebo White

Agenda:

- Discussion of New URL/AFS Naming Scheme -- All
- Action Items
- AOB

New URL/AFS Naming Scheme

If anybody else has comments on this, they should be sent to Joan by Email. Joan will then either incorporate, or bring them to the next meeting for discussion and resolution.

Action Items

- **Tony** will make a contact pseudonym for the owner CGI.[DONE]
- **John** will create a group with broad write access to /afs/slac/www and add Ilse to this group. [DONE]
- **Bebo** will look at why the VM server is limiting lines at 120 characters [Bebo has looked at the server and his belief is that the only limit in the server is 255 characters. Bebo will revisit with George]
- **George & John** will review the CERN server's security features and will work with Bebo to get changes made to the configuration file for testing. [John thinks the features will be usable for lightweight security support for group level security. Password maintenance is not good particularly with the view that an administrator must update passwords. It should not use the standard Unix password file. Probably we should let sleeping dogs lie for George's stuff, but for a new application we should investigate the new mechanism]
- **Diana** will add a "Click Here" feature to allow more info to be obtained from the BINLIST page. [Pending]
- **Bebo** will look at making the www-tech archive available via the Web. [Bebo needs to put the archive in an AFS writeable space. Bebo understands etc. how to htmlize the files. It will be created under /afs/slac/www/slac/www/wwwtech/mailarchive/. It will be SLAC-writeable. John will check with the systems folks, and if OK, set up, and let Bebo know, then Bebo will copy the stuff there.]
- **Kathryn** will put out a poster publicising the slac Web fora.[DONE]
- **Bebo** will look at how to reorganise the WWW Netnews groups, decide which to keep, which to delete and how to reflect to Majordomo [DONE. All groups except slac.www.general have been deleted. www-l is gatewayed (one way) to slac.www.general]

AOB

Tony has installed hotjava on his account oncampus. It does not run on any supported SLAC platform. It is mainly of general interest for features that could be developed on a browser. Tony agreed to make a short demo at a future SWUG meeting.

Diana asked where /owner, /contact, /glossary should point and when, so that Patrick/Diana can reset the ownership of the SPIRES files on UNIX. It is expected to remain in this state for a couple of weeks. Diana will notify the service desk. It will happen soon after this meeting.

WWW-Tech Mtg 4/19/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, Diana Gregory, Les Cottrell, Kathryn Henniss, Pat Clancey, George Crane, Igrid Kuehn, P. A. Moore

Agenda:

- Report from Style Committee - P. A. Moore
- URL/AFS Naming Proposal Draft - Joan/All
- Action Items
- AOB

Style Committee

SLAC is a very non-autocratic society. This anarchy makes recommendations a challenge to make. The report has received some very thoughtful response from the community. On the other hand there were not a lot of respondees. After Pat Kreitz gets back they hope to issue the final report. The comments received were of the form: "is this all", "how does one deal with collaboration groups (e.g. SLD) as opposed to SLAC core pages". They do not expect dramatic changes in the final report, mainly a reformatting. The recommendation of an "On-going Style Committee" is less important than an ongoing "Style Guide" with pointers to other style sources.

URL/AFS naming Proposal Draft

The new proposal was put out on Unix and Email sent to the www-tech committee at 3am this morning. It is on ~winters/url2-proposal. Joan has made many changes adding many important sections. Not all members of the committee had read the new report. The item was tabled to next week. In the meantime it was agreed that **All Members** of www-tech committee should review the document and comment by Email before the next meeting. The hope is that it can be approved at the next meeting. Tony pointed out that the proposal is a reference document and we will need a "how to" document for users.

Action Items

1. **George** will look at the CERN server's security features and will work with **Bebo** to get changes made to the configuration file (for testing). [George still needs to do this. John also volunteered to review it too, and his offer was accepted].
2. **Joan** agreed to get draft URL scheme on WWW before next Wednesday. [DONE]
3. **Bebo** will change httpd to run under the new account (wwwsrvr). [DONE]
4. **Bebo** needs to fix the VM WWW server to correctly write the log file. [DONE]
5. **John/Patrick** will set up cron job to retstat httpd nightly by COB Wednesday. [DONE]
6. **Tony** will add new features to Spiform. In response to Diana's need to make the Phone Book form work better (e.g. with a form at the top). [Tony has completely redone Spiform. Now it is the answer to accessing SPIRES from the Web on Unix. The new URL which demos some of the new features of Spiform is <http://www/~tonyj/phone.html>. The old production Spiform is still available on the Home page]
7. **Diana** will add a feature to allow "Click here to get more info", which will not be available for off-site users. [Awaited new Spiform, still to be done]
8. **Bebo** should look at whether he can understand why the VM server is limiting lines to 120 characters, and fix if easy to do so. [NO PROGRESS]
9. **Tony & Diana** will take a quick look at Bill Johnson's OS/2 problem. [This has been reassigned to WBJ to solve with IBM]
10. **Bebo** should look at the continued need for the slac.www newgroups and consider removing some and whether to reflect from mail (www-l) to news (www.general) and/or mail to Web the one or more

of the remaining ones to www-l. [NO PROGRESS. Bebo will come back (possibly by Email before or at the next meeting) with a recommendation]

11. ***Bebo** will investigate making the www-tech archive accessible via the Web. [NEW]*
12. ***Kathryn** agreed to put out a poster and paper memo publicising the news group slac.www.general, the www-l mailing list and SWUG. Kathryn will provide copies to the Help Desk, the Library, cafeteria, and a paper memo to all hands. [The info to go in the poster & flyer has been submitted to the IP. This will be an ongoing Web section in the IP]*

Contacts Versus Owner

Jooan raised the issue of how to identify contacts as opposed to owners. Separating the two will enable one to do a search for page owners, or to identify the owner of a page with bad links. Tony will make a contact pseudonym for the owner CGI.

AOB

There is a new freebie magazine WebWeek, which from the first issue looks quite useful to Web folks.

