Exhibitions at FAU Highlight President Lincoln’s Struggle to Meet Constitutional Challenges of Civil War

BOCA RATON, Fla. (March 17, 2015) — Florida Atlantic University will host “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War,” a traveling exhibition from the National Constitution Center, from Friday, March 20 through Thursday, April 30 at the Wimberly Library, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus.

The exhibition of educational panels show photographic reproductions of original documents, including a draft of President Abraham Lincoln’s first inaugural speech, the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment.

“We are delighted to have been selected as a site for this exhibition,” said Rita Pellen, interim dean of Libraries at FAU. “This exhibition shows how Lincoln struggled with issues of succession, slavery and civil liberties – all questions our country’s founding charter left unanswered.”

The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia and the American Library Association Public Programs Office in Chicago organized the Lincoln exhibition with the help of a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibition will complete its six-year tour to 50 libraries this year. Viewing of the exhibition at the Wimberly Library is in the atrium lobby of the first floor during regular library hours, which can be found at http://libguides.fau.edu/lib_hours.

In conjunction with the Lincoln exhibition, FAU Libraries will feature “American Civil War: Highlights from Special Collections,” a display of rare books, documents, pamphlets and historical items from the libraries’ permanent Marvin and Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection, the Elliot Cross and James A. Cross Civil War Collection and the Arlyn Austin Katims Civil War Collection. This exhibition will be in the Weiner Suite on the fifth floor of the Wimberly Library and can be viewed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information or to make appointments for viewing, call 561-297-2843 or email lysca@fau.edu.

To complement the exhibitions, FAU professor Stephen Engle, Ph.D., and Kate Dahlstrand, an FAU alumna and U.S. Army veteran, will host a discussion titled “Abraham Lincoln and the Crisis of Federalism,” on Friday, March 20 at 3 p.m. on the fifth floor of the Wimberly Library.
Dahlstrand will return to present “Prisoners of War and the Loyalty Oath: The Rhetoric of Unionism and Reflections on Reconciliation,” a lecture, on Monday, March 23 at 10 a.m. on the fifth floor of the Wimberly Library. The lecture focuses on unionism, reconciliation and citizenship.

The exhibitions and the lectures are free and open to the public. Metered parking is available at the Wimberly Library. For more information, contact Jackie Simpson at 561-297-3921 or jsimps@fau.edu.

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Photo Captions

About Florida Atlantic University
Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of $6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment. These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.