Portal and Proposal Submission

Review of SSS Software Readiness for SRO, June 5, 2009



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Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array Expanded Very Large Array Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope Very Long Baseline Array





- Authenticate users, so that they can gain access to proprietary data (proposals, schedules, archival data)
- Authorize users with different roles to allow access to administrative capabilities
- Facilitate single sign-on

Main components of the portal:

- User database
- Profile management
- Connection to main subsystems (PST, OPT, AAT, CASA)

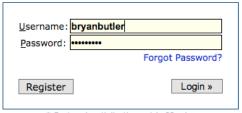


- Developed in Socorro by EVLA software personnel first used operationally in spring 2005
- Turned over to NRAO Office of E2E Operations (OEO) in June 2007
- Contracted out to OpenSky software
- Hosted at http://my.nrao.edu
- Provides links to proposals (PST) and archival data (AAT); working on providing access to schedules (OPT)





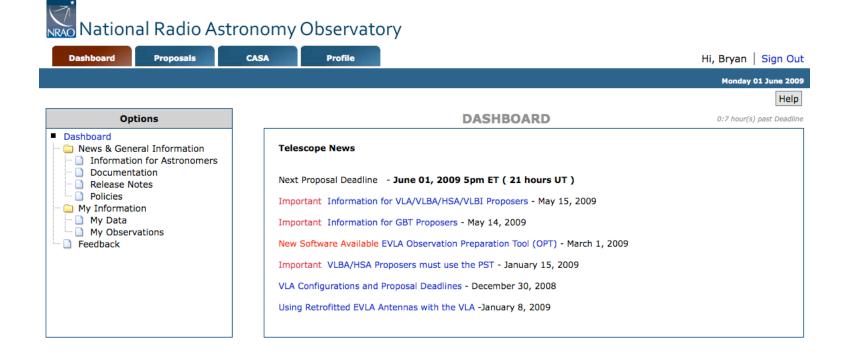
Monday 01 June 2009



* System inactivity timeout is 60 mins









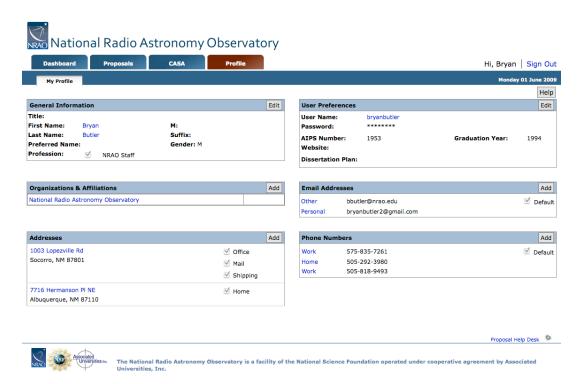
Proposal Help Desk 🌋





Profile Management

Allows users to manage their information, including password, email, snail-mail, phone, etc.





Authentication

We have chosen CAS (Central Authentication Service) for authentication - http://www.jasig.org/cas

- Industry standard
- Lightweight
- Open source
- Supports single sign-on (uses tickets and redirects)
- Supports many clients (Apache, Perl and Python, Zope, Ruby on Rails)
- OpenSky agreed to implement it



Authorization

We allow access to different roles within the various tools by defining "groups" within the user database. When users are authenticated and their information passed to a tool, their groups are passed as well, allowing each tool to then define their own roles, which are easily extensible within the system.



Portal - SRO Support

There are no changes necessary to the portal to support SRO observing - those changes that were needed have been implemented in the past few months (notably the CAS authentication).



Proposal Submission

- Developed in Socorro by EVLA software personnel, but in consultation with Greenbank; supported both VLA and GBT proposals beginning June 2005
- Turned over to NRAO Office of E2E Operations (OEO) in June 2007
- Contracted out to OpenSky software
- Since then, support for VLBA also added



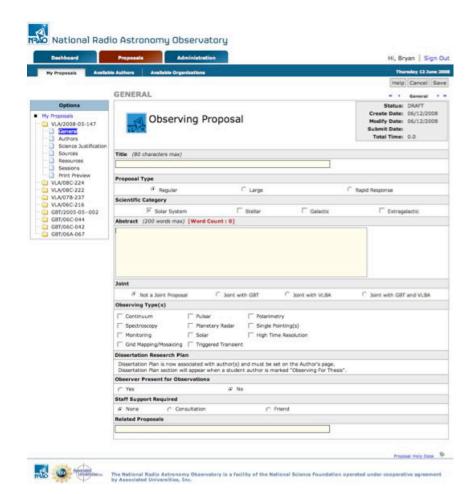
Proposal Submission

Key components:

- Proposal editing
 - Cover page
 - Sources
 - Resources
 - Sessions
- User proposal management
 - Create, delete, copy, validate, print, submit
- Staff proposal management (handling tools)



Proposal Submission





PST - SRO Support

There is one manadatory change to the PST for OSRO observing:

OSRO WIDAR capabilities in the Resources

There is an optional change which will make our job much easier in pre-populating the initial schedules in the OPT:

• Export of proposals in a well-defined format

For RSRO we need a change to allow for two extra pages in the description (for budget and personnel, and WIDAR description, which will not be in the Resources), and then the ability to have a placeholder WIDAR Resource.