The SCLC Archives

- The broad scope of the collection provides a comprehensive record of SCLC activities over more than 40 years.

- It includes flyers, broadsides, broadsheets, pamphlets, programs, publications, newsletters and periodicals documenting the print culture of the Civil Rights movement.

- There are dramatic materials, including photographs, documenting aspects of the Civil Rights movement such as voter registration workshops, Freedom Summer and the Freedom Schools.

- Also included are a number of drafts of speeches by Ralph David Abernathy and others, many heavily annotated in the hands of their authors.

- This archive will be an especially valuable resource for documenting the growth of the SCLC in the 1960s. It is anticipated that virtually all of SCLC’s major initiatives related to voter registration, education, conflict resolution, advocacy and organizational development are reflected in the collection. There are carbons of correspondence, news clippings and copies of press releases. There are also letters from individuals and organizations from across the nation seeking assistance in local political organization or help in dealing with violations of civil rights.

- The collection fills 1,100 boxes.

- The archive will complement the SCLC papers, most pre-1968, that are held by the King Library and Archives at the King Center in Atlanta. They also will enhance the holdings of African American and civil rights collections throughout the city.