

by Alice Prael a year ago

MPLP Archival Processing | #critlib | 11/14/2016

Critlib on More Product, Less Process and Archival Processing - Tuesday, November 14, 2016 - Readings and definitions available here critlib.org/mplp-archival-processing/

Intros



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Hi all & welcome to today's #critlib chat on MPLP & archival processing. If you're new to MPLP brief overview is here: critlib.org/mplp-archival-...



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Let's get started with some intros! #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

I'm Alice Prael, Digital Accessioning Archivist @ Beinecke Library and I'll be moderating today's #critlib chat



A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

I'm Greg and I'm a faculty librarian at @TheLWTech @learningcommons. I only have minimum experience working with archives. #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Looks like it might be a pretty quiet #critlib today.



A YEAR AGO



dev dog

@devonproudfoot

Hi I am Devon, a Project archivist at the Bentley in Ann Arbor, Michigan! I am excited to join in the discussion! #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Tod Robbins

@todrobbins

I'm Tod and I'm the digital asset manager/archivist @boncomslc I've worn so many hats over the years, but yay corporate archives! #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael

@AlicePrael

I'm going to start w/ the Qs but please feel free to keep up with introductions :) #critlib



A YEAR AGO

Q1. What has your experience been with MPLP? How do you determine *sufficient* description and *adequate* arrangement for collections?



Alice Prael

@AlicePrael

Q1-What has your experience been with MPLP? How do you determine 'sufficient' description & 'adequate' arrangement for collections? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



lurklearn

@nancyeadams

@bembrarian @zinelib readings for #critlib?



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael

@AlicePrael

Also, please remember to include the Q# in your answer, thanks! #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Tod Robbins
@todrobbins

@bembrarian @boncomslc more or less: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_a...](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_archive) it rides the line of digital collections and records management #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Q1 Currently working w a grad student on processing an archive for the first time. We're using this manual: clir.pacscl.org/wp-content/upl... #critlib [twitter.com/AlicePrael/sta...](https://twitter.com/AlicePrael/status...)

A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

A1. As a digital archivist, most of my exp. w/ MPLP is thru automating archival processing on born digital collections #critlib

A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

I only learned of MPLP since I started grad school (had 1 archives job before then) but since then have used in various forms #critlib

A YEAR AGO



lurklearn
@nancyeadams

@bembrarian @zinelib sorry I don't think this link came through with #critlib readings when sent before [twitter.com/nadirahff/stat...](https://twitter.com/nadirahff/status...)

A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

(A1b, sorry!) I've had no prior experience to MPLP but think it's really important in an age of info overload. #critlib [twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/bembrarian/status...)

A YEAR AGO



Tod Robbins
@todrobbins


.@AlicePrael what kinds of automation in the processing? I'm very curious. #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

A1 Arrangement w/ digital is kinda weird cuz you can re-arrange more easily, but the level of processing depends on our expectations #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael


/of whats in the coll., but since the donors don't always know whats there it's hard for us to know what level of processing to do #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Dana
@theaudiosignal

We used AV MPLP to get through our 50-year backlog before moving material offsite. Trusted labels, for better or for worse #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian


@AlicePrael Interested in what those expectations are. Also, what's taken for granted in digital age? What is default? #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael


@todrobbins We do basic scans for personal info thru FTK, create file manifests and trusting the file names from the creator #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael


@bembrarian What we expect is in the coll. e.g email probably has lots of personal info, Microsoft paint doodles are prob safer #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

A1 - the Bentley has incorporated MPLP into its processing manual but it really depends on the collection material #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

@devonproudfoot isn't the point of MPLP that it always depends on the collection and researcher need? #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Anastasia
@chiuchiutrain


Hi #critlib, late to the discussion, mostly here to lurk. I'm Anastasia, just finished a residency rotation in special collections.

