ATLANTA (Nov. 9, 2009) – The board of trustees of Clark Atlanta University will welcome hundreds of dignitaries, academicians, civic and business leaders, students and alumni to the inauguration of CAU’s third president, Dr. Carlton E. Brown, on Nov. 13. The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. in the Thomas Murphy Ballroom at the Georgia World Congress Center. A reception will immediately follow.

Dr. Carlton E. Brown became the third president of Clark Atlanta University at an important point in the history of the institution, its 20th anniversary. He was elected president by the board of trustees in May 2008 and became president on Friday, August 1, 2008, after serving as executive vice president and provost of the university for one year.

Clark Atlanta University’s new president is an experienced executive and visionary with a passion for higher education at HBCUs as well as a vast knowledge and understanding of the academic enterprise. He is a highly trained academician, a demonstrated leader and a passionate student advocate who has made preparing the next generation of leaders his life’s work.

Prior to joining Clark Atlanta University in July 2007, Dr. Brown was appointed by the Georgia Board of Regents Chancellor to manage the implementation of major system-wide initiatives for the University System of Georgia.
Born in Macon, Georgia, Dr. Brown began his career in education as an inner-city school teacher. Since that time, he has channeled his passion for education and student development into a career in higher education. He has garnered a great wealth of executive experience and accomplishments in higher education, having served as the president of Savannah State University from 1997 to 2006, after having held senior-level administrative positions at several universities, including Hampton University and Old Dominion University.

Dr. Brown joined Hampton in 1990 as the dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Education and, in 1996, was promoted to vice president for Planning and dean of the Graduate College. Prior to his roles at Hampton University, he served as an executive with the School of Education at Old Dominion University.

During his tenure as the 11th president of Savannah State, the university experienced several notable milestones, including an increase in student enrollment of 48 percent from fall 1998 to fall 2005; the transformation of student housing and academic support facilities; the accreditation and re-accreditation of several academic programs; major increases in grants and contracts; improved student retention; and strengthened graduate programs.

In addition to many accomplishments in academia, Dr. Brown has also amassed considerable expertise in business and industry through accomplishments stemming from positions held, consultancies, research, authorships, and service roles at the state and national levels.

He has contributed numerous articles, writings and research to the field of education and diversity. Among his numerous authorships was his role as a member of a writing team of five that authored the book *Tomorrow’s Schools of Education* in 1995.
Dr. Brown’s involvement in Savannah’s business and corporate arenas was extensive and included serving as chairman of the board of directors of the Savannah Economic Development Authority and serving on the advisory board of Sea Island Bank, an affiliate of Synovus Financial Corporation. He was also a board member of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce and successfully repositioned Savannah State as a corporate partner to various companies in and around Savannah. Under his leadership, the university gained a solid reputation as being a source for corporations to recruit highly skilled new talent.

He served as chair of the Chatham-Savannah Youth Futures Authority of Savannah, Georgia and had extensive leadership and involvement in numerous initiatives that served to improve education in public schools, advance higher education, decrease pregnancy in adolescents, promote economic and community development and support a variety of multicultural initiatives.

Dr. Brown focuses considerable time and energies in community service and in business interests that serve to advance academic institutions and the communities in which the institutions are located. In doing so, during a period spanning more than 25 years, he has succeeded in making a difference in the communities he has served and in the lives of the people who have benefited from his commitment to various educational, charitable and civic causes and industry.

Programs and initiatives created by him have resulted in playing key roles in expanding economic opportunities for citizens, strengthening families and communities and advancing partnerships between education, government and the business community in various cities and on a national scale.
One of Dr. Brown’s most noted successes is the implementation of the Town and Gown Initiative, which encouraged students to enhance their classroom education by using the community as an educational laboratory. One of the first programs to emanate from that initiative earned an award for coordinating the community to focus on mobilizing services and resources to support the family structure within a community with one of the highest poverty rates in the city of Savannah.

Dr. Brown has received numerous civic and professional awards and honors indicative of his commitment to community service causes. In 2009, he became the first recipient of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst’s “Norma Jean Anderson Award for Leadership for Diversity.” Most recently, he was named to The Atlanta Business Chronicle’s list of “100 Most Influential Atlantans.”

The president received both his Bachelor of Arts degree and his doctorate from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He earned his doctorate in multicultural education in 1979, and his bachelor’s degree in English and American Studies in 1971.

He is married to T. LaVerne Ricks-Brown and the couple has two adult children.

**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.**