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For Immediate Release

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HBCU Library Alliance Announces Leadership Institute II

The HBCU Library Alliance has announced that Institute II of its Leadership Program will take place April 3-5, 2006, at the Leadership Center of Morehouse College in Atlanta. Funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Leadership Program was established to provide theoretical and practical instruction and useful resources to encourage the development of leadership skills within the HBCU library community. The Leadership Program consists of six components: the Pilot Institute, Institute I, Institute II, an exchange between HBCUs and non-HBCUs, fellowships to SOLINET workshops, and site visits and mentoring.

The Leadership Institute participants – the dean or director and one librarian from each of twenty-three selected libraries – will reunite to discuss their activities since Institute I in August 2005. Morehouse President Dr. Walter E. Massey will open the Institute. Instructors from the Pilot and Institute I will lead Institute II; they are Dr. Karyn Trader-Leigh, President and CEO of KTA Global Partners, and Marsha Hughes-Rease, an independent organizational development consultant.

On day one the group will participate in a communications workshop. The schedule also includes a crisis-management session on behalf of participant Xavier University, a New Orleans HBCU that survived tremendous losses during Hurricane Katrina. The session is designed to develop proposals to support the university as it rebuilds. Days two and three, participants will present reports on the projects they selected to carry out since Institute I. Mentors trained at the program's Pilot Institute have assisted each library in its efforts during site visits.

The HBCU libraries participating in the Leadership Program are Alabama A&M University; Albany State University, GA; Alcorn State University, MS; Allen University, SC; Arkansas Baptist College; Bennett College, NC; Bethune-Cookman College, FL; Claflin University, SC; Fayetteville State University, NC; Fisk University, TN; Hampton University, VA; Howard University, DC; Jarvis Christian College, TX; Lawson State Community College, AL; Lewis College of Business, MI; Oakwood College, AL; Savannah State University, GA; St. Philip's College, TX; Shaw University, NC; South Carolina State University; Trenholm State Technical College, AL; University of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix; West Virginia State University, WV; and Xavier University, LA.

HBCU libraries serve as unique and indispensable gatekeepers for history, culture, and the African-American experience. Created by the deans and directors of these libraries in 2002, the HBCU Library Alliance seeks to ensure excellence in HBCU libraries through the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance members' collections and services.

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