In cooking, there are ingredients that work well together: chocolate and chili pepper, dill and salmon, and blueberry and lavender. While these ingredients are flavorful by themselves, they enhance each other when combined. Just as there are ingredients which complement each other in the kitchen, there are historical documentary units which can also benefit each other. Such units may work well individually to document or preserve their historical area of interest, but they could benefit each other by collaborating. These types of units may include archives and records repositories, oral history programs, rare books repositories, manuscript repositories, and state preservation offices.

This case study focused on the institutional and professional relationship between three of these types of units at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. They included an archival repository (the Southern Historical Collection), an institutional records repository (University Archives and Records Management), and an oral history program (the Southern Oral History Program). These units were chosen because they share common documentary missions, overlap in topical focus, and have some degree of cooperation.

After analyzing the current relationship of these three units, this study analyzed the possibility of extended collaboration between the units and why further cooperation could be beneficial. First, the studydescribed each unit in detail in order to set the stage. Then, the study examined the current literature on collaboration between archival repositories and oral history programs in order to show how this study's recommendations filled a need. Based on surveys and interviews with the staff members of the participating entities, the study then put forward suggestions for an extended collaborative relationship.

This study's findings were also based on the experience of an independent scholar who conducts oral histories and works with the Southern Historical Collection. The experience of the independent scholar helped to inform this study's recommendations for further collaboration between the units. Finally, this case study made suggestions on collaboration to benefit the collection development of each participating entity.

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?
a case study of collaborative collecting between archives & oral history programs

From a masters paper by Morgan Jones
Matt Turi, advisor
UNC-Chapel Hill
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From interviewees:

"...it seems to me that everyone is operating in vacuums..."

"In my opinion, it makes all the difference in the world to have a person who 'speaks librarian' as well as the language of the population at hand. It allows both sides to have adequate representation and participation regarding the ways in which their memories are made into history."

"...we don't really understand each other's environments, rules, and bureaucracies..."

How Wilson Library and the SOHP are already collaborating

• *Wilson Library Special Collections Technical Services* already processes and describes SOHP oral histories.
• *University Archives* assists with the SOHP Internship. When the internship began in 2012, University Archives staff members suggested a topic of research. More recently, the University Archives CALA worked more closely with the interns. During the 2013-2014 academic year, the CALA provided topics on student activism, held instruction sessions on using archival materials, provided interns with possible interviewee names and background, and acted as a person reference librarian to the interns. The relationship has been beneficial to both parties. The interns create oral histories in a concentrated subject, and University Archives is able to connect with alumni and faculty in a new way.

Possible strategies for increasing collaboration in collection development

• *Regular meetings*: meetings would allow library staff members and oral historians to enjoy more face time and to become comfortable with communicating collection development priorities. These meetings would also allow for updates in collection development policies.
• *Project management software*: software such as *Trello* would allow library staff members and oral hitsorians to share ideas, names, contact information, etc. in between regularly scheduled meetings. Software would allow all parties to prioritize their concerns or desires in an efficient and visible manner.
• *Official sanction*: When publicizing extended collaboration between the Wilson Library and the SOHP, both the Director of the Wilson Library and the Director of the SHC might emphasize how collaborative collecting meets the library system's goal of supporting a research institution.
• *New Positions*: Funds could possibly be directed to two positions for a full-time staff member and a graduate student assistant either in the history department or the School of Information and Library Science.