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FAMU College of Law

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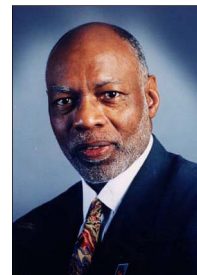
Dean's Message

As the 2005-2006 academic year draws to a close, we can reflect on a bevy of activity at the Florida A&M University College of Law.

We began the year by welcoming an entering class of 170 law students "our largest class ever." Soon after, we started the process of shutting down operations at our temporary facility on Orange Avenue. The 10-story, historic building loaned to us by Orange County had been the home to the humble beginnings

of the reestablished law school since late 2001.

In January, we opened the doors of the new, permanent campus in the Parramore neighborhood. Our official opening was marked on March 2 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. A few months later, we graduated our second class as 81 students received Juris Doctor degrees in Tallahassee and later took part in the Annual Hooding



Interim Dean James M. Douglas

Ceremony in Orlando.

More memories will be made over the next few months as our students move to the next stages of their legal careers, including employment opportunities and Bar examinations. As has been the case in the past, we expect our students to perform superbly.

Permanent Campus Now Open

The skyline of the Parramore neighborhood in downtown Orlando has been permanently altered - the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's College of Law campus is now a full functioning entity and cornerstone to the revitalization of Orlando's booming downtown district.

The campus opened at its permanent location after having its doors closed in Tallahassee in the late 1960's. The law school was re-established by the Florida State Legislature in 2000, and opened in 2002 at a temporary location in the heart of downtown Orlando. The permanent location is at 201 Beggs Avenue, with neighbors including the Zora Neale Hurston Building and the federal courthouse.

The \$30 million state-of-the-art building was designed by Rhodes + Brito Architects. Partners Max Brito and Ruffin

Rhodes, and Vince Mastroeni, case manager with HHCP Architects are FAMU alumni. Turner Construction partnered with PSA Constructors to build the facility, with Teska Dillard, another FAMU alumnus, functioning as Turner's project manager.

lege of Law that were given to Florida State University in the late 1960's.

At the formal ribbon cutting ceremony held March 2, nearly 200 people attended to mark the historic public opening of the campus. FAMU Interim President Castell Bryant remarked, "I can assure you that the students who graduate from here will be some of the best trained lawyers in the nation. FAMU will continue to be a major player in the landscape of the state."

The event was attended by a cadre of FAMU supporters including, members of the FAMU Board of Trustees, State Rep. Arthenia Joyner ('69), Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orange County Mayor Richard Crotty, Orlando City Commissioner Daisy Lynam, Florida Bar Association President Alan Bookman, College of Law Interim Dean James Douglas, students, faculty, staff and other friends and supporters.

See page 5 for more Ribbon Cutting Photos



Faculty Profile: Associate Dean Ruth Witherspoon

Ruth A. Witherspoon was selected as the Associate Dean for Administration and Student Services in May 2001 and, as such, was among the Founding Faculty at the Florida A&M University College of Law. Her strong commitment to the concept of providing quality service in higher education is evidenced by her more than 22 years of substantial and progressively responsible experience in the administration of law school programs. Prior to joining FAMU, she served on the faculty as a law school administrator at Florida State University, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Nebraska. She received her LL.M. from the University of Wisconsin, her J.D. from the University of Cincinnati and her B.A. from Hamilton-Kirkland College.



to employ a strong philosophy of care and concern for students here at the FAMU College of Law.

Dean Witherspoon is certified to facilitate Cultural Diversity Workshops. In addition, she is a Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) Certified Practitioner and has worked with groups and individuals on the understanding and various uses of psychological type. She is a former gubernatorial appointee on the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission. During her three year tenure as a Commissioner, she evaluated over 1,000 complaints of unlawful discrimination. Witherspoon also served as a federal judicial law clerk to the late Honorable James E. Doyle, U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin.

She worked closely with students as an Associate Dean for Student Affairs at Florida State University, where she also oversaw the creation and implementation of several new programs. She served as director of the Academic Support Program, the Pro Bono Program and Summer Law Program for Undergraduate Students. She was also responsible for scholarships, ADA accommodations, exam administration, orientation and graduation. She continues

At the FAMU College of Law, Dean Witherspoon has primary responsibility for overseeing all of the major activities and services that benefit students. This includes the offices of Admissions and Financial Aid, Career Planning and Placement, Student Affairs, and the Registrar. Because of her broad administrative experiences, Dean Witherspoon has been invaluable in the preparation and compilation of materials required by the ABA for its site evaluations. Her appearances, along with other

key administrators, before meetings of both the ABA's Accreditation Committee and the ABA's Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to respond to questions about the law school, played a significant role in assuring provisional accreditation for the FAMU law school.

