The Internet: Cyber-Surfing for Information

• presented to GSLIS 110
  • by Sean Dreilinger

Keep In Mind...

• The Internet is based on chaos
  (so is this talk)
• Information Overload is a given here
• Goal is Awareness of the Internet
• Taking notes is OPTIONAL

The Plan:

• About the Internet--1 hour
  – History
  – Uses
  – Examples
  – Issues
• Assignment, Questions, Maybe Answers-- 20 minutes
  – Assignment
  – Access

History

• Networks
• ARPAnet
• NSFnet (Research Backbone)
• Internet
• NREN/NII aka “Information Superhighway”

Worldwide Use

• Research
• Education
• Recreation
• Business

Academic Uses for Students

• Research a Paper Topic
• Job Search
• CWIS: Campus Wide Information
• Exchange Research, Software
• Stay informed on a topic of interest
**Research a paper topic**

- Communicate with Experts
  - Usenet News
  - E-mail authors of journals, articles
  - Looking up E-mail addresses (by request)

- Obtain relevant documents, computer-files, software, other data
  - Archie, Veronica
  - WWW hompages
  - Usenet News

**Job Skills, Job Search**

- Business and Internetworked Information
  - Information on tap 24/7, instant delivery worldwide
  - EDI protocol: business transactions completed online
  - taxes, shopping, services
  - We are the Transitional Generation...

- Finding a job using the Internet
  - Usenet News
  - Listserv: special topic E-mail
  - Employment agency connections (BBS’s)

**CWIS- Campus Wide Information System**

- Trend in Higher Education
- Built on gopher or WWW server
- InfoUCLA, InfoPath, etc.
- EXAMPLE: UC San Diego’s CWIS

**Exchange Research, Software**

- Allows International Collaboration
  - Linux as an example
- Expands Invisible Colleges
- Crosses time and space

**Stay informed on a topic of interest**

- MELVYL update SDI feature (my mailbox today)
- listservs
- Usenet News
- Gopher & Web Sites

**Examples**

- academic
- professional
- personal
Academic

• PAPER on FIRE: (not research-paper burning)
  – Fire Control Strategy
• INTERNET Application(s)
  – Usenet Newsgroups
  – MELVYL UPDATE search
  – Veronica Search of GopherSpace
  – List of Lists Search on InfoUCLA gopher
  – World Wide Web to the Virtual Library or FireNet
• ADVANTAGE:
  – The Internet allows you to gather the latest information from anywhere in the world while sitting in one place.

Professional

• JOB SEARCH:
  – I want to work as an Internet Consultant in a Library or School
• INTERNET Application
  – Telnet to career.com or other appropriate Employment BBS
  – Usenet “jobs” and “resumes” groups
  – Job listservs, Gophers
• BONUS:
  – The Internet tends to equalize participants
  – Apply fast, for free, electronically
  – Internet Ability = Job Qualification

Personal

• FAVOR:
  – A Human Sexuality T.A. wants a “purity test” for her section tomorrow
• INTERNET Application
  – Usenet “alt.sex” groups—FAQ documents
  – Veronica Search of GopherSpace
• BONUS:
  – Participation in the Internet can be very anonymous
• ISSUE:
  – “Adult” situations on the Internet are scaring parents, lawyers, and computer system administrators.

Issues:

• Organization
  – None
  – Constantly Changing
• Access
  – Today: expensive, complicated
  – Tomorrow: information literacy
• Legal
  – Copyright nightmare
  – Business regulation nightmare
  – Pornography
  – Hacking & Cracking

Additional Information

• Connecting
  – Academic
    – Ultimate bargain for students, professors, staff
    – usually equal to or greater than Commercial options
  – Commercial Options
• Guides
  – GSLIS 110 Gopher Site
  – Online
    – Big Dummy’s Guide to the Internet
    – Zen & the Art of the Internet
  – Print & Online
    – Wired magazine

Assignment

1. Use your OAC computer account or drop in the GSLIS Lab and ask to use a ‘temp’ account
2. Try anything you like on the Internet for ~45 minutes
3. E-mail a 1–2 screen (40–80 lines) adventure to:
  – kbotello@gslis.ucla.edu
  – SUBJECT: CYBER-WORK
• DUE DATE & TIME ??
Questions...

Thankyou!