ArchivesSpace Technology and Development Roadmap Narrative
January 20, 2017

The ArchivesSpace team is pleased to share the draft **Technology and Development Roadmap** with the community. This roadmap is a planning and communication tool to help the community know what to expect in terms of future development work and aid in planning for upcoming releases and application upgrades.

Background
In an effort to create and distribute a draft to the community quickly, a small representative group was formed to create the initial roadmap. The group consisted of: Jason Loeffler (Chair, Prioritization Subteam), James Bullen (Hudson Molonglo), Mark Cooper (LYRASIS Digital Technology Services) and Laurie Gemmill Arp (LYRASIS/ArchivesSpace). The roadmap has also benefited by the comments from Sally Vermaaten (Technical Advisory Council Chair), Gordon Daines (User Advisory Council Chair) and Christine Di Bella (LYRASIS/ArchivesSpace). The Technical Advisory Council and User Advisory Council members have also contributed helpful suggestions. Thanks to all of them for their contributions.

Though we are releasing this draft now, the new Program Manager, Christine Di Bella, and Technical Lead, Laney McGlohon, will also contribute their thoughts as they relate to both the content and the processes for soliciting and evaluating community input once they ramp up in their new positions.

The roadmap is a living document that will continue to be updated regularly. By its nature, the roadmap has more detail in the near term but more tentative information about improvements planned farther out. Details about each release will be clearer closer to each release date. The roadmap will be available on the ArchivesSpace wiki at https://archivesspace.atlassian.net/wiki/display/ADC/Road+Map and updated there as plans coalesce and progress is made.

Roadmap Scope
The roadmap aims to cover all major additions and changes to the core software, whether delivered by development partner Hudson Molonglo (HM), or contributed by organizations and individuals in the community. For example, the Public User Interface (PUI) Development Work is largely funded and administered through the joint efforts of Harvard and Yale Universities with contributors from a host of other institutions. If you or your organization is considering contributing a significant piece of functionality to ArchivesSpace and that functionality is not already represented on the draft roadmap, please let us know.

Initial Priorities and Timing
Hudson Molonglo (HM) has conducted a thorough review of the ArchivesSpace code. HM has determined that our initial short term development needs to focus on improving core functionality and updating application technologies such as interface frameworks and indexers. Upgrading to Rails 5 and other refactoring efforts will move the core software forward, as well as improve stability and performance for users. Once this "technical debt" is paid down, we will have a strong foundation on

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which to build new functionality. During this time, HM will continue to make incremental progress in other areas such as bug fixes, accepting pull requests and minor feature enhancements.

Prioritization of New Major Functionality in Design and Planning Phases
In addition to smaller-scale features and bug fixes, the 2016 prioritization survey and community discussion on the Users Group listserv have indicated there is strong interest in several significant enhancements to ArchivesSpace functionality. We are working with HM and the various community groups that have formed to create requirements in order to better understand the resources required to implement each. These major feature enhancements include:
- Rights Management
- Reports builder/customization
- OAI-PMH
- EAC-CPF (Agents refactoring)
- EAD3 support

Once we assess the resources required to implement each of these, we will work with the community to prioritize their implementation and project the timing for them to be incorporated into the application.

Release Timing
As you can see in the attached Roadmap, you can expect major releases of ArchivesSpace in March 2017 and June 2017. We also want to continue to deliver new features, bug fixes and other improvements with monthly minor releases.

Some have expressed concerns with the need to plan for and engage IT resources for multiple releases within a year. Remember that ArchivesSpace releases are cumulative; you do not need to install each release as it comes out in order to install the latest version. If you are limited in IT resources or need to work with your IT staff to implement a release, you can view the planned features and bug fixes for each release to determine which releases you want to implement.

Please feel free to share your feedback with us at ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org.

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