

FIU News Release

Florida International University, Office of Media Relations/News Bureau

University Park
Miami, Florida 33199
(305) 348-2231
Fax (305) 348-3333

North Miami Campus
North Miami, Florida 33181

FIU Hosts Florida Black History Symposium *National Experts To Help Train Local Teachers*

MIAMI -- Florida International University's African-New World Studies Program is sponsoring the Second Annual Florida Black History Symposium May 3 - 4 at the Kovens Conference Center on FIU's North Campus.

The FIU symposium is designed specifically for Dade County Public School System personnel who are responsible for implementing the black history curriculum in their schools. Last year, the Florida legislature mandated that all of the state's public schools incorporate African-American history into the kindergarten through twelfth grade curriculum.

Dr. Molefi Kete Asante, chairman of the Black Studies department at Temple University and the author of "African American History, A Journey of Liberation," and Dr. Asa Hilliard III, Fuller E. Callaway professor at Georgia State University, will make special presentations on teaching black history. In addition, a number of local historians and community leaders will discuss issues of black historical significance.

It is anticipated that Dr. Asante's book will be used in two pilot schools of the Dade County Public School System next year. A television crew from CBS's "60 Minutes" will be taping a segment with Dr. Asante during his Saturday morning presentation.

More than 200 Dade County Public School teachers are expected to attend the two-day symposium. For more information and specific times of presentations, call FIU's African-New World Studies office at (305) 919-5521.

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MEDIA CONTACT: Dan Kalmanson, FIU Media Relations, (305) 348-2232