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Moving onto Q2, but please feel free to keep discussing Q1 #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

A1 I've worked at places that do extensible processing and places that don't -- it feels a lot better to not have a backlog #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

A1 Probably more important, it's easier to keep good relationships with donors and patrons w/ no backlog #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

Q1: We use MPLP on all incoming collections, because we already have the mother of all backlogs and don't want more. #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

A1. The original MPLP article came out while I was in grad school, so it's always been part of my practice #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

A1.2 Even when doing "full" processing (which is very rare), it's a conscious decision, so I'm always "doing" MPLP #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

A1.3 It always feels strange when ppl say "We do MPLP sometimes." You either make decisions about levels of processing or you don't #critlib



A YEAR AGO

Q2. How does MPLP affect access and accessibility of material?



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Q2 How does MPLP affect access to and accessibility of material? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Tod Robbins
@todrobbins

.@AlicePrael are you running @BitCurator in addition to FTK for this workflow? #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

A2. Seems like working through materials faster will limit how thorough descriptions are, but maybe there's something I'm missing. #critlib [twitter.com/AlicePrael/sta...](https://twitter.com/AlicePrael/status...)

A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

@todrobbins @BitCurator We use BC for some things but not PII scans because the Bulk Extractor output is more difficult to work w/ #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

Q2: tbh not sure most of our patrons notice the difference btw "normal" + MPLP processing, except that the folders aren't as neat? #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

IME, MPLP has sometimes been hijacked to mean "box-level" when really it means "use your brain and make hard choices" #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

@todrobbins @BitCurator If you're curious about the specifics all the docs for our workflow are public guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=300384... #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

In my practice, MPLP requires actually doing appraisal so you're not processing worthless records. #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Anastasia
@chiuchiutrain

A2 Does anyone find it kinda has the effect of limiting the resources you can put into critical description? #critlib

A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

@meau that is a very good way to put it! MPLP has suggestions for processing, but that doesn't mean it covers every case #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

A2-I worry that MPLP exchanges accessibility for access- i.e. you can request it, but how usable is it? #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

It also means that you have to treat your entry-level employees as pros, teach them to exercise the golden minimum #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

MPLP is almost impossible in shops that don't invest in the professional development of their staffs. #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

[@chiuchiutrain](#) Now this is interesting! How do you define critical description? [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

A2 - IMO the added access MPLP affords to otherwise dark backlogs far outweighs loss of detail on a few collections [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Anjanette
@flanjanette

[@AlicePrael](#) right. And mplp in theory is different from how people do it in practice. [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

A2 - This is something I don't really have a good answer to yet, but I try to keep it in mind during processing [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO

Q3. How does MPLP affect privacy issues? Does MPLP lead to increased risk?



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Q3. How does MPLP affect privacy issues? – does MPLP lead to increased risk? [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

It's easier to sort and pull paperclips and make lists than it is to describe aggregations and historical contexts. MPLP Is hard [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

[@chiuchiutrain](#) I've had to make arguments & justify effort, but no, I don't find MPLP limits resources when they're really needed [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Anastasia

@chiuchiutrain

[@bembrarian](#) Oversimplifying, but full description, I suppose? As 1st-time processor, process helped me understand the coll. more. [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Carrie Hintz

@CarrieElise

A3: This isn't an MPLP issue for me, it's a donor relations issue [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael

@AlicePrael

A3 Indexing makes privacy less of a problem for digital, but I worry about putting content online w/total trust in the PII scan [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Maureen

@meau

A4 As described in the article, it requires more from curators to anticipate privacy problems before they come up [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

[@meau](#) Yes! Box and folder lists, lacking aggregate description and context, is a mis-application of MPLP [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

You have to TALK THIS THROUGH with donors. They have to be told that they need to ID sensitive records. #critlib

A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

A3 - PII scans make it easier to catch personal information in digital records, but it is more difficult to cover in paper material #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Carrie Hintz
@CarrieElise

@CarrieElise And MPLP provides vocabulary/theoretical framework to talk to donors about what you do and don't do during processing #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

It's such malpractice to let donors send whatever they want and hope an entry-level archivist will comb through and catch problems. #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

@meau but with physical media they can't look thru the content and it's old enough they can't remember whats on that floppy disk #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

A3. The presence of restricted materials is a totally legit reason to put more time into processing a collection -- and that's MPLP #critlib

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

.@AlicePrael it's possible to look through electronic media before taking custody. Or provisional ownership before appraisal #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Dana
@theaudiosignal

Same question goes for Wisconsin info workers, #critlib! [twitter.com/captain_maybe/...](https://twitter.com/captain_maybe/)



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

@AlicePrael If donor can't give some idea of what is likely on a disk, or what was context of creation, may not be worth collecting #critlib



A YEAR AGO

Q4. How does MPLP affect the work required from other staff - such as access services and digitization staff?



