



The Creation and Development of a Multi-Disciplinary Centre in an Academic Library

Teresa S. Welsh¹

¹University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science; Katrina
Research Centre

drtwelsh@yahoo.com

Hurricane Katrina was the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history and one of the deadliest. In 2006, the University of Southern Mississippi established the Katrina Research Center (KRC) as a multi-disciplinary center for research and education to facilitate the gathering of information on the effects of and recovery from catastrophic natural disasters such as Katrina. The purpose of this case study is to document the creation and development of the Katrina Research Center, including its mission, vision, organizational structure, funding, collection development, community outreach, research and educational activities.

Keywords: hurricanes, disasters, academic libraries, repositories, research centres