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FIU's African-New World Studies' Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture Examines the Issue of Reparations

MIAMI, Fla. (October 25, 2001)—Pro-Vice Chancellor at the University of the West Indies, Hilary M. Beckles will deliver the third annual Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture at Florida International University, as part of the African New World Studies Distinguished Lecture Series.

“Professor Beckles is a prolific scholar and a well respected historian,” says Director of the African New World Studies Program, Carole Boyce-Davies. “It is truly an honor to have such a distinguished guest be a part of the African New World Studies Distinguished Lecture Series.”

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Beckles' lecture on, “The Global Politics of Reparations: Before and after Durban,” will take place on Friday, October 26 at 7:20 p.m. in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center at University Park, which is located at 112 Avenue and Southwest Eight Street.

Born and raised in the island of Barbados, Beckles has dedicated his life to academic endeavors. His research in the areas of history and economics has led him to publish innumerable books and articles. Currently, he is one of the leading historians in the Caribbean and recently led the Barbados delegation to the world conference against racism in Durban, South Africa.

The memorial lecture, which first featured Historian John Hope Franklin, is named after Trinidad and Tobago's first Prime Minister, Eric Williams. Williams is best known for his work, *Capitalism and Slavery*, first published in 1944 and cited in 1997 in the New York Times Book Review as continuing to be on the “cutting edge of slave trade research in academic circles.”

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Admission to the lecture is free and open to the public. For more information please call Rosa Henriquez in the African-New World Studies program at 305-919-5521 or Williams' daughter, Erica Williams Connell at 305-271-7246.

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