Apple has introduced a new line of Web servers which come bundled with MacHTTP3.0, an HTML editor, CGI script support, Netscape, etc.

We will add people who need broad write access to /afs/slac/www space to g-www. In particular John will add Ilse to this group.

WWW-Tech Mtg 4/19/95, Rough Notes

Attendees: John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Joan Winters, Diana Gregory Les Cottrell, Kathryn Henniss, Pat Clancey, George Crane

Agenda:

- Security
- Status of Ongoing Projects
 - Status of Ongoing Projects
 - Log File Analysis
 - Phonebook/personal pages
- Status of Ongoing Bugs
 - VM Line Truncation
 - /owner problems
 - Bill Johnson's Warp Problem
- Publicising/Feedback from Style Committee
- Other Action Items
- AOB (Preprints, Accelerator Division), demos etc.

Security - George

George wants to make the BFactory ELDREQ information be available for off-site collaborators at LBL etc. SLAC has limited (read no) experience with the CERN server's security features. If we spent the time to understand it, would we want to implement it? John pointed out that since the password is used for every transaction and is sent in the clear there is a concern about the visibility of the password, so maybe it should NOT be the standard Unix password. Then there is the issue of changing/maintaining the password if it is not the UNIX password. Right now all the users share the same password in George's system. There is a trade off between convenience and security. Since the information is created dynamically it reduces the possibility of using AFS. Better (more secure) mechanisms are starting to become available (e.g. Netscape), but are they ready for prime time (standardized etc.) and what are the support issues (e.g. public key maintenance)? It was agreed NOT to use the user's login password. *George will look at the CERN server's security features and will work with Bebo to get changes made to the configuration file.* This is not a commitment to use these methods.

Status of Ongoing Projects

- URL Naming Scheme Joan has not applied all the mods from the last meeting to the URL/AFS naming scheme. Tony stressed the need to get the draft rules on WWW and it was agreed to put what we have out there so users will at least have some guidelines. *Joan agreed to get draft scheme on WWW before next Wednesday.*

- Log Files

The crontab can run outside of root, once Bebo has made some change to how httpd runs. *John/Pat's side of things should be ready by COB today. Bebo needs to make his mods tomorrow, then Pat needs to do his stuff. Bebo needs to fix the VM WWW server to correctly write the log file.* Tony did a new analysis of the WWW:80 statistics. It is available on WWW.

- Phonebook/personal pages - Diana

Diana now has the new Phonebook in place and is getting feedback. One of these is to allow entering full SPIRES commands, or to allow Phonebook entry direct from the output from the previous

submission. Some of these features may require mods to Spiform. There was a discussion of whether some people would want these enhancements while others would object. *Tony will fix Spiform. Diana will add a feature to allow "Click here to get more info", which will not be available for off-site users.*

Status of Ongoing Bugs

- VMLine TRuncation

George has fixed QSPIRES to accept ≤ 150 characters, however something else is truncating at 120 characters. George has PROBTRAKed an example. *Bebo should look at whether he can see some limit in the server*

- /owner problems

Postponed to Demos since there was confusion as to whether there are still problems.

- Bill Johnson's Warp problem - Diana

Looks like an OS/2 browser problem. It is probably a browser problem since Midas, Netscape, Mosaic all work fine. *Tony & Diana will take a quick look*, however, since OS/2 is not supported, it is questionable how much effort should be devoted to this.

Publicising/Feedback from the Style Committee

Response has been light so far. P.A. encourages all to provide feedback. There are various www netnews groups which have fallen into disrepair. *Bebo should look at the continued need for these groups and consider reflecting them to www-l or to just removing them.* Concerns were also expressed about the visibility of the www-l mailing list, the SWUG etc. *Katherine agreed to put out a poster and paper memo publicising the news group slac.www.general, the www-l mailing list and SWUG. Katherine will provide copies to the Help Desk, the Library, cafeteria, and a paper memo to all hands.*

There was a discussion about whether to bidirectionally cross-post the mailing list and slac.www.general. The sentiment is to clean it all up and beautifying after sending a message to www-l to ask if anyone objects to cross-posting from www-l to the news group. *If Bebo says it is technically OK to do something, then John will write a memo for users asking for objections to bidirectional posting and removing the unnecessary slac.www. groups. John will discuss this with Bebo.* Katherine has talked with Evelyn about making a "What's Hot" in the IP.

Preprints

Accelerator Department's Request for help with a WWW Server

Richard White of AD wants to explore making their information available via WWW. They asked for help to set up a Mac WWW server. Richard shared with Les some of the requirements, and Les mentioned some of the security and administration issues. *There will be a meeting between Tony, John, Joan, Les and the AD folks tomorrow to explore this in more details and set expectations.*

Action Items

- Bebo needs to change the config file's parent ID.
- Patrick will analyze the Unix log files once and only once
- Joan will update and publicise the URL/AFS naming document

Les Cottrell

WWW Tech Mtg.: 3/22/95 -- Notes

Attendees: John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Diana Gregory, Pat Kreitz, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, Patrick Clancey, FNAL folks (5)

Agenda:

- Virtual /owners
 - Personal home pages
 - Phone Book Issues
 - Timing [John]
 - CD - Software [Joan]
 - Action items from last meeting
 - A.O.B.
-

Intro:

- Trang Win -- FNAL Home Page
- Steve Wothers -- Physicist in Comp. division
- Beth Anderson -- Systems Librarian
- Liz Buckley -- Webmeister for a group
- Cindy Crego -- Publications

Virtual /owners:

- Should there be generic page owners, *i.e.* instead of a given owner (*e.g.* cottrell) owning some page, it could be owned by a group (*e.g.* network)?
- There are issues with how "mail router" works. It does not allow an entry for a non-person with a mail id.
- After a discussion with Ian and Teresa, it was agreed that it looks doable.
- Louise will look into a way to make this happen.

