on Project Bamboo…

Chad J. Kainz
Senior Director, NSIT Academic Technologies
Co-Director, Project Bamboo

29 April 2009
S

Sum stop is monyfeal to
hate lenytibelsner ham
beod henna asenne on lice
bonne hemid us beod pere des
heopes. Tythelpylyc man numan pyle of he hilda
1/3 time spent on research and scholarship
2/3 time sorting through technology
2/3 time spent on research and scholarship
1/3 time sorting through technology
Bamboo is a community-driven cyberinfrastructure initiative that includes faculty and researchers engaged in humanistic inquiry, computer scientists and information scientists interested in innovative models for shared services, and librarians, academic content partners, campus information technologists and other professionals who want to work together across disciplinary, organizational, institutional, and geographical boundaries to better enable and foster innovation in the arts and humanities.
Bamboo is a community-driven cyberinfrastructure initiative that includes faculty and researchers engaged in humanistic inquiry, computer scientists and information scientists interested in innovative models for shared services, and librarians, academic content partners, campus information technologists and other professionals who want to work together across disciplinary, organizational, institutional, and geographical boundaries to better enable and foster innovation in the arts and humanities.
1987 (or for me, 1992)

“...we encourage the support of interdisciplinary research teams, rather than just facilities, to ensure that long-term visualization developments be grounded in real problems.”

One recommendation was that teams should include computer scientists and engineers, visualization scientists, systems support personnel, artists, and cognitive scientists.

How can we advance arts and humanities research through the development of shared technology services?
Bamboo is currently a Planning Project

- Goal of building a consortium of universities, colleges, and other organizations who will work together to advance arts and humanities teaching and research through the development of shared technology services.
- Participating institutions and organizations will help to define the final scope of Bamboo, and formulate a set of activities, processes, and projects that will guide implementation and shape the community that supports it.
- Major deliverable at the end of planning project is the submission of the first year of a multi-year Bamboo Implementation Proposal to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
- If successful, implementation would begin in early 2010.
Over 130 institutions and organizations have taken part in planning Bamboo
Bamboo: a project of multiple groups.
Bamboo: a project of multiple disciplines.
Bamboo: a project of multiple fields.
Bamboo: a project of multiple practices.
Bamboo: a project of multiple approaches.
Bamboo: a project of multiple connections.
Bamboo: a project of multiple opportunities.
Bamboo: a project of multiple technologies.
Bamboo: a project of a single community.
a single community composed of multiple dimensions
a single community composed of multiple dimensions and multiple methods
Borromean Ring Teams
National Science Foundation vision for cyberinfrastructure.

*Three symmetric, interlocking rings, no two of which are interlinked. Removing one destroys the synergy.

- Relationships of mutual respect.
- Relationship of mutual benefit within the norms of the “ring community.”
- Participatory, iterative design, use, evaluation.
- A culture of collective reward.
- To be a bit eccentric (can’t be circles)

Behavioral & Organizational Sciences

Users, Communities of Practice, Organizations in Society

Computer & Information, Science & Engineering

National Science Foundation
Where Discoveries Begin

D. E. Atkins
datkins@nsf.gov

Office of Cyberinfrastructure
One doesn’t build unique infrastructure for researchers of Anglo-Saxon literature and culture who specialize in Lacanian psychoanalytic critical theory.

Why?

Because there are probably only eight people in the world who do that.
For those of us who are ethnographically-oriented – folklorists, cultural and linguistic anthropologists, sociologists among others – the world itself is the source of raw materials. The library is where we seek not only to house our studies but also the documentary materials – with the understanding that the documentary materials are never quite the same as the things they represent.

Part of the promise of the digital era … is that it offers the ability to house those materials in a way that they can have multiple uses and many access points.
Bamboo Vision of Cyberinfrastructure

understanding of practices and commonalities

shared technology services

organizational, partnership, and social models

Adapted from the "Borromean Ring Team" model for cyberinfrastructure presented by D.H. Atkins, Office of Cyberinfrastructure, National Science Foundation
Initial Areas of Community Interest

- Education
- Scholarly Networking
- Standards & Best Practices
- Tools & Content Partners
- Services
- Leadership & Principles
- Stories
- Institutional Support
Collaboration Math

2 + 2 + 2 = \text{\cancel{6}}^3

John Norman
Director, Center for Applied Research in Educational Technologies, Cambridge Bamboo Workshop 4, Providence, April 16, 2008
Mapping the Vision

- understanding of practices and commonalities
  Forum
- shared technology services
  Cloud
- organizational, partnership, and social models
  Labs

Adapted from the "Borromean Ring Team" model for cyberinfrastructure presented by D.H. Atkins, Office of Cyberinfrastructure, National Science Foundation
**Forum**
understanding practices and commonalities

The "Forum" is the place to find, to share, to debate, to track others, to publish early ideas, to borrow, to learn together. It includes:

- Scholarly Network
- Scholarly Narratives
- Recipes (Workflows)
- Tools and Content Guide
- Other Educational and Curricular Materials
- Bamboo Community Environment(s)
Cloud
shared technology services

More than simply an approach to sharing services, gadgets or resources, the “Cloud” expresses an infrastructure direction that minimizes risk to any one institution, is inherently redundant, has the potential to be of low cost to maintain, and introduces the potential for broad adoption across institutions, organizations and geographical boundaries in a sustainable and reliable manner. It includes:

- Services Atlas
- Bamboo Exchange
- Shared Services Lifecycle
- Tool & Application Alignment Partnerships
- Content Interoperability Partnerships
- Bamboo Shared Services Appliance
The “Labs” is where work happens and is structured around three layers in a check-and-balance model of explore, plan, and build.
What is Bamboo going to do?

• Initiate a one-year project with a defined deliverable at the end of the funding period
  • First year is part of a multi-year effort based on annual milestones
  • This approach was not our first choice…

• The draft plan for the first year is to work on five key areas:
  • Scholarly Networking
  • Scholarly Narratives and Recipes for Research & Teaching
  • Tool & Content Interoperability Partnerships
  • Services Atlas
  • Bamboo Shared Services

• Further develop and grow the community

• Seek additional funding and collaboration opportunities
In the natural world, bamboo is a highly flexible organic material that serves multiple purposes: it can live as a single stalk on a desk or grow quickly into renewable forests; be used for constructing buildings or decorating them; become as strong as hardwood or as flexible as cloth; and can be lashed together to keep water out as in a boat or transport water as in a pipe. We envision the project as being quite similar: sustainable, configurable, flexible, and reliable – hence the name Bamboo.