My proposal for an email management system involves the visualization of messages sent and received from contacts. The emails are represented by colored circles, red for received messages, and green for sent messages. The messages are arranged so that messages are next to any responses. This would allow for rapidly determining the flow of communication between the sender and recipient. Large numbers of messages received, but not responded to could indicate that the contact is an auto mailer, spammer, or other regularly received update news. Contacts with nearly equal send and receive rates are easily visible and could indicate friendship, family connection, or coworker.

Additionally different color encodings could be used. Perhaps messages determined to be rude, or flames could flash. Lively conversations would be visible as longer chains of messages with nearly equal numbers of sends and receives.

Allowing the user to pull back and see a full view of all information on all contacts at once would give an idea of the average communication flow.