Personal Home Pages:

- Some people want to make /owner point to their personal home pages, rather than go to BINLIST to get address info.
- It would simplify data entry if we used a default location (*e.g.* public_html/<user-name>.html). In this case the BINLIST entry is simply Y/N as to whether the user has a personal page.
- Diana raised the question of how users, who have not made their home directory world readable, can make their personal page public if the above default is used. John thinks this is possible with afs.
- A discussion ensued on what is OK to appear on personal home pages.
- FNAL has a form that has to be signed for any new servers. The person who signs must state that they have read a document explaining responsibilities (they are responsible for the content of their server).
- Tony will look to see whether it is simple to write a script to discover personal home pages is user directories -- public_html/my.html, or something similar.
- Bebo will check whether public_html/welcom.html block WWW access to other things on public_html (*i.e.* directory listing of files).

Phone Book Form [Diana]:

- Form is now available in test from Test Home Page. Currently, it can search on Last name, First name, User name, and Extension.
- Joan wants a form for experienced SPIRES users.
- Diana will work on a BINLIST alphabetical-by-last-name (c.f. X.500) browser.

Timing BINLIST access via WWW:

- John showed timing study of BINLIST via WWW.
- He measured response times to SLACVM, and to USPIRES.
- USPIRES averages about twice as fast and is more consistent.
- Tony will change the rule for /owner to point to USPIRES.

WWW Tech Mtg.: 3/15/95 -- Notes

Attendees: John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Diana Gregory, Pat Kreitz, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, Patrick Clancey, George Crane, P.A. Moore

Agenda:

- Style Committee update
 - Progress of statistics gathering
 - Summary of SPIRES security concerns meeting
 - Discussion of slaonlyness of /usr/local
 - Implementing /slac/phonebook.html
 - Timing
 - Action items from last meeting
 - A.O.B.
-

Statistics Gathering:

- Statistics for www1 are available under statistics at bottom of Home Page, by following the new improved statistics form. There are two versions. (cumulative, using "wwwstat", and monthly, using "getstats").
- Statistics will be gathered for VM, SLD, and Unix WWW servers.
- Work is still needed to close/archive and release active logs and clear disk space.
- Bebo is looking at VM logs, while he is away.
- We want to write the statistics into afs space. Patrick has talked to Bob Cook to understand how to get a token for a cron job. The cron script still needs to be written.

Summary of SPIRES Security Concerns Meeting:

- Meeting was a success.
- A couple of ways to implement security were discussed.
- George and Tony will implement a first cut.

SLAConlyness:

- This does not work in slaonly!

/slac/phonebook.html:

- The phonebook should work.
- There should be a link to it from the Home Page.
- Diana will provide a master index list. e.g., an alphabetic selection and browse.
- The current version (/spires/form/phone.html) does not work in some cases.
- Expectation is this will take some time.
- George will look at whether the current form can be made better (i.e., remove need for find name).

Action items from last week:

- Move heplib3, www-spires aliases. [Tony:done]
- Make /glossary point to USPIRES [John]

- Provide url for chglog. [Les:done]
- SPIRES line truncation. [Louise/Diana:done]
- Are Unix www logs being closed/archived. [Bebo]
- Name for Publications published doc space. [Pat K.]
- Experiments with CVS. [Tony/Bebo]
- Set up new userid for the www server. [John]
- Proposal of /g/ vs. /grp/. [Joan]
- Where do we put www admin stuff?

New Action items:

- /glossary needs to use a different format -- Tony will fix the rule.
- It would be nice to add a suggestion box. Pat K. will coordinate.
- Name for Publications published space -- Pat K.
- Set up user for www server -- John.
- Where do we put www admin files -- Joan.
- Decide what to do about /g/ vs. /grp/ -- Joan.
- Continue timing studies, understand -- John/Les.

AOB:

- Is there an update on the Privacy Document? We suspect it is on hold awaiting steering committee.
The Steering Committee requires a draft being worked on by Pat K.
 - Where is memo to Dickens? Is there any more feedback?
-

WWW Tech Mtg.: 3/8/95 -- Notes

Attendees: John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, P.A. Moore

Agenda:

- Style Committee update
 - Unix server status/problems, etc.
 - Timing/reliability issues
 - SPIRES security issues
 - Continuing move of heplibw3, www-spires aliases
 - Action items from last meeting
 - A.O.B.
-

Style Committee update:

- Joan made a presentation on human factors -- much talk on tailoring.
- Looked at SLAC privacy proposal and discussed.
- Next meeting will have draft from P.A. on paper to be produced from the committee.
- Suggest prototyping: Institutional page, a rich/dense Home page, and a light Home page.
- Tony described a feature of Netscape that allows tailoring the background, which might be a way to implement a "look and feel".

Unix server status/problems:

- John will request unix-admin to assign a uid for the httpd to run under.
- Joan proposed that major changes to servers be put into PROBTAK. An alternative is to use chglog, or raise at HOT meeting, or www-tech meeting. The goal is to ensure the front line trouble/problem shooters are aware of possible problems cause by changes.
- Consensus is to use chglog. Les will provide a URL to use it. Joan will inform the help desk of this.
- Tony has made cached /owner/ stuff in the production server.

Timing/Reliability:

- Les/Connie are measuring the various WWW servers and BINLIST access mechanism speeds. Tony suggested measuring by time of day to see if there are changes during the day (e.g. based on load). Les will investigate.

SPIRES security issues:

- Tony ran into problems with mixed case URLs.
- There are also other exposures.
- Tony will meet with George Crane, Harv Galic, Diana Gregory, and John Halperin to discuss the exposures and means of closing them. Pat Kreitz will organize.

Moving heplibw3, www-spires aliases:

- Tony will coordinate this with Teresa and chglog it.

Need to stress test USPIRES:

- In response to questions on how to improve BINLIST access, the question was raised about using UPSIRES. However, John is not ready for it to go prime time. In order to increase the load on USPIRES, we agreed to make /glossary point to it in production. John will accomplish this.

