

Evaluating More Product Less Process: A Methodological Approach

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Abstract: Nearly seven years after Greene and Meissner published their seminal article entitled “More Product, Less Process: Revamping Traditional Archival Processing” there has yet to be any concrete empirical evidence regarding the implications of More Product Less Process (MPLP). What exist within the milieu of archival literature, however, are opinion pieces that take a theoretical stance (either for or against) and case studies that provide no reliable empirical evidence to support their claims that MPLP is having a positive impact on their institution. This gap in the literature can be attributed to the fact that the archival field lacks a widely accepted, systematic methodological framework for the evaluation of its programs. This paper explores how Collaborative Program Evaluation can be adapted and employed to measure the impact that the MPLP processing guidelines are having on institutions and enable archival institutions to collect reliable statistics about their programs to better serve their patrons.

About the author:

Chris Marino is currently a Project Archivist at the Art, Design & Architecture Museum at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She received her Masters of Library and Information Science degree with specialization in Archival Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles in Spring 2012. She holds a Bachelor’s degree from the University of California, San Diego in Ethnic Studies.