

# Module 3-5

Views Part 3

# Don't Repeat Yourself!

- We can create common JSP components that can be reused by other JSP files as many times as needed.
  - Examples: Headers, Footers, Navigation Bars, etc.
- In the process of doing so, we can also pass parameters from the parent JSP to a JSP component.

# JSP Import Syntax

Here is a simple example of a JSP being imported within another JSP:

```
<c:import url="/WEB-INF/jsp/header.jsp">
```

```
  <c:param name="pageTitle" value="About Us" />
```

```
</c:import>
```

In this example, we have some parent JSP that is importing in a JSP file called “header.jsp” and passing in a parameter called “pageTitle.”

Trying this out...

## <c:url> Tag

The <c:url/> tag is responsible for facilitating the storage of a URL into a variable and rewriting it to include the application name in its path. Consider the following example:

```
<c:url value="/aboutUs" var="aboutUsURL" />

<nav>
    <ul>
        <li><a href="{aboutUsURL}">About Us</a></li>
        <li><a href="/aboutUs">About Us</a></li>
    </ul>
</nav>
```

The 2 URL's above do not take the user to the same location!

# <c:url> Tag

```
<c:url value="/aboutUs" var="aboutUsURL" />
```

```
<nav>
```

```
<ul>
```

```
<li><a href="${aboutUsURL}">About Us</a></li>
```

```
<li><a href="/aboutUs">About Us</a></li>
```

```
</ul>
```

```
</nav>
```

<http://localhost:8080/aboutUs>

<http://localhost:8080/m3-java-mvc-views-part3-lecture/aboutUs>

In the context of Spring Applications we'll be working with in class, "rewriting" means that anything processed by c:url will have the application name attached in front of it.

**We always want to run any sort of String referencing a location in storage through <c:url>!**

Examples of these: images, anchors that take us to different endpoints.

## <c:url> Tag

The <c:url/> tag can be used in conjunction with the <param> tag to create URL's with pre-populated parameters. Consider the following example, where 2 parameters have been attached to the <c:url> tag:

```
<c:url value="/stats" var="statsPage">
  <c:param name="minValue" value="1"/>
  <c:param name="maxValue" value="100"/>
</c:url>

<div id="content">

  <c:url value="/aboutUs" var="aboutUsURL" />
  <a href="${statsPage}">Statistics</a>
```

The following URL is rendered for the “Statistics” link above:

<http://localhost:8080/m3-java-mvc-views-part3-lecture/stats?minValue=1&maxValue=100>

Demo of `<c:url>` in action