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HBCU News

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HBCU NEWS

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

The HBCU Library Alliance presented its Third Membership Meeting October 26-28, 2008 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Meeting attendees participated in strategic planning with a focus on the expansion of the HBCU Digital Collection. The keynote presentation was delivered by Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College for Women. The “Care and Conservation of Photographic Collections” pre-conference was part of an Andrew W. Mellon multi-year project in partnership with the University of Delaware and SOLINET. Ten HBCU colleges and universities participated in this project and received valuable training in the preservation of photographic materials documenting the history and culture of HBCUs.

SOLINET PRODUCT NEWS

SOLINET and Mississippi Library Commission Form First Librarianship Institute

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) a \$100,000 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant to conduct an intensive, in-residence workshop for mid-level public library staff.

The first Librarianship 201 Institute was held February 2 -6, 2009 in Jackson, and was conducted in partnership with SOLINET. The institute covered topics

in public library advocacy, management, ethics, and technology. Nationally recognized scholars and practitioners of library science shared both theoretical and practical aspects of librarianship with participants. Participants were selected through a competitive application process.

ASERL to Create Shared Digital Collection “Intellectual Underpinnings of the American Civil War”

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) has announced that its member libraries will create a new shared digital collection under the umbrella of the body of works titled “Intellectual Underpinnings of the American Civil War.” This new online collection will contain 5,000 digital items from rare and special collections held by the 38 research libraries that belong to ASERL. The items will be online for public use by 2011, which is the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War.

As part of this effort, ASERL libraries will provide online access to materials published between 1850 and 1865, from a broad array of subjects. The digital items will be housed on servers at the contributing library. A subject-specific portal is under consideration to aid in browsing, but the initial plan assumes users will find items via commercial search services, such as Google. A development team drawn from ASERL member libraries will determine digitization and metadata standards, as well as the means for linking the collection together, which can improve search rankings and findability. This will be the first time all ASERL libraries