Action items:

- We need Unix WWW log files. Bebo will ensure that there are daily log files closed and archived. Patrick will work on generating reports.
- Tony and Bebo will experiment with CVS -- still pending.
- Les got /cgi-wrap/ working and did a quick demo.
- There are problems with SPIRES truncating lines at 80 characters, e.g. in /www/owners/cotrell the home page pointer is truncated. Harv/Louise/Diana should fix.
- More BINLIST measurements will be made by Les

Netscape:

- The new license agreement says it is free for evaluation, personal use, and educational use (excluding government labs).
- We need to get a legal reading on this.
- Tony will post the actual verbiage.
- We need to discuss what to do.

Archiving of old pages:

- Joan has set up an afs archive -- /afs/slac/archive/<year>/ -- for old pages.
 - Joan will provide info on using it.
-

WWW Tech Mtg.: 3/1/95 -- Notes

Attendees: Pat Kreitz, Patrick Clancey, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, Bebo White, P.A. Moore

Agenda:

- WWW server: status, problems, etc.
 - WWW server: caching
 - Repointing aliases: www-slac, www-spires
 - Log files
 - afs issues
 - qcmd
 - Action items from last meeting
 - A.O.B.
-

Server status:

- Tony has understood and fixed the www caching problem.
- SLACVM is badly overloaded. Since caching now works, we can repoint www-spires, www-heplib, & www-slac to www. Will start with www-slac on Friday. (Bebo will tell Teresa to get nameserver changed.) The other two will be changed Monday, to take effect Tuesday. Tony will fix up security to prevents repoints being visible off-site for inappropriate files.
- Bebo will check whether Unix WWW log files are being closed and archived automatically.

afs:

- JXH and Tony talked to Bob Cook to understand volume quotas and afs hierarchy. As a result, there are now 3 volumes under afs, for scs/net, publications, and the rest.
- Pat Kreitz will determine how to name publication's published document space.
- /g/www is aliased to /www, so we should all start to use /www/... immediately. The URL is still /grp/... A long discussion evolved as to whether the files and URLs should be (for example: for group SCS files):
 - /afs/slac/g/scs (for afs non-WWW files)
 - /afs/slac/www/scs (for afs WWW files)
 - /grp/scs (for the URL)

Joan feels strongly about the human factors of consistency and that the URL should be /g/scs. Other felt we need to stabilize the names as seen by users. We need to make a decision. The issue was tabled.

- Where do we put support scripts? Today they exist in:
 - ~Mwww
 - /usr/lib/www
 - /usr/local/www
 - ~cottrell/bin
 - ~tonyj
 - /afs/slac/www/admin
 - etc.

Joan will make a proposal in 2 weeks.

P.A. Moore's Stylistics Committee update:

- Agreed on common elements for pages: ownership, date, institutional id, etc.; disclaimer on relevant pages.
- Agreed on consistent title and headers, but there may be some contextual issues.
- P.A. Moore learned of a group at LBL which has published on WWW. This has been given out to the group.
- Pat C. raised the issue of the difference between "consistency" and "identity".

WWW Steering Committee:

- Pat K. and Les met with David Leith to discuss the formation of a Steering Committee. David asked for a proposal for an ad hoc committee to make recommendations for the formation of a Steering Committee to decide how to manage WWW at SLAC. The ball is in Pat's court.

Action items from last meeting:

- All action items from last week were completed except:
 - Patrick is working on a script to close log files and run statistical analysis programs. Closing files may already be solved on some platforms. Bebo is looking at whether the files are already being closed and archived.
 - Tony and Bebo will experiment with CVS --- In progress.

Cache security:

- John handed out some recommendations on how to secure the httpd server on Unix.

QSPIRES on Unix:

- John asked whether we need this. Tony said it would improve Unix access to SPIRES, which today uses a sockets interface to VM/SPIRES.
- John has QSPIRES on WWW working, but would like to know whether it is fast enough, etc.; i.e. how to get evaluation of it functionality.
- Meanwhile, the Library is looking at "porting" SPIRES to Unix (aka USPIRES) in a more complete (i.e., faster execution) fashion, which may result in some SPIRES databases moving to Unix.
- A suggestion was made to set up the Unix test WWW server on 5080 to support /owner via USPIRES. Other uses for this server were discussed. Its URL is <http://www.slac.stanford.edu:5080>.

QCMD:



- Use of qcmd introduces a new interface (as opposed to the existing cgi-bin interface).
- The use of the "~tonyj" syntax may be misleading since the "tonyj" does not have to be a user account; further what is probably needed is not a userid but a group, in case the user leaves SLAC.
- "qcmd" appears in the URL.
- Tony made some suggestions:
 - qcmd should be able to pass the arguments on to the user script, in the same form as qcmd receive the arguments (e.g., via environment variables). This needs thought, since sometimes the "user scripts" are direct Unix commands which don't understand environment variables.

- ❑ Rather than use "~tonyj", use "auth=sld", for example.
 - ❑ Make the httpd rules file map qcmd in the fashion:
.....map cgi-wrap/* to cgi-bin/qcmd*
 - ❑ The URLs then look like, for example:
http://www/cgi-wrap/qowner/cottrell
 - ❑ Les agreed to look at this as time permits.
-

WWW Tech Mtg.: 2/22/95 -- Notes

Attendees: Pat Kreitz, Patrick Clancey, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, Bebo White, Marshall Thomson, P.A. Moore

Agenda:

- WWW server: disk space and afs space
 - VM server: http daemon upgrade, log files
 - Repointing aliases: www-slac, www-spires
 - Mac Web problems
 - Directory-based access to /public_html files
 - VM migration issues
 - Action items from last meeting
 - A.O.B.
-

User contributions:

WWW Style Committee:

- Committee has met once:
- clarified scope of brief,
- agreed on a time to meet,
- agreed on a set of items to focus on, e.g.: date, menu bars, disclaimer,
- P.A. Moore also talked to Rachel Howard.

