Welcome, we're so glad you're here

- The discussion today is not being recorded and the chat log will not be available after the call.
- Notes will be available on the meeting wiki page. The link will be provided in the chat.
- We have enabled an anonymous chat feature for this conversation. The link will be in the chat.
- Please don't quote, tweet or share others' comments without their permission.
- We seek to provide a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community experience for everyone and adhere to Code4Lib's CodeofConduct4Lib. The full text of the code of conduct is available at: http://bit.ly/coc4lib.

June 24, 2020 – Open Call

ArchivesSpace
a community served by ✦LYRASIS

What we will do in this discussion

- Actively and respectfully listen to one another's thoughts, concerns and ideas.
- Explore how ArchivesSpace can support and amplify those that document and empower individuals, organizations and communities that work to make the world a more inclusive place, and be more inclusive ourselves.
- Discuss ideas presented during this call and the ideas previously submitted by the program team and the community via Google Doc (the link to the doc is in the meeting wiki page).
- Determine next steps to move this conversation into action.

What we won't do in this discussion

- We won't solve anything today.
- We won't make any decisions today.
- We won't:
  - Troubleshoot individual implementations of ArchivesSpace.
  - Discuss desired ArchivesSpace features that are not explicitly related to supporting efforts around antiracism and inclusion or how ArchivesSpace can be more inclusive. (You can always submit a feature request via JIRA)

If you are here because you are interested in ArchivesSpace or deciding if ArchivesSpace is right for your organization's needs in general, please email us at ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org.

Things to keep in mind

- The ArchivesSpace member community includes over 400 different archives that serve many different communities.
- Our members range from entirely volunteer-run non-profit organizations to some of the largest academic archives in the world.
- Our community can only be made stronger and richer by drawing in more viewpoints.
- This conversation may feel uncomfortable - this is okay.
- You don't have to be speaking to be participating.
- Not every idea discussed today will be implemented and these are not the only ideas that will be up for consideration as we move forward. You are always welcome to contact us later on when you have ideas.

Discussion

Some overall discussion questions

How can ArchivesSpace support and amplify those that document and empower individuals, organizations and communities that work to make the world a more inclusive place?

How can ArchivesSpace itself be more inclusive?

Ideas Related to the ArchivesSpace Program and Community

Some questions to consider:

How can the ArchivesSpace program and community amplify and support the work of groups, organizations and individuals combatting structural racism and fostering greater inclusion across society? Are there groups or organizations that you are part of, work with, or see as underrepresented in our community specifically or archives overall that you would like to be better represented in the ArchivesSpace member community?

Submitted ideas:

- Subsidize membership for some grassroots organizations, community archives, tribal archives, and HBCUs.

- Subsidize or offer assistance with self-hosted or hosted ArchivesSpace installations for some grassroots organizations, community archives, tribal archives, HBCUs and HSIs.

- Explore an alternative business/hosting model where Lone Arrangers/low budget shops can use a cloud-based centralized database to create and host their finding aids. Maybe a free version which can enable up to 5 finding aids to be uploaded, and incrementally pay for use/storage? This way, they can focus on content and not nuts-and-bolts of maintaining the database.

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Submitted ideas:

- Develop a training toolkit for grassroots organizations, community archives, and tribal archives that want to use ArchivesSpace, or those that want to help them do so.
- Regularly spotlight the work our members do in their communities. We could start with a monthly feature in our updates and on our blog/Twitter channels.

- Work with organizations and groups that help others understand ethical collecting and archival description to identify best practices for using (or not using) ArchivesSpace and related barriers in the application.

- Remove barriers to accessing User Documentation and provide greater diversity in the examples used in documentation.

Ideas Related to the ArchivesSpace Application

Some questions to consider:

Are there assumptions about how work is done built into the ArchivesSpace application that present barriers and unconscious biases? Is there language in the ArchivesSpace application that is not inclusive? Are there additions or changes to the database schema or integrations or interactions with other applications that would foster greater inclusivity?

Submitted ideas:

- Convene a working group to examine unconscious bias and barriers to entry in the ArchivesSpace application, particularly related to language and privacy.

- Provide a mechanism to allow users to submit a correction/edit to a finding aid or annotate finding aids. (Page 6 from this guide: https://archivesforblacklives.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/ardr_final.pdf)

- Allow for right-to-left (RTL) scripts, ideally bi-directional text.

- Eliminate coding terminology that echoes racist language such as "master" and "blacklist/whitelist".

Ideas Related to the ArchivesSpace Application

Some questions to consider:

Are there assumptions about how work is built into the ArchivesSpace application that present barriers and unconscious biases? Is there language in the ArchivesSpace application that is not inclusive? Are there additions or changes to the database schema or integrations or interactions with other applications that would foster greater inclusivity?

Submitted ideas:

- Enable the use of Traditional Knowledge (TK) labels on indigenous cultural heritage materials. https://localcontexts.org/tk-labels/

- Explore ways to better support integration with Mukurtu (https://mukurtu.org/) for those organizations using both Mukurtu and ArchivesSpace or needing to exchange data with other organizations that use one or the other.

- Provide mechanisms to better support non-LCSH authority term imports.

- Provide guidance on which fields to use for disclaimers on material containing racist, sexist, and offensive language or content.

Ideas Related to ArchivesSpace Governance

Questions to consider:

How can ArchivesSpace improve representation on our Governance Board, User Advisory Council and Technical Advisory Council?

Submitted ideas:

- Have representation from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions on the Governance Board or create a slot on the Governance Board for a representative from HBCUs/HSIs.

- Provide one-on-one mentoring to potential and new Governance Board representatives to provide more support and/or a longer runway to service.

Next Steps?

The program team will develop and disseminate a survey that allows users to anonymously submit feedback (but not rank or vote) on these ideas.

Contact us at
ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org