Leveraging Collaborations to Empower our Collections: 

Mississippi’s Story

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Defining Moments......
“Culture Club”
“Culture Club’s” Cultural Charrette
Rebuilding Community
“Culture Club”

Reflecting Mississippi
“Culture Club”

- Disaster recovery & response
- Cultural & community recovery & rejuvenation
- Cultural advocacy & outreach
- Shared information, pursued common agendas
- Interdisciplinary, inter-organizational, inter-agency
- Combined financial, administrative, & creative resources
- Results greater than possible if had worked alone
Archival Training Collaborative

- Affordable, basic training
- For non-archivists
- Close to home
- Sustainable program

- Online needs survey
- Train-the-trainer workshops
Archival Training Collaborative

Arrangement and description
Archival principles
Digitization of archival materials
Disaster preparedness & planning
Preservation

Organizing photographs
Organizing family papers
Records management
Exhibit design and and interpretation
Archival Training Collaborative

Implementation
• Flexible structure & effective communications
• Compromise & consensus

Sustainability
➢ Corps of trained dedicated professionals
➢ Strong organizational infrastructure
Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board

- Active email list of all cultural collections organizations
- Nominal stipends to workshop instructors
Mississippi

Statewide, online needs assessment
Onsite surveys
Preservation conference
Mississippi

Online needs assessment
230 institutions (51%)

Onsite surveys
6 history museums
1 historical society
4 public libraries
4 HBCUs
2 community college libraries
Findings

- Few $$$$$s
- Few staff
- Environmental & HVAC challenges
- Lack of proper storage space
Information, education, and policy examples

disaster preparedness
environmental control
collections storage space planning
digitization/digital preservation
Next Steps ..... 

**Regional Emergency Response Network**

- Increase knowledge and skills
- Support effective planning & management
- Strengthen local and regional preservation and emergency networks
- Improve institutional & community disaster preparedness
Next Steps ..... *Regional Emergency Response Network*

- Emergency response plan
- Hands-on training in response & salvage
- Train-the-trainer

*LYRASIS*
Next Steps ..... 

Regional Emergency Response Network
Institutional & professional relationships required to meet regional disaster
Leveraging Collaborations to Empower Collections

Culture Club Archival Training Collaborative
Connecting MISSISSIPPI Collections
Regional Emergency Response Network

- Share information
- Pursue common goals
- Inclusive
- Combine financial, administrative, & creative resources
- Communicate & educate
- Build on past achievements
- Always seek new opportunities
Next Steps ....