Budget Office (Marshall Thomson):

- They want to make information more available.
 - They are interested in WWW or NFS.
 - There is some information that should be widely available. Others should be conveniently available to group leaders (e.g., accounting info such as the blue-line cost statements). There is a possible issue of privacy.
 - Another issue is whether to run their own server.
 - After a discussion, it appears that the Web will work for their generally publicly available information.
 - For other information, it was recommended that Marshall look at NFS and talk to Mac/PC folks.
-

Repointing aliases - www-slac, www-spires:

- We agreed to defer this item until next week.

Mac Web problem:

- User (Koffler) reported problems with a Mac on the SLACVXLAVC subnet unable to access pages on www.slac.stanford.edu.
- A powerbook on the same Ethernet tap using the same IP address works fine.
- Bebo will update PROBTRAK.
- Bebo and Ken Martell will follow up on the problem.

Directory based access to /public_html files:

- Joan would like to disable the directory feature on /public_html directories.
- It is unclear how difficult this would be. It is also unclear how other sites handle this, i.e.: what are the norms.
- Bebo will investigate at CERN in March.

VM migration issues:

- Joan has had people treading on her migration stuff. She is recommending PROBTRAKing.
- Les will put a pointer on the WWW Resources page to all open status, WWW area PROBTRAK items. This should be restricted to SLAC.
- Joan has migrated mQ experiment pages and started to migrate SSI stuff.

/usr/local restrictions:

- /usr/local restrictions have made much information unavailable outside SLAC. Joan has a proposal which Tony is vetting before bringing it to the www-tech meeting.

QSPIRES:

- QSPIRES is installed and running all the time.
- John wants to test on the test server using the /owner command as a pilot.

Action items from last meeting:

- Bebo will provide a mechanism to mail the contents of a form to someone (for Tom Glanzman) --- Done; being "beautified".
- Bebo will find out why server generates an error when it changes to nogroup --- No action; carried forward.
- Bebo will research why www server does not restart properly --- awaits recurrence after installation of new server.
- Tony will understand why server caching does not always work --- No action; carried forward.
- Tony will change VM server to redirect requests without /FIND to Unix. (Reciprocal of what happens on the Unix server) --- Done.
- Bebo will bring up INRIA (aka CERN) server --- has code; will install when disk space allows.
- Bebo will make slaconly for netdoc --- Done.
- Tony and Bebo will experiment with CVS --- In progress.
- John will set up an afs directory, with selected access for www-tech, containing copies of various .conf files (for Tom Glanzman) --- Done.
- Tony will meet with Karl to try and understand AFS naming and quota issues --- In progress: long discussion after last meeting. Still need to get together with Karl to get agreement on naming.
- Pat K. will prod D. Leith on Policy Committee --- In progress.
- Tony will get /owner and /glossary to work with SPIRES --- Done; awaiting installation.
- Les will look at dangling <pre> in /owner --- Done.
- Joan will check with Alan Winston why there is an obsolete url in SSRL --- Done.

New and Continued Action Items:

- Bebo will find out why server generates an error when it changes to nogroup.
- Tony will understand why server caching does not always work.
- Bebo will bring up INRIA (aka CERN) server.
- Tony and Bebo will experiment with CVS.

- Tony will meet with Karl to try and understand AFS naming and quota issues.
- Pat K. will prod D. Leith on Policy Committee.
- Tony will install /owner and /glossary fix.
- Bebo will investigate why Unix log file only logs "GET".
- Tony and JXH will negotiate for root access on www1.
- Patrick will write a script to close the log files each night (may require killing the servers) and run "getstats". Will contact Ginsparg at LANL, Gotchall at ESnet, and/or Dave Martin at HEP NRC, re procedures.
- Bebo will look at why VM WWW server logs do not work.

WWW Tech Mtg.: 2/8/95 -- Notes

Attendees: Pat Kreitz, Patrick Clancey, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Joan Winters, Tom Glanzman

Agenda:

- Server/AFS problems
 - URL/move off VM progress
 - Proposal to use CVS
 - Status of SSRL server
 - Action items from last meeting
-

Action items from last meeting

- Resend Policy Committee memo to Leith -- [Les/Done]
- Change WWW Home -- [Joan/Done]
- Coordinate change of /g/www/ to /www/ -- [needs KLS/Future]
- Caching, especially wrt URLs -- [Tony/In Progress]
- Temporary fix of /owner/, /glossary/ -- [Les/Done]
- Is caching server making things visible outside SLAC that should not be -- [Tony/To Do]
- Appropriateness of binlist info -- [Louise/In Progress]

New Action Items:

- Bebo will find out why server generates an error when it changes to nogroup.
- Bebo will research why www server does not restart properly.
- Tony will understand why server caching does not always work.
- Bebo will bring up INRIA (aka CERN) server.
- Bebo will make slaonly for netdoc.

Rules File Visibility and CVS:

- Tom Glanzman wants to play with cgi-bin scripts and forms. One requirement is to send email. Bebo will provide a mechanism to transmit the contents of a form to someone (there may be something at hoohoo that will help). There will be security issues.
- A second wish from Tom was to be able to view the master.conf file and some others.
- Tony feels there needs to be a more proceduralized (sic) way of handling the .conf file. He is experimenting with CVS. This would allow controlled read or write access on an individual basis. We agreed it is useful to make this information readable to a select set of users (e.g.: group czars).
- We agreed to experiment with CVS for master.conf. We will experiment with using CVS to provide visibility to a select set of users for the conf file. Tony and Bebo will do the experimenting.
- John will set up an afs directory with selected access for wwwtech . TG and Bebo will put files in there (and notify all).
- Tom will help investigate the utilization of the www access tools.

Server/AFS problems:

- John fixed a problem reported by Joan.
- Tony ran into a problem with available space in /afs/.../www. Tony will meet with Karl to try and

understand naming and quota issues..

- Karl agrees to remove the /g/ from /afs/slac/g/www/grp; i.e. it will become /afs/slac/www/grp. He would also like /grp/ to go to /g/; i.e. we then have /afs/slac/www/g/, which is shorter. This would imply that URL's be changed from /grp/scs to /g/scs. The item was tabled until we hear from Karl.

