Network Update

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"Network Update" is now appearing in all issues of the *Journal*. The steady growth of new information available on the Internet made this inevitable. Rather than searching for information to put in the column, I am finding it necessary to pick and choose. As my area of expertise is French and I also have many associates who are teachers of Spanish, it has been easy to find a wealth of information in these two languages. For those who teach languages other than Spanish or French, I encourage you to forward to me (backerj@spot.colorado.edu) network items that might be of interest to your colleagues.

The following summary of mail server commands was prepared by James Milles, Head of Computer Services at the Saint Louis University Law Library. While some of this information has been published in previous columns, the thoroughness of his article prompted me to include it here. The article appeared on the NETTRAIN discussion list and is reprinted with the permission of the author.

Discussion Lists: Mail Server xCommands Version 1.12

by James Milles

Email discussion lists constitute one of the most popular methods of group communication on the Internet. Discussion lists support group communication by providing, at a minimum, two basic functions: (1) the ability to distribute a message to a group of people by sending it to a single, central address, and (2) the ability to quietly join and leave the list at any time. In order to provide these separate functions, an email discussion list typically has two addresses associated with it: (1) a "listname address," the address to which you send any messages that you intend to be read by the list subscribers; and (2) an "administrative address," the address to which you send any commands or requests that affect your subscription to the list. It's easy to remember this distinction by thinking of your local newspaper: the first address is somewhat analogous to sending a "letter to the editor," while the second is like sending a letter to the newspaper's subscription office.

With most discussion lists, the "administrative address" is a computer program that allows the subscriber to subscribe and unsubscribe automatically, without external intervention. There are at least five popular mail server programs used to manage Internet discussion lists: REVISED LISTSERV (also called BITNET LISTSERV), Unix List Processor (or Listproc), Mailbase, Mailserv, and Majordomo. The commands for subscribing and unsubscribing under most of these programs are the same; however, other useful commands differ greatly from one program to another, and some programs support features that others do not.

This document does not describe all the features supported by any of these programs, only those most commonly used. For more information on any of these programs, send a message containing only the word "help" to the appropriate mail server. Additional programs and commands will be added in future revisions of this document. This document also does not deal with discussion lists to which one subscribes by sending a message to "[listname]-request." There are a great many discussion lists of this type; some are distribution lists maintained manually by the listowner, while others use some form of mailer software ranging from a simple script to a fairly sophisticated mailing list program. Some require that subscription requests be placed in the message text; others require them to be included in the Subject line. Because of the variety of methods of maintaining these lists, it is impossible to generalize about their command features. However, as a rule, assume that any discussion list with an administrative address of "[listname]-request" is maintained manually by a human being. Accordingly, you should subscribe by sending a friendly message in plain English to "[listname]-request." If a program responds with instructions for subscribing, follow the instructions.

The latest version of this document is available by email and by anonymous ftp.

To obtain by email: send a message containing only the line, GET MAILSER CMD NETTRAIN F=MAIL to LISTSERV@UBVM.cc.buffalo.edu.

To obtain by ftp: anonymous ftp to **ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu cd/nettrain get mailser.cmd** or anonymous ftp to **sluaxa.slu.edu cd /pub/millesjg get mailser.cmd**.

When you subscribe to a list, you will typically receive a "welcome" message, describing the purpose of the list and telling you how to unsubscribe. Save this message! It tells you which program the discussion list is run under, and how to get further help. Mail servers can be confusing. Many people

use the term "listserv" generically, to refer to any list mail server program. To make things worse, the Unix List Processor (listproc) program was originally called "listserv," just like REVISED LISTSERV. Many listproc hosts are still configured with the name "listserv," and will accept commands addressed to "listserv@[host]" as well as to the correct name, "listproc@[host]." Usually—but not always—you can find out which program a discussion list is run under by examining the message headers. For instance, listproc lists should include a line saying "Unix List Processor." However, the best practice is to save any "welcome" message you receive when you subscribe, and to note at that time which set of commands is applicable.

Remember to send all commands to the "administrative address" [mailserver]@[host]—not to the "listname address." [Mailserver] is the program that maintains the list (either listproc, LISTSERV, mailbase, mailserv, or majordomo); [host] is the address of the host computer (for example, ucdavis.edu or cleo.murdoch.edu.au). Be sure to leave the Subject line blank, and to delete any signature file if your mailer allows you to do so. Always include the name of the list in the message to [mailserver]@[host]. Most mailserver sites maintain many different discussion lists, and it is essential that you tell the mail server which list you are talking about. For instance, to join the discussion list law-lib@ucdavis.edu, send an email message containing only the command, SUBSCRIBE LAW-LIB John Doe to **listproc@ucdavis.edu**. The other examples used below are:

- INT-LAW@UMINN1.BITNET (revised listserv),
- law-europe@mailbase.ac.uk (Mailbase),
- envirolaw@oregon.uoregon.edu (Mailserv), and
- elaw-j@cleo.murdoch.edu.au (Majordomo).

