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Preserving the Past and the Present for the Future

For Immediate Release

Coalition to Preserve the Georgia Archives Statement Regarding Governor's Budget Plan for Archives

Contact [Sarah Quigley](#), Society of Georgia Archivists Outreach Manager
Atlanta, January 31, 2013

Atlanta, GA--The statement below was issued January 28 by Diane Cannestra, President of the Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH), see www.fogah.org, one of our coalition partners:

"Although the recent articles in the newspapers are largely accurate concerning the Governor's proposed budget, the 10 positions mentioned include the existing 5 Records Center employees so no new positions were proposed for the Archives. The proposed budget does not increase the funding or positions.

We appreciate and support the Governor's proposal to transfer the Archives to the University System of Georgia and are looking toward a brighter future for the Archives. The Chancellor and the University System of Georgia are committed to significant improvements to the Archives and we support that commitment. We are very optimistic but will continue to watch the transition progress carefully. In addition, FOGAH is continuing to work with our legislators on increased funding."

The Chancellor has created a transition team, which includes Cannestra and several archivists and librarians, to plan the transfer of responsibility for the Archives. The Coalition supports the work of this team, and feels that an additional \$1.15 million in funding will be necessary to make the Archives fully accessible to the public.

The Coalition to Preserve the Georgia Archives includes representatives of the Friends of Georgia Archives, Society of Georgia Archivists, Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board, Association County Commissioners of Georgia; Georgia Professional Genealogists; Georgia State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution; Troup County Historical Society; Cobb County Genealogical Society; Georgia Genealogical Society and Georgia Salzburger Society, among many others.

Founded in 1969, the Society of Georgia Archivists (SGA) represents over 200 individuals and 100 repositories that care for historical records. In association with its member archivists, librarians, records managers, museum and historical agency personnel, and educators, the Society of Georgia Archivists is working to preserve the past and present for the future.