Additional New Action Items:

- Pat K. will prod D. Leith on Policy Committee.
- Tony will get /owner/ to work with SPIRES.
- Les will look at dangling <pre> in /owner/.
- Joan will check with Alan Winston why there is an obsolete URL in the email to SOS --> www-tech.

URL/Move off VM Progress:

- Some things will break! Joan will put a notice in the SLAC Home Page that provides some relevant info.
- Next: Move Institutional page off VM and leave a stub pointer.
- Look at automated assistance to change the URLs on a page.

Communications:

- Bebo got a beta version of Ghostscript for Unix, but has been unable to make it work with Terry Hung's help (has PDF viewer included).
- Bebo also has a beta Ghostscript for Macintosh.

WWW Tech Mtg.: 1/18/95 -- Notes

Attendees: Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Pat Kreitz, Joan Winters, Patrick Clancey, Louise Addis, Dennis Wizinski

Agenda:

- New server setup, progress, problems, etc.
 - Repointing www, www-slac, www-spires aliases
 - How to proceed with moving off VM, migrating to new URL scheme, etc.
 - Template file: discussion of technical issues
 - Progress in stylistics [Pat]
-

New server setup, progress, problems, etc.:

- Rules files for new server are in place on www1. They are save in /usr/lib/www/master.conf. The actual rules files are generated by make to create prod.conf and test.conf in the same directory.
- John will check that only a limited set of people can logon to new www server.
- At 7:31, 1/19/95, the default www alias will point to the new server (www1).
- Les will fix the script that displays the prod.conf mapping entries. It will be SLAConly and display "pass" and "map".
- Bebo has fixed up the "how to fix" file.

Repoint www-slac and www-spires aliases?

- The proxy server in theory can handle these requests if pointed to www1 (new www).
- Tony will check whether SPIRES queries do/don't, can/can't be cached.
- Will check out www for a week before repointing www-slac and www-spires.

/glossary/term:

- /glossary/term (aka: /slacspeak/term) needs to work. Tony will follow up.

How to proceed with moving off VM, migrating to new URL scheme:

- Tony wants to delay until www-slac is moved.
- Move files off VM and put a pointer to new URLs in order to look at log files to find density of access via various URLs.
- We came to no conclusion. The discussion is tabled until a future meeting.

Discussion of Template file technical issues:

- Tony proposed a scheme to allow more dynamic addresses to be placed in the templates.
- The idea is to use a #include type feature; e.g., if one has a menu bar with a URL to SEARCH which point to CERN and then we find a better SEARCH meta-index item, it would be relatively easy to change the URL when one re-edits the file.
- To do this, Tony proposes to have a separate set of source files which the actual html files are created from by using make. Thus, the source might be in /x/www/grp/... and the make would create the files in /g/www/grp/...
- One could extend this to allow the creation of both production and test files, or to allow generic owner

names.

- In order to accommodate the fact that only some users have afs accounts, we would only put symbolic links in the /afs/ space for the source and destination files.
- The discussion was tabled based on concerns of further understanding and users needing afs access to do the make.

Should the <html><head><body> tags be put in the Template files:

- These are part of the HTML 2.0 IETF draft.
- Many sites use <head><body>, e.g., CERN, EIT. Netscape does not use them.
- New people are coming in, e.g., Microsoft.
- Agreed that we should put <head><body> into the Template, since it appears to be the direction things are going.
- The benefit of <html> is non-Web clients, such as TurboGopher, or an SGML editor, or AFS would be able to parse the file.
- There was not a strong feeling, but the leaning was to also add the <html> tag. We agreed to do so.
- Joan will modify the template file to include these tags.

Stylistics progress:

- Pat Kreitz has got P.A. Moore's agreement to chair the stylistics committee.

AOB:

- Bebo checked with Adobe about a PDF viewer for AIX/6000. They said not until 1996.
- Apparently the author of GhostScript will provide support for PDF.
- Louise has a test version of an extension to BINLIST to allow support for personal URLs and to allow aliases, such as "webmaster".
- There is no good/acceptable Mac Ghostscript viewer.
- PC people are concerned about WWW support for PCs. Dennis was invited to attend and be made aware of the issue. Dennis stated resource concerns (3 FTEs to support more than 1200 PC/Macs). Dennis expressed willingness to attend the www-tech meeting to address specific issues. We agreed to have a future agenda item on PC support for WWW, and encourage Windberg and Wisinski to attend.
- Bebo/Joan asked if Netscape should be supported. Tony had a concern due to disk space requirements.
- Has campus got support for PCs and WWW? One problem might be the use of different TCP/IP packages at SLAC and Stanford.

WWW Tech Mtg.: 1/11/95 -- Notes

Attendees: Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Pat Kreitz, Joan Winters, Patrick Clancey, Karl Swartz

Agenda:

- Server moves
 - "To /g/www or not to /g/www"
 - .conf maintenance
 - template
 - url rules
 - AOB -- left over actions items
-

Server moves - Karl:

- Servers have arrived at SLAC. Some will replace Castor (aka www). One of the new servers is an afs server, which is tied to address; this, in turn, means castor has to go. This means we need to get www off castor. Karl recommends getting www off castor be done by Jan. 23rd.
- Technically, we (WWW folks) can move in that time frame. Would have preferred longer period in order to do move more cleanly.
- Karl pointed out there is another sun server if necessary. It's not clear which is more optimal: a separate machine, or a different port on the same machine.
- Agreed we will get off castor.

Should we use /g/www for www root - Tony

- Links from /usr/local/bin/* are actually:
/afs/slac/package/emacs
/afs/slac/package/gcc
/afs/slac/package/etc)
We could have a www package:
/afs/slac/package/www
After discussion, we decided we do not know how to map the www data into afs. There is already some www stuff in /afs/slac/g/www. Karl and Tony feel as long as we keep all the www data in a single place we can relatively easily move it to a new "final" resting place, when that is determined.
- We will return to this topic in 3 weeks. In the meantime, Karl will ask at Usenix; also Joan will ask of CERN, Cornell, and HEP NRC.