Join a list Listproc: SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname
    (e.g., SUBSCRIBE LAW-LIB John Doe)
LISTSERV: SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname
    (e.g., SUBSCRIBE INT-LAW John Doe)
Mailbase: JOIN [listname] Firstname Lastname
    (e.g., JOIN LAW-EUROPE John Doe)
Mailserv: SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname
    (e.g., SUBSCRIBE ENVIROLAW John Doe) Optionally, include the email address at which you wish to receive list mail. SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname [address]
Majordomo: SUBSCRIBE [listname]
    (e.g., SUBSCRIBE ELAW-J). Optionally, include the email

address at which you wish to receive list mail: SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname [address]

Leave a list   Listproc: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname]
LISTSERV: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname]
Mailbase: LEAVE [listname]
Mailserv: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname] (UNSUBSCRIBE [listname] [address] if you subscribed under a different email address)
Majordomo: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname] (UNSUBSCRIBE [listname] [address] if you subscribed under a different email address.)

Receive the List in Digest Format   Multiple messages are compiled into a single mailing, usually daily or weekly.
Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL DIGEST
LISTSERV: SET [listname] DIGEST
Mailbase: Not supported.
Mailserv: Not supported.
Majordomo: SUBSCRIBE [listname]-DIGEST (In the same message, unsubscribe from the undigested version: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname])
(Note: with those programs that support the digest option, whether or not to offer the digest format is within the discretion of the listowner; consequently not all lists offer digests.)

Cancel Digest Format; Receive the List as Separate Mailings   Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL ACK
LISTSERV: SET [listname] MAIL
Mailbase: Not supported.
Mailserv: Not supported.
Majordomo: UNSUBSCRIBE [listname]-DIGEST (in the same message, subscribe to the undigested version: SUBSCRIBE [listname])

Suspend Mail Temporarily (without unsubscribing)   Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL POSTPONE
LISTSERV: SET [listname] NOMAIL
Mailbase: SUSPEND MAIL [listname]
Mailserv: Not supported.
Majordomo: Not supported.

Resume Receipt of Messages   Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL ACK or SET [listname] MAIL DIGEST
LISTSERV: SET [listname] MAIL or SET [listname] DIGEST
Mailbase: RESUME MAIL [listname]
Mailserv: Not supported.
Majordomo: Not supported.

Receive Copies of Your Own Messages
Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL ACK
LISTSERV: SET [listname] REPRO
    (to simply receive an automatic acknowledgement that your message has been sent to the list, use: SET [listname] ACK)
Mailbase: Standard feature; you always receive your own messages.
Mailserv: Same as Mailbase.
Majordomo: Same as Mailbase.

Do Not Receive Copies of Your Own Messages
Listproc: SET [listname] MAIL NOACK
LISTSERV: SET [listname] NOREPRO
Mailbase: Not supported.
Mailserv: Not supported.
Majordomo: Not supported.

Obtain a List of Subscribers
Listproc: RECIPIENTS [listname]
LISTSERV: REVIEW [listname] F=MAIL (can also be sorted by name or by country: REVIEW [listname] BY NAME F=MAIL or REVIEW [listname] BY COUNTRY F=MAIL)
Mailbase: REVIEW [listname]
Mailserv: SEND/LIST [listname]
Majordomo: WHO [listname]

Obtain a List of Archive Files
Listproc: INDEX [listname]
LISTSERV: INDEX [listname]
Mailbase: INDEX [listname]
Mailserv: INDEX [listname]
Majordomo: INDEX [listname]

Retrieve an Archive File
Listproc: GET [listname] [filename] (e.g., GET LAW-LIB feb94)
LISTSERV: GET [filename] [filetype] [listname] F=MAIL (e.g., GET INT-LAW LOG9406 INT-LAW F=MAIL)
Mailbase: SEND [listname] [filename] (e.g., SEND LAW-EU-ROPE 05-1994)
Mailserv: SEND [filename] (e.g., GET ENVIROLAW smith.txt)
Majordomo: GET [listname] [filename] (e.g., GET ELAW-J BOYLE.TXT)

