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Candidate for ArchivesSpace Governance Board - Small Member Representative

I am excited to be a candidate for small member institution representative on the ArchivesSpace Governance Board. It is a tremendous opportunity to work with colleagues on shaping an application that is advancing our profession in anticipated and unanticipated ways.

During my education and training, I had experiences which showed me the societal significance both of archives, and of those who care for them. While earning my MLS with a concentration in Archives and Records Management from UNC-Chapel Hill, I worked as a para-professional at North Carolina State University using Archivist Toolkit in processing collections.

I also became actively involved in the profession at that time by serving on the Board of the Society of North Carolina Archivists as Chair of the Membership Committee (Spring 2009-November 2012). I have continued my commitment to professional organizations through my active participation in MARAC, where I have been a committee member, candidate for office, semi-annual meeting session coordinator, and [article](#) author. I believe in greater professionalism for archivists and am studying for the Certified Archivist examination.

I began my professional career in my current position at W&L's Leyburn Library. Upon my arrival, the department was using disparate and unconnected tools -- from a card catalog to a variety of electronic programs -- in a vain attempt at establishing intellectual control of its large holdings, and in making them easily discoverable and usable to researchers.

Assigned to righting this situation, one of the first decisions I made was to implement ArchivesSpace. I believe that a single, open-source system for archival management is the way forward for us as a profession. Based on my experience during the last three years, I think that the majority of smaller institutions need ArchivesSpace as much as larger ones. Indeed, with larger institutions lending a hand to smaller ones, whether unilaterally or consortially, all institutions can benefit from using this tool.

I have led our phased implementation over the last three years, including decision making about the front-end and back-end; project management of data migration; collection inventorying and training; and oversight of staff and student workers. I have come to appreciate the staff constraints and technical barriers that can cause fear of ArchivesSpace implementation in smaller institutions. I would bring to the Governance Board this perspective that would inform my representation of, and advocacy for, smaller institutions in their implementation and use of ArchivesSpace.