URL rules - Tony

- Tony has written up the rules. They are accessible on the web:
Home -> www resources -> rules.
- First part agreed on at SWUG, etc.
- Second part are proposals which we will discuss in future.
- There will also be lots of examples.
- Tony and Joan are also thinking of writing a tutorial for new web authors which will reference URL rules, etc.

httpd.conf Maintenance - Bebo

- Bebo recommends some formal procedures for maintenance. He handed out a copy of his recommendations, which had previously been e-mailed to www-tech.
- Agreed to add item [0] below.
- When the new rules are in place, the need to create new rules should be greatly reduced. Thus, the requester should also justify why a new rule is required. Bebo will ensure that the requestor can use an existing rule. If a new rule is required, then Bebo will forward the request to www-tech via email, for approval and/or discussion at the next www-tech meeting.

Templates - Bebo:

- Bebo had made a proposal by email. It had technical and stylistic issues.
- A technical issue has to do with headers of the form etc. Tony is unclear what the status of this is by looking at CERN documents. Bebo believes the IETF have a recommendation along these lines. Tony also noted that not many existing pages have these headers. Bebo pointed out that evolving tools such as spiders, and SGML may need the head container. Bebo will find out what the status of these recommendations are. We should all also look at Netscape/CERN/W3O pages to see if they have html containers.
- A second technical issue is the concern of generic page owners, eg: netpage-owner which point to cottrell. This allows more easy updating. However, it also removes the directness and recognition by a step. It appeared to be somewhat of a religious issue which affects a wider audience. Louise agreed to provide a pilot test implementation to allow both ways of referencing the owner. When available, people will try it. Then, if desired, it may be raised to a wider audience.
- Discussion then went on to the stylistics issues. Previously we had considered a stylistic committee to look at the home page and the template. They would need a charge from this committee. Pat Kreitz volunteered to create a charge, and will seek out a chair.

Moving off castor:

1. Tony will combine cleaned up .conf file with his /afs/ and caching file for the new server.
2. Bebo will ensure www1(aka: new server to become www) is in re-startup list.
3. The name will be changed after next Wednesday (1/18) meeting.
4. Bebo will fix up the "how to fix" and premissions for restartinga, etc.
5. Bebo will move appropriate files from castor to www1.
6. 1, 2, 4, and 5 will be done before Wednesday, 1/18/95.

WWW Tech Mtg.: 12/5/94 -- Notes

Attendees: Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Pat Kreitz, Louise Addis, Joan Winters, George Crane

Agenda:

- Action Items
 - Progress Reports
-

Action Items:

- Bebo's experiments with "slaonly". He restored the mixed case definition (SLAConly).
- Ginsparg did not visit, so Louise did not tell him about the blanks suppression. Louise will call Ginsparg.
- Joan will fix up SLAConly (to slaonly) and tell Charley Young.
- /owner/* -- Louise has provided QSPIRES interface. Les tried a "cgi-bin/qcmd/qowner/cottrell", but it did not work. This may be a problem with QSPIRES lite. George & Louise will look at the problem. Tony will look at using Proxy.
- Louise will test new FSEARCH. Tony still has some work to finish up.
- Tony needs to fix SLACVM:5080 server for some SPIRES searches.
- Tony & Joan have a recommendation for the new URL scheme (see below).

Next Wednesday WWW Contributors Group Meeting:

- Joan will put a reference to the WWW Reference for SLAC stuff on the SLAC Home Page.
- Joan will put "href=/owner/winters" into the template page.
- Pat has sent e-mail to a lot of people about the WWW Contributors Meeting.
- Pat has an agenda for this meeting:
 - [Tony] What Technical Group has been up to.
 - [CRD] on proposal to support WWW.
 - [Pat] on Web Steering Committee.
 - [Marvin] Input from users.
 - [Round Robin] Reports on what users have been up to, problems.
 - Wish list -- brainstorm.
- There was a discussion of how the user groups differs from the Contributors Group. Bebo will e-mail Pat K. a definition of the user group charter.

New URL Scheme:

- Tony handed out a proposal for the new URL scheme. Joan & Tony have made a pass thru WWW 192 and ~winters/pub/www to come up with a set of mapping entries.
- This will enable arachne to be able to move the www files onto arachne's disk. But arachne's disk will need to be exported, e.g. for users to update/review, or for castor to access.
- There was a long list (8 items) that have to be done by Wednesday.

WWW Tech Mtg: 11/30/94 -- Notes

Attendees: Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Pat Kreitz, Louise Addis, Patrick Clancey, Joan Winters

Agenda:

- Action Items
- Status of WWW rule file cleanup [Bebo]
- Upgrades to VM server to aid migration [Tony]
- Experiences with proxy server -- discussion
- How to speed up migration to new server to appease angry users -- discussion
- URL issues
 - /usr/local/doc v. /comp -- discussion
- NFS problems -- bypass possibilities ([...], caching)

The new WWW server will have the equipment name arachne, in addition to the alias www.

Action Items:

- Bebo has been experimenting with "slaonly". He needs to do more work on this.
- Blanks at end of VM lines have been fixed on VM servers. Louise will tell Ginsparg.
- "SLAOnly" will continue to be supported on castor, but will not go to arachne. Joan will fix up SLAOnly and contact Charley Young.
- WebMaker: Katherine Henniss is using to now. She is the expert. Les tried with a Frame document without success. It's not ready for production at SLAC. Katherine will write a document on how to use at SLAC.
- Tony has installed a .mailcap file for Netscape. This allows Unix access to different files, e.g. PostScript. However, Netscape does not handle compressed Postscript; also, it sets up (by default) a 5 Mbyte chached disk space for each & every user.
- Louise still working with /owner/; will send e-mail when ready.
- Moving to New Server:
 - There are complaints from users that Web is great, but **too slow**.
 - We need to be able to increase availability of WWW service, in particular by reducing dependence on NFS. Bebo will talk to Karl about reducing dependence on NFS.
 - New (arachne) rules file is in progress by Bebo.
 - Tony has made progress on WWW test server in modifying FGET to remove the need for FIND. Still needs some special cases (e.g. FREEHEP). He also looked at FSEARCH and rewrote. Louise will test new FSEARCH. Tony still has some work to finish up.
- URL Issues:
 - There is no place to put published computation stuff. An energetic discussion followed on what the URL pointing to computation stuff should be. Tony and Joan will come up with a recommendation and send e-mail.
- Louise reported that the proxy server on zwww is a big help, no problems so far, need to try with users to see if it scales.
- Next meeting: Monday, 12/5/94, at 15:30. Possible agenda items:
 - New URL scheme (next meeting).
 - How to use CVS (next but one).
- Communications:
 - Other home pages requirements from users:
 - Dave Wittham (NLCTA) has a VMS server, lots of NLCTA info, and a sample

