

***Hurricane Sandy Recovery:  
from Disaster to Opportunity***

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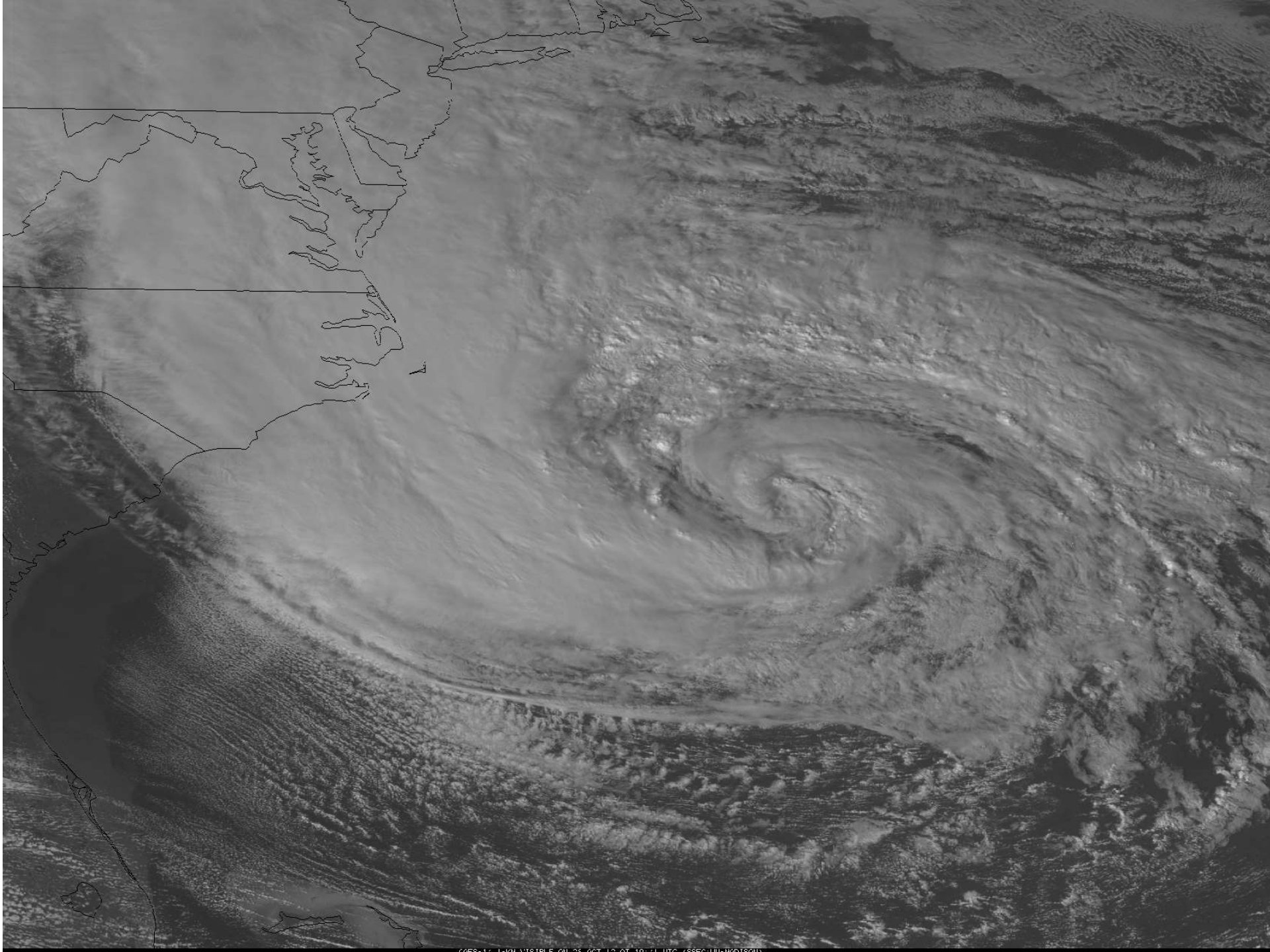
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New York Technical Services Librarians

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# Aftermath























# First few days

# Situation

- No power
- No institutional email or web
- No operating cell towers
- No transportation in/out of the city
- Main + 2 branches shuttered
- Offers of support from Regional Medical Library and area libraries

# Priorities

- Communicate with staff
- Create library splash page & email
  - SandyResponse@lib.med.nyu.edu
  - E-resources remained accessible
- Work with disaster contractors & NYU Libraries conservators



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER





















# First few weeks

# Collection items lost

- 9,000 books
- 7,000 journal volumes
- Archives overflow

# Other things lost

- 100 seat student study area
- Library faculty offices
  - 9 of 18
- Library staff work areas
  - Technical Services + Library IT













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[Books] [Scissors] [Other items]
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# Weeks to Months



# Readjust Priorities

- Communicate!
  - Staff & User Community
- Rebuild library systems
- Secure temporary locations
  - “Priority” faculty/staff
- Rethink service model
  - *What is the library?*
  - *Where is it?*











# Months to Year(s)

## 3-6 months

- Message to users: the library is open
- “Permanent” temporary office quarters
- Re-open 2 branches
- Loss of service desk staff positions
- Begin planning for renovated main facility

# 1 Year +

- Communications
- Technology
- Content/Collections
- Staff
- Strategic planning
- Library facility: redesign and rebuild





**It was a big loss...**  
**and is a bigger opportunity**