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§1

Development within the last year

This part should only be handled in a very short time, since most points used to be announced by email. So here comes just a summary:

- Probably the most important matter is the "Who's who" project initiated by Geneviève, gathering information about peoples, institutions, museum, associations and universities. After only little response, people now start to react to this project and we receive more and more replies. Geneviève is currently collecting information about non-individuals and we're about to implement them in the website. While Geneviève provides all data, this section is chiefly maintained by Sven. And at this point I would like to call for more data, so please fill out your questionnaires and send them back to Geneviève.
- The other significant change concerns the "Conference" section. It has been completely renewed to fit the new requirements we now have for it. It is now divided up for upcoming and past events. The important upcoming conferences can be accessed directly through the main menu. These are the now ended 6th EMC and the IInd SAB Congress in Brussels 2002. With Geneviève providing information, the section is mainly maintained by Sven.
- The third main development has occurred in the "Baytaah" section, where several information services have been installed. These are the chat service and the discussion forum which have been managed by Rogelio. Some documents concerning the association and protocols from the last Wayeb meetings come, as always, from Geneviève and have been installed by Sven.
- The other changes are of minor nature and are rather "cosmetic" affairs. However, we have promoted a small conference in Antwerp and a publication in the "News & Events" section. And Sven was able to achieve that Mesoweb and FAMSI posted a link to our website.

§2

Current projects

There are currently four projects with top priority. These are:

- The embedding of a database into the website. This very important feature will interfere almost all data we present, which are the following sections: Who's who, News & Events, Resources, Baytaah. Rogelio is currently working on programming the data. In a first stage of progress we may present a finished Links section, a calendar of events for the "Baytaah" section and for the "Who's who". Using a database simplifies searching information. Instead of having long lists with all data, we can present a small search interface with all necessary options and which puts out all categorized information that were specified by us and the user who recalls them.
- Of course, this is not only interesting for the things we have on hand, but also for future extensions of the homepage. More on this will follow a bit later, when the proposals of how we will present us in the future will be made.
- Many of the current projects go hand in hand with the database. When one takes a look into the link list and the "News & Events" section, one can realize, that there is not much. As a matter of fact, they will be rebuild regarding their content. Elisabeth takes the responsibility for this. She

provided us with a very developed categorization for the link section and she also collected and provided lots of links. For the links, one can best realize, that a database is absolutely necessary, since many links fit into more than one categorization.

- Also, Elisabeth takes care of the news and looks, together with Geneviève, for upcoming events. At this point another call: When you have interesting links, turn them over to us! What may be possible for a huge amount of data is an editorial board consisting of Elisabeth and myself to check the quality of each link we receive and make a decision if we post it or not. This will take place once a month.
- We would like to present not only external resources and information (by the use of links) but also our own. As Christian has proposed some time ago, we might present ethnohistorical sources he has compiled in our own archives. Sven currently works with him to find solutions of how we can embed them and in which format. The best solution will be a simple list, sorted by authors with short (no more than ten sentences) biographies of them. The documents would not be available in total but can be looked through by a keyword search. All search results will be displayed in a short excerpt showing the context together with the page number. As Christian informed me, we may also get the materials from David Bolles for our own purposes.
- Geneviève collects more information for the "Who's who" section for the non-individual categories and Elisabeth provided her list of museums she made for Nikolai's book for the Könemann publishers which consists of about 150 entries all over the world. If possible, Internet links will be added. This will be a big step forward. And here again, a database is indispensable in respect for such a huge amount of data.

Our aim is to make the Wayeb website a comprehensive platform for research, not only by a qualitative link list but also by our own data in the form of archives, news on events, etc. We must keep in mind that the website is perhaps the most powerful tool in presenting us to the public!

§3

Proposals for the website

Based on the work we made and we are currently making, we would like to present the following proposals for the website beside the to be established general structure already available in the Baytaah section for download:

§3(1) In connection with current projects of §2

- Database search engine: Whatever may be searched, we should leave the option to display ALL data.
- News: Display the newest ones as it is now, display a search mask for the older ones which are being indexed by date und features.
- Resources: Replace "Internet" by "Wayeb Resources". There is no need for tutorials etc.
- Resources: We can leave "Bibliography" as it is with a short list of the most prominent literature, but integrate "Publications" and "Bookstores" into the main link section. But we shall leave a separate "Bookstore" section for those, who are not present in the internet. The "Collections" entry should also work with the database but be integrated into "Wayeb Resources". And we might crosslink the "Collections" with the museum entries from the "Who's who" section, so that the data are accessible from both pages.
- Resources: The output of the links should be very short, giving the title of the site as the link with only a small and short (in contrast to now) explanatory text with a maximum of two short sentences with the most important features of the site. Beside this one (or more, if necessary) small flags may indicate the main language(s) of the site. We shall also add a general note that we take no responsibility for the contents of the linked page to have a base in a legal sense.
- Who's who: Leave the division as it is now, display of all search masks within the same page.
- Resources: The section "Wayeb Resources" should contain our own material. With Christian's texts we have a start, but I can also imagine the following: Erik's glyph dictionary, also he wanted to post it on Mesoweb, one or two good calendar programs (most are freeware), perhaps

an online, a Java-Script based calendar calculator (I have a source code for a Maya LC – Gregorian program, which is a base for further development); Christian also has a list of all Peabody Museum photo negative numbers with a description, a bibliographical database concerning epigraphy (the readings of glyphs and the appropriate literature: who has deciphered what?), etc. We have to see, like with the Who's who section, how people react to this project and what they might contribute.

§3(2) What we can do else (leaving for discussion)

- Entire site: May we add a site-internal search engine? How can it work, by our own or should we use an independent service?
- Entire site: We have to make the right-side menus "flow" when the page is scrolled up and down. When there's a long text and the menu still is at the top, it's a nerve-racking thing to scroll back. The proposed solution can be made using Java-script. We then also have to think about the position of the Amazon.com banner.
- Entire site: We could program a screen-resolution depending layout for the site using Java-Script instead having one with fixed borders. On resolutions bigger than 800 x 600, the main text section will get broader and lets the white gap on the right edge disappear.
- Wayeb main page: Should we set up an online form for the registration? Regarding to Rogelio the database would ensure a secure transmission so we would not need an extra SSL-server. We can also make the payment of the membership fees online.
- Wayeb main page: We may add a counter to see whether how many different people have visited the page or how often the website has been accessed. We would do this when we feel that it is very frequently visited.
- Who's who: We may add an obituary for all deceased Mayanists since, let's say, 1990. This, depending on the amount of data, may also work with the database. We also may cooperate with Berthold Riese's biographical archive.
- Wayeberos: Every member with a special function as well as every working group or board should receive its own Wayeb-email-adress (e.g. lefort@wayeb.org, news@wayeb.org)
- Wayeb main page: We could add a photo of every person who is listed under the points "Wayeb Staff" and "Contact Persons" so that users may get an idea of who is behind this.