SLAC Institutional "glitz" page. Joan will e-mail URLs.

- SSRL (Tony Cox & Alan Winston) have an interest in a page. Winston will take over, but needs help.
- Accelerator Dept., Cheryl Hulkquist.
- Peskin now has a number of reviews of Theory Physics and wants pointer in What's New.
- The new home page developers will be invited to the Dec 7th meeting.

WWW Tech Mtg: 11/21/94 -- Notes

Attendees: Bebo White, John Halperin, Tony Johnson, Les Cottrell, Pat Kreitz, Louise Addis, Patrick Clancey

Agenda:

- Future meetings of WWW Wizards (i.e.: the larger WWW Tech group) [Pat]
 - Action items from last week:
 - Blanks at end of VM line [Louise]
 - Studies of "/slaonly" operation [Bebo]
 - Netscape .mailcap file [Tony]
 - WebMaker tests [Les]
 - Use of "/" delimiter in "slacspeak/term"
 - Other progress/problems with new URL scheme, zwww server, etc.
 - Status of new binlist (signature output) [Louise]
 - Secure HTTP summary [JXH]
 - CVS update [Bebo]
-

Discussion & Action Items:

- John reported that "~jxh/slaonly/foo does not work. Bebo will investigate. (NB: "not work" = visible off-site)
- Blanks at end of VM lines fix for files by JXH, et.al. GXC fixed for QSPIRES on test machine. Need to moved to production [Louise].
- Bebo reports problem in long SLD URLs. Solution to this may have caused problems elsewhere. Bebo will investigate with help from Tony.
- Bebo still reviewing use of "/slaonly" in both pass & protect in httpd.conf.
- Louise raised question of whether binlist should show all multiple VM accounts. General feeling is ... should not make these visible on the Web, but maybe keep for VM. Will tahbl3 until Pat K. done. JXH, Louise & Tony will address off-line.
- Future WWW Meetings for users: We need to decide what the brief should be for this group. Christine Quinn from campus will do a presentation to WWW-Users on December 7th on Web evolution. Pat passed out a set of possible agenda items:
 1. WWW-Tech committee progress report [Tony].
 2. SCS and the Web [CD/LC?]
 3. VM Migration Committee [M. Weinstein]
 4. Physics WWW Use: Report on APS Meeting [Pat K.]
 5. Round robin progress reports [all]

It would occur 3:30-5:30, either Dec 7th or 14th (still working on this). NB: LC will contact CRD about #2

- Discuss with users what needs are not met by WWW-Tech group. What frequency of WWW-Users meetings. User meetings are usually somewhat formal presentations. Do people/users want to join www-tech mail list, or attend the WWW-Tech group meetings. How to get more involved? Pubs would like to contribute more to the design of pages. A goal should be to dispel belief of a "star chamber" group. JXH feels strongly that technical issues need to be separated from page design. The technical group is taking too long on tech issues to dilute with page design, esthetics...

May need to form another group to review "look & feel" of SLAC's WWW. Agreed to publicize openness of attendance for WWW-Tech group, but continue its focused agenda.

Suggestion made to make WWW-Tech group meeting notes available electronically. Patrick agreed to

transcribe Les' written notes.

- Recommended "/SLAOnly" will be written "/slaonly" (i.e.: all lower case).
- WebMaker: Katherine is very happy with WebMaker (as per Bebo). Bebo will move to a more central space, build a Sun OS version, and announce.
- Netscape .mailcap work in progress. Has been built, but Netscape does not use it. New version of Netscape is now available.
- ".../slacspk/" works fine.
- Status of new binlist signature: Louise will be ready to go away from isindex over Thanksgiving. Can then use wwwsigs for formats. Louise will send out mail to say it has been done, then put at end of file "Les Cottrell". Bebo will put in a rule. Tony will modify FGET so the new URL will work for VM.
- Unix QSPIRES needs robustness testing. But where to put it? e.g.: want it on www, not zwww. Given this, the rule will point the signature to VM.
- The above raised the question of when zwww will go into production. Tony proposed to clean up rules on zwww. This is a requirement to get zwww into production. Time early to cut over zwww to www is Xmas 1994. This will be done via an alias, the actual Sun machine will get a mythological Greek/Roman goddess/god name. Louise will come up with a name such as a Muse.
- Future agenda item is Joan to discuss problems of "/grp" URL & "/slaonly".
- John presented a report on the secure HTTP meeting seminar presented by CommerceNet.
- Tony set up an experimental index for SLAC pages. It is in perl. Needs someone who knows Perl to look at/extend/support.
- Bebo reported on campus seminar organized by WAIS. Bebo will copy & distribute transparencies.
- Les will send info to www-tech on the Encyclopedia Britannica URL, which we have access to thru a campus license.
- CVS for WWW appears broken. Bebo will rebuild and give a 10-15 minute tutorial.
- Evan Owens from U. Chicago Press (publisher of Astrophysical Journal and Astrophysical Letters) will visit SLAC. He is looking at PDF & PostScript with a view to using in their journals. He will be at SLAC the afternoon of December 1st. He is very knowledgeable. Louise will put out an invitation. Attendance will be open.