Search the Archives for Keywords
Where available—some lists do not keep archives.
Listproc: SEARCH [listname] "[keywords]" Boolean searches are possible using the symbols "&" (and), "|" (or), and "~" (not). For example, to search for "mead" or "mdc" in law-lib, use the command SEARCH LAW-LIB "mead | mdc"

LISTSERV: LISTSERV uses a sophisticated and powerful search engine that does lots of neat things like finding "sounds like" matches; however, it uses a difficult, batch-coded search language to construct queries. I find it useful to keep a "template" file in my Internet account, and then edit the file as appropriate when I need to do a search. Here's the search file:

```
// JOB Echo=No
Database Search DD=Rules
//Rules DD *
Search nafta in int-law since 93/6/1
Index
/*
```

To run a search, send this file in an email message to LISTSERV@[host]. The Search line can be modified as needed. The date is optional; Boolean combinations, nesting with parentheses, and a great number of other capabilities are supported. For a full description of LISTSERV search functions, send the command GET LISTDB MEMO F=MAIL to LISTSERV@UMINN1.BITNET. Once you've received a list of messages matching your query, send another message to LISTSERV@[host] to retrieve the specific messages you want, for example:

```
// JOB Echo=No
Database Search DD=Rules
//Rules DD *
Search nafta in int-law since 93/6/1
Print all of 636 637 640
/*
```

Mailbase: Archives of Mailbase lists are searchable through the Mailbase Gopher (gopher mailbase.ac.uk). Mailbase does not support batch searching by email request.

Mailserv: Not supported.

Majordomo: Not supported. ■

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Listservs

New foreign language electronic mailing lists are continuously being created. For newcomers to the Internet it is

sometimes frustrating to determine which lists might interest them and how to subscribe to these lists. David Bedell at the University of Bridgeport maintains a *Review of Bitnet/ Internet Lists for Language Learning*. It is available by sending a message to: listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu with the message GET FLTEACH FLLISTS or by contacting him at **bedell@cse.bridgeport.edu** The document you will receive contains the following information: lists concerned with language, language learning and cross-cultural communication (in English unless otherwise noted); lists for teaching and learning English, other Germanic languages, Romance languages, Slavic languages, and other languages of Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and so on.

A similar, Spanish-language list is available from RCP (La Red Científica Peruana/Peruvian Scientific Network). It includes discussion lists in Spanish about architecture, science fiction, computers and other technology, human rights, economics and education. To get a list of available lists, send email to listasrcp@rcp.net.pe with message: index. For further information send email to Yuri Herrera Burstein, **odi@rcp.net.pe**

Lists of General Interest

EUROPE-L has been created at the Regents' Global Center of the University System of Georgia to increase awareness and interest in Europe, to provide information to faculty and students on opportunities for studying abroad, to give information to faculty for teaching and curriculum development, and to encourage general sharing of information about Europe.

To subscribe: listserv@gsuvml.gsu.edu

CREAD (Inter-American Distance Education Consortium) is a fairly new organization as well as a new discussion list. CREAD was founded in 1990 at the International Council for Distance Education World Conference in Caracas, Venezuela. Originally CREAD operated under the umbrella of three agencies: the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education, and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is now an independent organization. One of the many benefits of membership in CREAD is access to an inter-American organizational network involved in the expansion of distance education programs and activities. For additional information contact: CREAD Executive Office, The Pennysylvania State University, 211 Mitchell Building, University Park, PA

16802-3601. fax (814) 865-3290 or email: **axv4@psuvm.psu.edu**
To subscribe: LISTSERV@vm1.yorku.ca

French Lists   *FROGMAG* is an electronic magazine in French created by the French and by French speakers in the United States with the support of the French Embassy. Discussions center around a wide variety of themes of interest to students and teachers of French.
To subscribe: listproc@cren.org

Italian Lists   *ITALPP* (Italian Applied Linguistics, Psycholinguistics and "Psicodidattica") is a new discussion list sponsored by Rosa Volpe of the Learning Technology Center at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. For more information about the list, contact Rosa Volpe at **volper@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu**.
To subscribe: italpp-request@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu

Navigating the Net: Finding Information with Gopher and the Web

Finding information on the Internet is becoming easier and easier. With both Gopher and the World Wide Web (or simply the Web), cyberspace travelers are able to navigate smoothly through the Internet without necessarily knowing exactly where they are. For more information on Gopher and the Web, see "Internet and Foreign Language Instruction: A Report from Behind the Front Lines, Part 2: Navigational Tools" in the Spring 1994 issue of the *IALL Journal*. Since I wrote that article last spring, the Web has continued to grow and now offers a wealth of useful information for foreign language instruction. To access the Web, it is helpful to have a "web browser" on your host machine. Both systems I use have Lynx, which allows me to "browse" the hypertext structure of the Web. (Lynx is one of several Web client programs that allows easy exploration of Internet resources.) Those of you with direct connectivity will enjoy traveling the Web with a more advanced browser, such as Mosaic (see "Internet and Foreign Language Instruction" article, *IALL Journal*, Spring 1994) or MacWeb (available by ftp: ftp.einet.net /einet/mac/macnet). Mosaic and MacWeb permit one to listen to sound and to view graphics and video as well as text.