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Q4. How does MPLP affect the work required from other staff (such as access services and digitization staff)? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

Q4: One thing we've been working through is how NOT to do item-level description for digitized stuff. #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson
@save4use

@AlicePrael We shouldn't forget to appraise just because it's digital. It still takes effort to process & considering that is MPLP #critlib



A YEAR AGO



angry online
@brinepond

i wish i could chime in w/ [#critlib](#) but my boss went to an MPLP workshop and i screamed b/c i've been pushing that for YEARS JESUS



A YEAR AGO



angry online
@brinepond

i could have explained MPLP to her, but she didn't trust me I GUESS [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

[@chiuchiutrain](#) [@bembrarian](#) I think you can do careful and complete description without over-arranging everything. [#critlib](#) 1/2



A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

[@chiuchiutrain](#) [@bembrarian](#) In fact I'd argue that we should increase resources for description over arrangement and rehousing. [#critlib](#) 2/2



A YEAR AGO

Q5. What do we lose with MPLP? What do we gain? How can we balance MPLP with traditional processing?



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Q5. What do we lose with MPLP? What do we gain? How can we balance MPLP with traditional processing? [#critlib](#)



A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

Q5: We lose our backlogs. 😊 We gain the ability to think critically about what resources we apply to what parts of processing. [#critlib](#)




A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael


A5 About an hour ago I thought of MPLP and Traditional Processing as two ends of a spectrum, but now I think of MPLP more as 1/2 #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild

@chiuchiutrain @bembrarian Time difference btw scanning the collection for content vs. full re-folding/re-arranging is huge, imo. #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot


A5 - I don't think it is as much of a balance. MPLP allows the processor to decide what attention the collection needs! #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Smack of jellyfish
@lemurchild


@chiuchiutrain @bembrarian For parts of some collections, sure, full arrangement is valuable +adds a lot. But for most, not really. #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Carrie Hintz
@CarrieElise

A5: We gain control of how we choose to spend our time and resources #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

A5 an effective & resource conscious way of applying traditional processing, considering collection and researcher needs 1st 2/2 #critlib

 A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

A5 With MPLP, we lose one-size-fits-all, easy answers, but we gain the ability to use judgment and resources appropriately #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Maureen

@meau

Also just putting this out there. Arrangement is, at best, a waste of time and at worst erases context of creation. #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

@meau OK, gonna take you up on this one ... wait, should we offer to debate this in front of a crowd at #SAA17? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

@meau what about arrangement that is basically re-establishing original order? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael

@AlicePrael

We're nearing the end of our hour but please keep up the convo. Thanks to everyone for participating in today's MPLP #critlib chat!



A YEAR AGO



Christie Peterson

@save4use

@meau what about arrangement that consists of grouping unorganized materials into clusters of like things for group description? #critlib



A YEAR AGO



Alice Prael
@AlicePrael

Storify will be up soon & be sure to tune in next Tuesday@ 9 pm eastern for [#critlib](#) in the Trump Administration

A YEAR AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Thanks to great facilitation from [@AlicePrael](#) during this week's [#critlib](#)!
[twitter.com/AlicePrael/sta...](https://twitter.com/AlicePrael/status...)

A YEAR AGO



dev dog
@devonproudfoot

Interesting chat today! It is great to hear from others and try to be able to explain my own views. I still have a lot to learn! [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

OH ALSO! If you want to know how to ACTUALLY implement MPLP, buy [@dsantam](#) 's book. It's smart & helpful worldcat.org/title/extensib... [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO



Maureen
@meau

Dudes, do what you need to do to serve something in the reading room. But that ain't archival description and barely prof work [#critlib](#)

A YEAR AGO