CAU’S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION REDEDICATED ON NOV. 12
First LEED-Certified Building in Atlanta University Center

ATLANTA (Nov. 24, 2009) – Rufus E. Clement Hall, the home of the School of Education at Clark Atlanta University, was recently rededicated before hundreds of students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the university, after months of a state-of-the-art renovation. The ceremony was a pre-inaugural event in celebration of the inauguration of Dr. Carlton E. Brown, CAU’s third president, held on Nov. 13.

The new dean of the school, Dr. Sean S. Warner, presided over of the program, which included special tributes, a litany, a ribbon-cutting and tour of the building. He said, “Schools of Education at historically black colleges and universities have a rich history steeped in a devotion and commitment to academic excellence. The majority, if not all HBCUs, began as places that promoted, valued and excelled in education and teacher-training.” He said he hopes to expand upon Clement’s vision by preparing professionals who are critical-thinking change agents for schools and communities.

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Dr. Rufus Early Clement, the sixth president of Atlanta University, was the longest serving president in the history of the institution. He won election to the Atlanta Board of Education in 1953 and was the first black to be elected to an official office since the Reconstruction period. Clement was born in 1900, in Salisbury, N.C., and earned degrees from Livingston College, Garrett Biblical Institute and Northwestern University, where he received his master’s degree and Ph.D degree. He was president of Atlanta University from 1937 until his death in 1967.

One highlight of the service was the presentation of the building’s LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, the first building in the Atlanta University Center to receive such recognition. Created by the Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council, the LEED system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

Formed in 1988 by the consolidation of two historic institutions, Atlanta University (1865) and Clark College (1869), Clark Atlanta University is the largest of the United Negro College Fund institutions with an enrollment of nearly 4,000 students. Clark Atlanta University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone 404-679-4501) to award the Bachelor’s, Master’s, Specialist and Doctor’s degrees. The Carnegie Classification lists CAU as a Research University – High Research Activity. CAU is listed as one of the best southeastern colleges by The Princeton Review and has been selected to the Washington Monthly’s 2008 list of best colleges and universities. National business and consumer publications rank Clark Atlanta high among the best buys in American higher education.