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For Immediate Release

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*Pilot Institute Set for June*

## HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Institute Is Scheduled to Begin

The HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Program funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has been scheduled. The primary objective of the Leadership Program is to provide theoretical and practical instruction and useful resources to encourage the development of leadership skills within the HBCU library community and on their own campuses. 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, site visits and mentoring.

The Pilot Institute is scheduled for Saturday, June 11 through Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at the Marriott Evergreen Conference Resort in Stone Mountain, Georgia. The attendees of the Pilot Institute will undertake the intensive task of critiquing the program and developing skills to serve as mentors. The nine institutions that will participate are Alabama State University, Atlanta University Center, Bowie State University, MD, Florida A&M University, Kentucky State University, North Carolina A&T University, Southern University at Baton Rouge, LA, Tennessee State University, Virginia State University.

Institute I is scheduled for August 13 through 17, 2005. Twenty five libraries will be selected to participate. Each institution will send the dean or director and one librarian recommended for leadership potential.

Institute II will be held in April 2006. The same participants will reunite to consolidate the gains made over the year.

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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