

# Welcome, we're so glad you're here

- Information about today's discussion sessions is available on the ArchivesSpace Annual Forum wiki at <https://tinyurl.com/y4corugv>
- 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: <https://tinyurl.com/rbj5fc5>

August 4, 2020  
ArchivesSpace Annual Forum Discussion



**ArchivesSpace**  
a community served by ✦ LYRASIS



# The purpose of these discussions

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

Identify ways ArchivesSpace itself be more inclusive.

Use the feedback provided by the community to guide decisions about next steps.





## What we've done so far

- Solicited feedback via Google Doc throughout the month of June.
- Held an open call on June 24, 2020, on how ArchivesSpace can support and amplify efforts around antiracism and inclusion.
- Drafted a feedback form based on the comments provided via the doc and open discussion. This will be available immediately following this discussion. Anyone - member or not - is welcome to submit feedback.
- Some small steps we've taken already
  - Added language to our Nominating Committee solicitations more explicitly welcoming BIPOC to apply/be nominated
  - Converted our exhibitor registration for the SAA Annual Meeting to financial support for registrations for those who would not otherwise be able to attend





## Next steps

1. Solicit structured feedback from all ArchivesSpace users and members of the wider community via feedback form.
2. Use this feedback to:
  - a. Make actionable plans
  - b. Create community-wide initiatives and working groups
  - c. Consider priorities for plans and initiatives
  - d. Particularly for efforts that require larger coordination and resources, support proposals presented to the ArchivesSpace Governance Board





# Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace program and community

- Subsidize membership for some grassroots organizations, community archives, tribal archives, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs).
- Subsidize or offer assistance with self-hosted or hosted ArchivesSpace installations for some grassroots organizations, community archives, tribal archives, HBCUs and HSIs.
- Explore the creation of a cloud-based centralized ArchivesSpace or consider consortial membership to allow grassroots organizations, community archives, tribal archives, HBCUs, HSIs and other less resourced organizations to share financial and infrastructure commitments.
- Provide greater diversity in the examples used in user documentation.





# Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace program and community

- Develop a training toolkit for grassroots organizations, community archives, and tribal archives that want to use ArchivesSpace, or develop an infrastructure for community members to create and disseminate resources to assist grassroots organizations, community archives, and tribal archives.
- 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.
- Regularly spotlight the work our members do in their communities, via mechanisms such as features in our monthly updates and posts on our blog/Twitter.
- Other ideas?





# Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace application

- Convene a working group to examine unconscious bias and barriers to entry in the ArchivesSpace application, particularly related to language and privacy.
- Convene a working group to develop a thesaurus or glossary and create examples of antiracist descriptive practice.
- Develop a scaffolding or infrastructure to make redescription work or antiracist description work easier within ArchivesSpace.
- Explicitly acknowledge in the application that there is inherent bias in the application and make it clear which who can access records and fields in ArchivesSpace and how.





# Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace application

- Allow for versioning of all record types in ArchivesSpace to document the changes made when doing redescription work and a way to provide the context for why the change was made.
- Create a mechanism to provide trigger or content warnings at both the resource and archival object level.
- Provide a mechanism to allow users to submit a correction/edit to a finding aid or annotate finding aids. See page 6 from this guide:  
[https://archivesforblacklives.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/ardr\\_final.pdf](https://archivesforblacklives.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/ardr_final.pdf)
- Provide better support for right-to-left (RTL) scripts, ideally bi-directional text.







# Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace application

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





## Proposals received so far related to the ArchivesSpace application

- Add fields for variant terms and a function that allows us to make the variant term the local display term when the LCSH term is deemed harmful.
- Provide guidance on which fields to use for disclaimers on material containing racist, sexist, and offensive language or content.
- Other ideas?





## Proposals received so far related to ArchivesSpace governance

- Have representation from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions on the Governance Board or create specific seat 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.
- Other ideas?





# Other thoughts?

Feedback form available at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NQWT6JQ>

(deadline to respond: August 28)

Notes from the June 24 open call at <https://tinyurl.com/y2e5guwd>

Google Doc circulated prior to June 24 open call at <https://tinyurl.com/yy56subv>

Contact us at [ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org](mailto:ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org)

