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The HBCU Library Alliance Begins Its Leadership Institute in February 2012

ATLANTA – (January 24, 2012) – The HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Library Alliance is excited to announce the kick-off of its nine-month Leadership Institute, scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012, at the TWELVE Atlantic Station Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, and culminating in November at the Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library, also in Atlanta.

A benefit to members of the HBCU Library Alliance, the Leadership Institute is part of the larger HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Program, which is funded by a \$600,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to develop and support effective library leadership at HBCUs. The fourth phase in a series of successful leadership development programs available via the LYRASIS-HBCU Library Alliance partnership, the HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Program 2012-2013 builds on previous successes to further strengthen HBCU libraries and staff leadership skills.

As part of the program, 20 individuals from the following HBCU Library Alliance institutions have been selected to participate in the Leadership Institute: Alabama State University, Bennett College (NC), Claflin University (SC), Coahoma Community College (MS), Delaware State University, Johnson C. Smith University (NC), Lincoln University (MO), Mississippi Valley State University, Saint Augustine's College (NC), Savannah State University (GA), University of the Virgin Islands, West Virginia State University and Winston-Salem State University (NC).

Led by Dr. Flavia Eldemire, President of Eldemire and Associates, the Leadership Institute is designed to provide in-depth educational leadership programming for HBCUs using technology to form collaborative networks and promote information-sharing among participants. The nine-month curriculum includes such dynamic topics as components of successful leadership, relationship management, measuring the effectiveness and impact of library

services, and aligning performance with strategy. Monthly web-based classes will be taught by experts from the HBCU Library Alliance community. A coaching component will provide effective mentorship during the Leadership Institute and strengthen mentoring on individual campuses as well as leadership throughout the HBCU Library community.

“As I grapple with issues and work to ensure that the library is relevant to my university’s mission, I am grateful that I was fortunate enough to be chosen to participate in the first Leadership Institute. I and other Leadership Institute graduates have relied on ‘lessons learned’ to add value to our institutions and to serve our students and faculty. I am pleased that another group of emerging leaders will be equipped with the tools to sustain our libraries because of the generous funding of the Mellon Foundation and the support of LYRASIS,” added Mary Jo Fayoyin, Director of Library Services at Savannah State University, GA, and Chair of the HBCU Library Alliance Board of Directors.

“LYRASIS is excited to see the HBCU Library Alliance Leadership Institute begin another round of professional development benefitting HBCU libraries, staff and patrons. We are thrilled to work with the Alliance as it continues its work in enhancing librarianship for these important and culturally significant institutions,” stated Kate Nevins, CEO of LYRASIS.

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 of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their constituents. The purpose of the HBCU Library Alliance is to ensure the excellence in HBCU Libraries and the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance member libraries.

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