



For immediate release

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HBCU Library Alliance Hosts Third Membership Meeting Special Pre-Conference on Photograph Preservation

ATLANTA – (October 3, 2008) – The HBCU Library Alliance is presenting its Third Membership Meeting, October 26-28, 2008 at the Marriott Charlotte Executive Park in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Membership Meeting encourages excellence in library programming and services at HBCUs, and is a venue for members to network with other HBCU library staff. Meeting attendees will participate in strategic planning with a focus on the expansion of the HBCU Digital Collection. The expertise of member deans and directors will be shared in several presentations, in addition to the keynote speech that will be delivered by Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College for Women.

The October 26th "Care and Conservation of Photographic Collections" pre-conference is part of an Andrew W. Mellon multi-year project in partnership with the University of Delaware and SOLINET, a library network in the southeast. Debra Hess Norris, University of Delaware's Chair of the Art Conservation Department and Professor of Photograph Conservation, is the lead organizer of the pre-conference. Ten HBCU colleges and universities are participating in this project, receiving valuable training in the preservation of photographic materials documenting the history and culture of HBCUs. The pre-conference will feature a number of experts in the field of photograph preservation and is an opportunity to involve more librarians and share the wealth of knowledge that has already been provided by University of Delaware.

"The focus of the Membership Meeting is to network and further the promotion and preservation of the legacies and missions of White House-designated Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their libraries. The pre-conference supports our focus in a very practical and tangible way," said Loretta Parham, Board Chair, HBCU Library Alliance Board of Directors.

To register for the Membership Meeting or obtain additional information, please visit www.hbculibraries.org.

About 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 Alliance is to ensure the excellence in HBCU Libraries and the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance member libraries.

The Art Conservation Department at the University of Delaware

The Art Conservation Department at the University of Delaware administers both undergraduate and graduate programs. The department's faculty includes leading scientists and conservators in the treatment and preservation of paintings, works of art on paper, photographic materials, furniture, textiles, decorative, archeological and ethnographic objects, and architectural surfaces. Visit the University of Delaware Web site at www.artcon.udel.edu.

SOLINET

The Southeastern Library Network, Inc. (SOLINET) is an Atlanta-based not-for-profit library cooperative serving Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and the Caribbean. A membership network of libraries and other information organizations, SOLINET works in collaboration with many partners, from local to international, to provide leadership for cooperative action, improve access to information, and enable members to effectively anticipate and address the region's needs for education, economic development, and improved quality of life. www.solinet.net.

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