 **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, November 2, 2016**

**Director of National Intelligence (DNI) James R. Clapper Joins Miles College To Spotlight The Institution's Center Of Academic Excellence - "National Intelligence On Global Trends:  Alternative Worlds 2030"**

**When:**   FRIDAY, November 4, 2016

**Where:** Miles College Campus (Pearson Lecture Hall) 598- 59th Street, Fairfield, AL 35064

**Time:**  2:00pm/CST - 5:00pm/CST

          (PRIVATE EVENT)

**FAIRFIELD, AL –** DNI James R. Clapper joins Miles College as the keynote speaker to spotlight the Institution's Center Of Academic Excellence - "National Intelligence On Global Trends:  Alternative Worlds 2030" on Friday, November 4, 2016, at the Historic Miles College Campus (Pearson Hall - Reverend Dr. Abraham Wood, Jr. Lecture Hall) located 598 59th Street Fairfield, AL 35064 from 2:00pm/CST - 5:00pm/CST.  DNI Clapper requested a private and personable event with Miles College students and community leaders to have an intellectual conversation on the vital role and projected state of National Security.

DNI Clapper's visit to Miles College brings a more diverse platform to the National Security conversation, which is aimed at articulating reasons for more collaboration, cooperation and synergy between HBCU's (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and the National Intelligence Agencies.

“This is a great time for the Miles College family on the heels of CIA Director John O. Brennan’s visit in September, to have yet another esteemed member of the Intelligence Community on our campus, as we diversify strategic partnerships and meet the National Security interests of our nation, “ **said Miles College President George T. French, Jr.**

Miles College is the only institution in the State of Alabama to have received the Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence designation, and there are fewer than 40 other colleges and universities in the nation to have received the same. Miles College received the designation as a Center of Academic Excellence in 2009. This program is one of the most innovative in its approach as it helps to increase the employability, skills, and characteristics needed within the Intelligence Community. The program provides individualized counseling, preparation and support for internships, specially designed academic programs, and international study abroad experiences for CAE scholars.

“We are proud to serve the State of Alabama and our nation in this capacity, as we continue to champion the trajectory of the Miles College Center of Academic Excellence’s engagement in robust dialogue by academia, government, and non-profit sectors on topics relevant to the country’s strategic security,” **said Dr. Ba-Shen T. Welch, Director of Miles College’s Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence and Vice President of Strategic Initiatives**.

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For more information about the Center of Academic Excellence visit www.miles.edu and/or contact Program Manager Ms. Yoruba L. Marshall by calling 205-929-1141 and/or emailing ymarshall@miles.edu.

For media inquiries regarding Miles College, contact Alicia Johnson-Williams, Director of College Relations by calling 205-515-7781 and/or emailing ajohnson@miles.edu

For media interviews and media inquiries regarding Forum, contact Andrew Wyatt, Purpose PR Firm by calling 205-422-5573 and/or emailing purposeprfirm@yahoo.com For requested interviews regarding DNI Clapper, contact Erik Medlin, DNI Office of Public Affairs by emailing [Erik.Medlin@dni.gov](https://mail.miles.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=50a9f9a618684cbf9b1988da0552cf29&URL=mailto%3aErik.Medlin%40dni.gov)