French Resources   The **French Embassy** in Washington offers a variety of information on Gopher, including the following: the text of President Clinton's speech before the Assemblée Nationale, a calendar of current cultural and artistic events in France and even basic information for the tourist traveling in France. From the home page of the Embassy's gopher, one can also search theses at the University of Lyon.

gopher iep.univ-lyon2.fr under Ambassade de France-Washington

The literary gopher at the University of Montreal has a new catalogue called **ATRIUM,** which makes available on-line the 26 libraries of the University of Montreal.

telnet atrium.bib.umontreal.ca (132.204.55.60) log-in: public

gopher gopher.litteratures.umontreal.ca 7070 under /Instruments de recherche en ligne/Bibliothèques

FYIFrance is a monthly electronic newsletter full of useful facts about networking in France. It is produced by Jack Kessler, an independent consultant on networked information. There is a wealth of information in each of his reports. The latest contained a list of libraries in France accessible through Minitel, through direct-dialup, telnet and WAIS. The newsletter is distributed on several discussion lists but is also available through the Berkeley gopher.

gopher infolib.berkeley.edu 72 under Electronic Journals (Library-Oriented)/FYIFrance

According to Kessler, keeping up with current trends in French libraries is facilitated by reading the annual "Rapport du Président" of the Conseil Supérieur des Bibliothèques by Michel Melot (a leading French library figure). It contains a concise but comprehensive report of French library activities for the preceding year. The complete electronic text in French is available.

ftp: ftp.grenet.fr

gopher: gopher.grenet.fr under OPAC/rapport du CSB
http://www.grenet.fr/anteserveur/anteserveur.html

Kessler can be contacted at **kessler@well.sf.ca.us**

The **Louvre** or **WebLouvre.** While this web server can be accessed with any web browser, viewing it with Mosaic is certainly more impressive because of the graphic images. You will find a guided visit to Paris, famous paintings, a medieval art exhibit and much more. WebLouvre, which is not part of any officially supported project, is—according to its creator, Nicolas Pioch—pure pleasureware. Pioch is currently studying Economics at ENST (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications) and teaching computer science.

http://mistral.enst.fr/~pioch/louvre/

French and French language, or "Le coin des francophones et autres grenouilles," offers links to information about anything and everything French on the Internet, from job offers to the latest results from the Tour de France as well as a French electronic music magazine.

http://cuisg13.unige.ch:8100/franco.html

Spanish Resources

RCP, La Red Científica Peruana, the Internet Network of Peru, has a World Wide Web server that contains general and historic information about Peru. Through this Web server it is easy to access a gopher server that contains information about Latin America. The majority of the materials here are in Spanish.

http://www.rcp.net.pe/rcp.html
gopher gopher.rcp.net.pe

Scandinavian Languages

Project Runeberg makes available electronic texts in Scandinavian languages—Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Icelandic, and Faroese. The texts are not in ASCII, but in several different extended, standard character sets. Works available include a list of Scandinavian authors, translators and artists compiled by Lars Aronsson, head of Project Runeberg. There are also novels, plays and poems.

ftp ftp.lysator.liu.se /pub/runeberg
gopher gopher.lysator.liu.se 70
http://www.lysator.liu.se/runeberg.html

Resources of General Interest

There is a second edition of "Electronic Communication and the Humanities Scholar" available via anonymous ftp; the new title is "Electronic Communication on the UNIX." There has been quite a bit of revision, and it now includes many advanced Internet functions. This book is intended as a detailed guide for Internet workshops and includes the following chapters:

- What is the Internet?
- Logging on to the UNIX System
- Sending Mail
- Reading Mail
- Subscribing to Electronic Lists and Electronic Journals
- Saving, Printing and Downloading
- Connecting to Remote Sites (Telnet)
- Retrieving Files Stored in Another Computer (FTP)
- Archie
- Gopher and Veronica
- Creating and Managing Files
- Logging Off
- Discussion Group Lists: Humanities
- Electronic Journals
  Anonymous ftp: gwuvm.gwu.edu
  Individual file names of interest are:
- Electronic Communication on the UNIX
- Humanities Databases and Resources on GWIS

- Advanced INTERNET Functions: A guide for Social Scientists
- Social Science Databases and Resources on GWIS

The Oxford Text Archive is one of the largest fulltext archives found on the Internet. It contains over 1,300 literary works in English and a dozen or so other languages (50 or more fulltexts in French).

