

SUMMARY OF THE JACoW TEAM MEETING

Sincrotrone Trieste, December 2003

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INTRODUCTION

JACoW held a Team Meeting in Trieste from 9-12 December 2003. A total of 19 people from 11 institutes attended the meeting and this note supplements the copies of the slides from the talks which are available on the JACoW website ¹.

A number of new team members were present at the meeting and the programme aimed to familiarise them with JACoW's activities and to explain the underlying features of the website. A seminar on the day before the workshop covered the history of JACoW's development and described the work carried out by the team. Since the previous team meeting in Berkeley, the Scientific Programme Management System (SPMS) has gone into production for EPAC and the first day of the meeting was devoted to a review and planning the next stage of development.

PROGRAMME

After the SPMS, the agenda followed the standard format for a Team Meeting with a status report on JACoW and reports from recent and forthcoming conferences. Recent technical developments were discussed in the final session.

The full programme was as follows:

- JACoW - A Short History, its Status and Aims, John Poole, CERN.
- Scientific Programme Management System (SPMS)
 - Status Report, Matt Arena, FNAL.
 - Profiles and Institutes, Christine Petit-Jean-Genaz, CERN.
 - Conference System Functionality, Matt Arena, FNAL.
- A Status Report on the InDiCo Project, Fabrizio Nesti, SISSA.
- Reports from Conferences
 - DIPAC'03, Volker Schaa, GSI.
 - PAC'03, Peter Lucas, FNAL.
 - EPAC'04, Jan Chrin, PSI.
 - LINAC'04, Volker Schaa, GSI.
 - CYCLOTRONS'04, Toshiya Tanabe, RIKEN.
 - RuPAC, Grigori Shirkov, JINR.
 - DIPAC'05, Volker Schaa, GSI.
 - PAC'05, Charly Horak, ORNL.
 - EPAC'06, Frank Gerigk, RAL.
- JACoW Status and Plans, John Poole, CERN.
- New Developments

- New scripts for making the wrapper and finishing files, Volker Schaa, GSI.
- Acrobat 6, Jan Chrin, PSI.

JACoW SPMS

Matt Arena gave a general overview of the SPMS which is based on a central repository of people's profiles and institutes and a conference system which will be set up and used by each conference. Contributors to each conference will be identified in the central repository (held at CERN) and they will therefore not have to enter their data again for each conference.

The Data Definition (DDL) and source code scripts run from a single master script which link to an Oracle 9i installation. Conference specific code exists to differentiate PAC and EPAC styles. The data is loaded automatically. There is virtually no hard-coded information and customisation is made through system parameters held in the database and accessed through the administrator's web interface.

Matt ran through the main functionality of the system and gave on-line demonstrations to illustrate the features.

Christine Petit-Jean-Genaz presented the profiles and institutes repository, described the main functionality and current status. Profile and affiliation data had been introduced from previous conferences and it is the intention that users should verify the data and create an account (login/password) which they will use for maintenance and entry to conference SPMS systems. She explained the basic reasoning behind the repository and reported that around 3300 profiles had been entered of which 400 had been authenticated and accounts created. Around 600 affiliations had been defined.

Christine described some of the problems which had been encountered and these were discussed and some solutions proposed. The solutions and actions are summarised in the conclusions of this report.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

SPMS

It was agreed that conferences using the SPMS should recommend users to create accounts and maintain profiles through the conference system. The profile data entered in this way will be modified in the central repository directly and copied to the local systems. This should avoid some confusion for users who have updated their information in the central repository but do not see it in the conference DB because the synchronisation task has not yet run.

¹<http://www.jacow.org/JACoW/Meetings/>

For each conference which will use the full system (i.e. connect to the repository), a new Database Username (DBU) will be created in the central server at CERN. This DBU will have no resources but will have access to JACoW tables.

J. Poole explained that the current system which EPAC and JACoW is using is running in a development system because this was the only version 9i system available at CERN. He expected a migration to a production system at around Easter time but this should be transparent to the users, since it will be hidden behind the URL.

Additional functionality for the Email facility (e.g. selection of a specific person/paper) will be specified. **(Action: CPJG, JP)**

Additional functionality will be built in so that submission and management of papers can be restricted to invited people. This is a requirement for the LINAC series, where attendance is by invitation only. **(Action: MA)**

It was agreed to test using UTF-8 as the basic character set in order to handle special characters better. **(Action: MA, CD)**

The fuzzy search on user names will be modified to present the results of search in two parts - exact matches and then fuzzy matches. **(Action: MA)**

It was agreed that the system should be available through a GPL which should be set up at CERN. **(Action: MA, JP)**

It was agreed to incorporate additional help text as soon as possible. In particular, the use of the ZIP codes vs. postcodes should be explained for users. A first version of the complete system should be available for testing by the end of January 2004. **(Action: MA, CPJG, JP)**

Scripts are required for the file upload/download - these will interface to the code which has been built into the system. Ivan volunteered to do this. **(Action: IA)**

It was agreed that the feedback to the central repository after a conference will only contain information about the roles of people in that conference. This will allow the removal of the integrity constraints which currently prevent a profile from being deleted if it is associated with a contribution. **(Action: MA, CPJG, JP)**

It was agreed to email users when they have created an account - this will have the beneficial effect of checking the validity of the email address. **(Action: MA)**

A link to the affiliation search is required in new account creation. **(Action: MA)**

Beta testing of the system will be made by Toshi (Cyclotrons'04) and Carsten (LINAC'04).

It was agreed to add a link for file upload instructions which will be specific for each conference. **(Action: MA)**

JACoW Activities

It was agreed that versions (official releases) of the SPMS would be reviewed and agreed by JACoW at least once per year.

Training of new editors is becoming difficult for EPAC and PAC because of the large number of conference se-

ries in JACoW now. It was agreed that smaller conferences should help by inviting new editors as well as experienced ones.

A new page is to be added to the JACoW site to include the logos and links to member conferences. **(Action: CPJG)**

Volker Schaa presented a number of very useful scripts for proceedings production and sorting of author names which contain special characters. These scripts should be made available through the JACoW GPL. **(Action: JP, VS)**

Information for new conferences

J. Poole underlined some things for new series which require particular attention.

- Certain features of the document specifications, like captions and slow figures need emphasis in the conference's information pages
- The overhead in expert resources
- The need to check the PDF's very carefully (QA)
- The feature of figures scattering in a word document when it is opened by an editor
- The need to avoid settings which shrink a document to fit the printer's paper which leads to PostScript files which are very difficult to use

Version of Acrobat

Jan Chrin explained that during testing he had experienced a number of problems when using Acrobat6 and Pit-Stop6. The meeting agreed to continue using Acrobat 5 for EPAC'04 at least, with the compatibility level staying at Acrobat 3.

Keywords

The meeting approved the proposal to determine keywords using scripts which do a full text search and compare against the keyword list.

The keyword list should be updated with machine names. **(Action: JP)**

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the team will be held just before EPAC'04, with the main topic for the Agenda being a review of the SPMS. There will probably also be a Team Meeting at the end of 2004 in the USA - visa restrictions permitting.

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