

Roadblock: Communication

- Example of problem (apocryphal)
 - Grad student wants to set up PHP web server
 - Didn't know who to ask, heard through grapevine not allowed at SLAC
 - Not easily daunted, found PC under table in physics lab on campus
 - » Set up critical experiment infrastructure there
 - Problems
 - We end up supporting (possibly insecure, unreliable server)
 - We lost opportunity to teach and learn from student
 - Probably many “servers under desks” at SLAC
- Communication at SLAC used to be much better
 - Harder now we have a multidisciplinary lab
 - But more important than ever

Roadblock: Communication

- Role of (IT, Sci comp) Subcouncils
 - This workshop has been very good start
- Should work to improve peer-to-peer communication
 - Less time on org charts and budget codes
 - Encourage development of lab wide collaboration
 - Identify tools, services which require central support
 - Suggestions
 - Advertise agendas widely in advance
 - Open invitation for users to submit agenda items
 - Open invitation for “Subject Matter Experts” to attend meetings
 - Hold “open meetings” from time to time to solicit input, discussion

Roadblock: Communication

- Suggestion for everyone:
 - Use new forum at
 - <https://forum.slac.stanford.edu/>
 - Catch 22:
 - No motivation for people to use forum unless it has interesting content
 - No interesting content unless people use the forum
 - Encourage you to ask questions, share opinions, send feedback etc.