Anonymous ftp: ota.ox.ac.uk

"Internet-on-a-disk" is available free of charge by sending a request to B&R Samizdat Express (samizdat@world.std.com). This newsletter is published monthly and contains information about electronic texts available on the Internet and their use in education. Back issues are available upon request from samizdat@world.std.com and can also be located in the archives of the Computer underground Digest (CuD):

ftp ftp.eff.org /pub/Publications/CuD/Internet_on _a_Disk

gopher gopher.eff.org/Publications/CuD/Internet_on_ a_Disk

http://www.eff.org/pub/Publications/CuD/ Internet_on_a_Disk

Review of Internet Books

This review appeared on the NETTRAIN discussion list. It is published with the permission of the author.

Internet Starter Kit by Adam C. Engst

Reviewed by Nick Capon

This is a 640 page doorstop, complete with a disk containing a selection of current software for the Macintosh. One of its current claims to celebrity status is that the easiest way to get a recent version of MacTCP (version 2.0.2, not 2.2 as the disc label states) is to buy the book. That may say something about the relative efficiency of the distribution channels for books and software. But the question is: Does the book meet its avowed purpose? The subtitle of the cover of this book is "Everything you need to get on the Internet," so the buyer might think that the idea is that s/he should be able to buy the book, use the software, and enjoy the pleasures of networking. Well, no. The physical connections required are treated very lightly ("get a modem...") so that the text can concentrate on software and services. It is of course impossible to cover all the variations of physical connections as well as the material in the book, but one looks in vain for a helpful reference. In fact there are no references to other books anywhere in this volume. Turning to the material in the book, the breakdown is Part I: Introductory, 36 pages; Part II: Internet

Foundations, 72 pages; Part III: Connecting to the Internet, 257 pages; Appendices, 246 pages; and Index, 32 pages.

The first two parts outline the Internet world, and introduce the main services—email, usenet, ftp, telnet, archie, gopher, Wais, World Wide Web, in the folksy style which is widely preferred. Mr. Engst knows his networks and the presentation reflects his experience. The third and longest part treats the software and services associated with four different ways of connecting to the network. The Internet can be many things to many people, and any text must either concentrate on a very few methods or pay the price of becoming voluminous. In this text the chosen methods are those of interest to an individual in the USA and working from home. Corporate or campus networks are not covered. The four chapters deal with email access via a public or commercial supplier, 22 pages; command line access via a UNIX system, 69 pages; UUCP access, 54 pages; MacTCP access, 106 pages.

The email section is mostly about access via the various U.S. commercial networks, from America Online to Prodigy. The command line section contains an introduction to basic Unix. These are of arguable relevance. The Unix section covers the standard software for Internet usage in that context. But it is clear that the author's interest, and the meat of the book, is in the UUCP and MacTCP coverage. I would question whether a book issued in 1993 and concentrating on new users should be talking about UUCP, but that protocol isn't dead yet and reasonable people may have different opinions. The fluidity of the network is such that one should always give network sources rather than long lists of specifics. But the Appendix contains 63 pages of resources for various fields of interest, followed by over 100 pages—double spaced—of newsgroups. It even lists all the newsgroups in the Clari distribution, which is available only on subscription. Very few individuals will access these newsgroups. Then we have a version of the Pdial and nixpub listings. Great stuff when you need it—but printing it is an outrageous waste of paper. The author gets no prize for being green. Turning to more positive comment, the discussion on MacTCP based software (Chapter 11) reveals a good knowledge of the various alternatives. The author's suggestions reflect the software of choice, with some of the alternatives included for comparison. Any such selections will date rapidly—the advent of NCSA's (National Center for Supercomputer Applications) Mosaic for the Mac clearly stopped the press—but users will profit from this section. There is a notable emphasis on the user interface, and I was pleased to find confirmation of my own experiences

throughout this section. The earlier chapter on UUCP seems equally authoritative, but I have no recent experience as a basis for comment. In summary, this is a useful book for the inexperienced user, which will however date quickly. It would have been better if it had been dealt with by a ruthless editor. But it is reasonably priced ($US 30) and a convenient way of getting some current Mac software. ■

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