Summary of Evaluations from Atlanta Alliance for Response Forum, High Museum of Art, February 8, 2007

What new ideas will you take from this meeting to share with colleagues?
--Significance of salvage effort in recovering document and opportunity for fire services to contribute to that effort
--networking resources
--cooperate/meet with local EMAs
--need to develop a plan and network
--keep copies further (distance) away
--Supplies (on-site and remote)
--Concerns of cultural institutions, future opportunities
--need to make sure local planning includes cultural institutions
--need monthly/quarterly program on Disaster prep
--web resources
--need to develop GA cultural heritage emergency response group
--mutual aid agreements
--contacts

What parts of the program were of the most interest to you? Why?
--What happens after fire department leaves
--possibility of building a network
--ongoing networking efforts/models
--local efforts
--governmental hierarchy of responders
--training, mitigation, response, recovery
--mitigation opportunities
--anecdotal experiences
--breakout sessions

What new contacts made today will be of particular value to your institution/agency?
--county historic building director,
--local EMA organizations, access to free information/websites
--Council of State Archivists, University of GA library
--ATL-Fulton EMA, UGA staff
--Emory University staff, conservators
--local contacts
--Cobb County Public Library is close to where I work—I’ll reach out to them to become supportive of each other with mutual aid agreements
--fed/state contacts
--SOLINET
--John Ketchum (FEMA), Budd Weiss (GEMA)
--reconnect with old contacts
--all panelists
“I already knew several archivists but didn’t know they cares about disaster preparedness.”

What are most urgent steps for your organization in terms of disaster preparedness?
--Learn more about salvage/recovery operations—how fire dept can be most useful in process
--revise current disaster plan and start building relationships
--collection inventory and storage
--revise plans, stockpile supplies, arrange visit from fire dept
--response plan, prioritize collections
--disaster plan, training
--training, developing relationships with first responders
--table top scenarios talks, invite campus safety officers to input in disaster plan
--talk to head of public safety/local EMAs
--year round planning for all hazards, Preparedness (staff, training, facilities, equipment, networking, outreach, etc.)
--provide technical assistance to local/state planning officials to include cultural institutions
--need to protect collections and staff during renovations
--include first responders in disaster planning
--business continuity plan
--make disaster plan realistic