

Technologies of Humanism: Text, Hypertext, Hyperrealities

21L.708, CMS.910

Assignment 1:

- 1) Read Vannevar Bush's "As we may think" in the Atlantic Monthly, July 1945. On-line version can be found at:
<http://www.csi.uottawa.ca/~dduchier/misc/vbush/awmt.html>

Write a brief comment on Bush's article (ca. 1/2 page). You might also address the following aspects:

- Bush is considered the 'father' of hypertext although he did not coin the term. To what extent can we see his concept implemented in the WorldWideWeb that for many people defines their notion of hypertext? What are the differences?
- Compared to the WWW, which aspects in Bush's concept are more far reaching, where does he fall short?

Please post your comments to the Discussion Section of Server by one day before Class #2.

- 2) Read the excerpts from Alan Lightman's *Einstein's Dreams* (handout). Pick one of the texts and develop an initial idea for an implementation in a digital format. Please bring your ideas to class in Class #2.