

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Shanesha Brooks-Tatum, Ph.D. Hired to Write the Story of the HBCU Library Alliance

Atlanta, Georgia – July 19, 2011 - The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance has hired Dr. Shanesha Brooks-Tatum as Project Coordinator and Writer. Dr. Brooks-Tatum will conduct research and information gathering in support of the HBCU Library Alliance's "Preserving Our History" project. The project, funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will document and disseminate the history of the HBCU Library Alliance and highlight member success stories.

Brooks-Tatum holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, and is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library, where she teaches research methods and writing. In addition, Dr. Brooks-Tatum has authored several scholarly articles, as well as co-edited a collection of scholarly essays titled *Reading African American Experiences in the Obama Era* (forthcoming in the fall of 2011, Peter Lang Press). In addition, she is currently working on a research project entitled, "Thy Neighbor as Thyself: Black Women's Leadership Strategies in Twentieth-Century Atlanta." Dr. Brooks-Tatum says of her new position, "I am thrilled and honored to be working with the HBCU Library Alliance on such an important project. It is especially important given the economic climate and continual threats on gains in education that our community has been working hard to achieve for centuries."

"We are truly excited to have Dr. Brooks-Tatum on board for this project. She brings a wealth of research and writing experience, and a deep understanding of the goals of the project. We look forward to sharing the document with academic and library communities in the near future," says Sandra Phoenix, Program Director of the HBCU Library Alliance.

When complete, the Alliance plans to present the "Preserving Our History" document at professional conferences, including the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Annual Conference, the 2011 Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Convention, and at an Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) session at the 2012 American Library Association Conference (ALA). The document will highlight the history and accomplishments of the HBCU Library

Alliance and eight member success stories as learning tools for the larger library community.

For more information about the HBCU Library Alliance, please visit [www.hbculibraries.org](http://www.hbculibraries.org).

**About the HBCU Library Alliance**

The HBCU Library Alliance is a consortium that supports the collaboration of institutions dedicated to providing resources designed to strengthen the libraries and archives of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their constituents. The purpose of the HBCU Alliance is to ensure excellence in HBCU Libraries and the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance member libraries.