

Welcome to the ARMA NOVA Chapter Records Management: Not Just a Job – a Profession



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As your new President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of ARMA, I welcome you to our 2017-2018 program theme of “Records Management: Not Just a Job - a Profession.”

As a way of introducing myself, I would like to share my professional story. When I tell my story, you can probably guess the common reaction from the non-Records Management community, “How can anyone stay so long in such a boring profession?!”

Nearly 20 years ago, when I was working in a global high-tech firm, I started my career in Records Management.



Photo of my first ARMA Conference Badge from Oct 1997. People kept giving me pins from their chapters! Recognize any?

Well, I do admit to being a “technology geek” who also likes to be very organized. At the time, I was in Litigation Support and we needed a way to figure out where all the company’s records were. What started out as a simple project to develop a file plan turned into a career for me. As I dove into the many facets of Records Management, I found a profession that took me many places, gave me complex challenges as well as many opportunities for growth and development.

As a Records Manager, I traveled across the U.S., and into Singapore, Thailand, China, Indonesia and Malaysia to train employees. I developed U.S. and international record retention schedules. I assessed and implemented systems and technologies, consulted to Fortune 500 companies, cleaned up more warehouses than I want to admit (not so glamorous!) and networked with leaders of the information age.

embodies, I always knew a profession involving the management of information would be a reliable choice!

To be successful, I recognized the need to learn from others outside of my organization. In many of the places I have worked, there were few records management professionals to collaborate with; unlike programmers or accountants, we are a breed of our own. Education and networking through organizations like ARMA have been my “go-to” resources. As a member, I have valued not only access to relevant seminars or articles, but also the networking and ability to meet talented people with different perspectives and ideas.

As your new President, I want to continue to provide you with these same educational and networking opportunities.

This commitment is echoed by the ARMA NOVA Board, who have already been working hard to plan the year. We have an exciting program with fresh ideas. Our Board consists of talented information management professionals from government, consulting and commercial enterprises working together to address common challenges in the implementation of information governance and records management initiatives.

Given the explosion of information over the last 20 years in the way it is created, shared, and stored, and recognizing the risks and benefits that information



“VA” is Virginia's ARMA – as you can see, our Board is working hard and ready for the new year!

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In addition, our membership and speakers provide a wealth of knowledge and insight that you can tap in to when expanding and strengthening your network at our monthly meetings. Consistent with last year, you will continue to see our Chapter evolve with new approaches to making your membership more relevant, meaningful and fun!

So, welcome to our new year, to “not having to work alone” and to finding career achievement in records management – because it’s not just a job – it’s a profession!

With Warm Regards,

*Sabrina Lozano, CRM, CIP, MBA
President of ARMA NOVA*