March 31, 2006 For Immediate Release Contact: Loretta Parham (404) 978-2018or <u>lparham@auctr.edu</u> Lillian Lewis (404) 592-4820 or 1 (800) 999-8558 ext. 4820

## Walter Earl Fluker to Address HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Institute II

Dr. Walter Earl Fluker, Executive Director of the Leadership Center, Coca-Cola Professor of Leadership Studies, and Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Morehouse College in Atlanta, will address the HBCU Library Alliance at the closing session of its Leadership Institute. The three-day institute will take place April 3-5 at the Morehouse Leadership Center.

Funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the HBCU Library Alliance 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.

Dr. Fluker is a consultant to national and international organizations on issues of ethics, morality, and leadership and is a sought-after speaker and lecturer. He is a Distinguished Visitor to the International Human Rights Exchange Progamme at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and is director and editor of the Howard Thurman Papers Project. An ordained Baptist Minister and author, his work has been recognized with many prestigious honors and awards. Dr. Fluker serves on the editorial board of *Liberal Education*, the flagship quarterly journal of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and as advisor to the *Journal of Leadership and Organizational Studies*.

In announcing Dr. Fluker's acceptance, Loretta Parham, Director of the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center and Chair of the Board of Directors of the HBCU Library Alliance, expressed admiration for his many accomplishments and contributions: "Dr. Fluker is representative and a model of the kind of leadership that will advance the mission of the HBCU Library Alliance; his presence at our Institute enriches us all."

The libraries of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) are integral to the success of the academic program and are 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.