Dean Witherspoon's research and teaching interests are in the area of Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility. She has also taught Sales, Legal Writing and Bioethics Law. She has served on various professional committees and community boards, including currently on the Florida Supreme Court's Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity where she serves as co-chair of the Research Subcommittee. In addition she has served on the Second Judicial Circuit's Committee on Professionalism, the Florida Bar's Student Education and Admission to the Bar Committee and the Board of Directors for the Girl Scout Council of Apalachee Bend. She has also served on the Orlando Mayor's Educational Partnership Task Force II Committee.

Her publications include: *Financial Aid and Recruitment*, N. Illinois Law Review (1992); and *Multinational Corporations – Governmental Regulation of Business Ethics Under the Foreign Corrupt Practices of 1977: An Analysis*, Dickenson Law Review (1983).

College of Law Welcomes New Faculty

The Florida A&M University College of Law welcomed four new faculty members to the law school. Associate Dean Frank Motley, Associate Professor Rhonda Reaves and Visiting Assistant Professors Patricia A. Broussard, Victoria C. Dawson and Rhoda Pierre-Cato came aboard for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Frank Motley received his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law and served as Associate Vice Chancellor for

Academic Support at Indiana University. He is the Associate Dean for Administration and Operations at FAMU College of Law.

Patricia A. Broussard taught at Howard University Law School and was acting director of Howard's Legal Writing Program. She received her J.D. from Howard University Law School and has taught Constitutional Law and Legal Writing at FAMU College of Law.

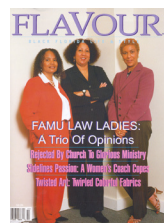
Victoria C. Dawson received her J.D. from the Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law and has research and teaching interests that include Civil Law and Legal Writing. She has taught the Law of Torts at FAMU College of Law.

Judge Rhoda Pierre-Cato was a Judge with the Houston Texas Municipal Courts prior to arriving at FAMU. She received her J.D. from Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law and has taught Family Law and Legal Methods at FAMU College of Law.

Professors Grace Magazine Cover

Professor Lundy Langston, Professor Barbara Bernier and Visiting Associate Professor Patricia Broussard were featured in a cover story "Female Legal Minds" of the magazine *Flavour – Black Florida Life & Style*. The story provided a biographical sketch of each professor and featured their individual articles: Professor Langston's "The post-Katrina looting: Acceptable?"

Yes"; Professor Bernier's "Stella's Groove: What's Love Got to Do with It?"; and Visiting Associate Professor Broussard's "The True Legacy of Rosa Parks."



Rhonda Reaves taught at Loyola Law School as an Associate Professor in numerous courses including Employment Law, Employment Discrimination, Property and Ethical Lawyering. She received her J.D. from Stanford Law School after receiving her B.A. from Yale University.

Alumni Spotlight: Judge Ralph L. Flowers

From humble beginnings, a man of exemplary stature evolved to become a prominent graduate of the Florida A&M University College of Law. Judge Ralph Flowers walked 10 miles to school as a child, and was often taunted by white students who were riding buses and throwing things out of windows when they passed. He attended schools that closed for blacks when it was time to harvest crops, with inferior facilities and used furniture and books from all-white schools.

Judge Flowers was born in Palatka, Florida and is the son of a Baptist minister. He developed a lifelong passion for classical music after discovering the genre as a teenager in high school when he listened to a program every Monday called "Band of America".

His background in music carried him to FAMU on a Florida State Teachers Scholarship where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Instrumental Music. He went on to pursue a short career in the U.S. Army and served as a lieutenant in the

armor and aviation divisions and settled in Fort Pierce, Florida when his service concluded.

He returned to his musical ties by serving as a band director for five years at Lincoln Park Academy – retiring in 1965. At that time, he decided to continue his personal education and obtain advanced degrees. He returned to FAMU and graduated with a Masters Degree in Education and a Juris Doctor Degree in Law with the law school's highest scholastic average in 1968.

Judge Flowers was thrust into the legal spotlight while the ink was still drying on his diploma. His first case out of law school received national and international media attention while he was a member of the West Palm Beach law firm of Cunningham and Cunningham. In July 1970, he represented the family of Poindexter Williams, a Fort Pierce man killed in ac-

tion in Vietnam. In *Campbell vs. Livesay*, Mary Campbell filed suit against James

A. Livesay, director of Hillcrest Memorial Gardens because her deceased son (Poindexter) was denied burial at the location because he was black.

Judge Flowers won the case with notoriety that fused his rapid advancement in the legal profession. He went on to serve as prosecutor for both Riviera Beach and Fort Pierce, Florida. He was appointed Fort Pierce City Judge in 1973, and was elected for the 1974 term and served until the position was phased out in 1976.

He has received numerous honors throughout his decorated career including the 1975 State of Florida Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity "Man of the Year" Award; and the 1997 NAACP Outstanding Achievement Award.

Judge Flowers resides in Ft. Pierce with his wife Wanda.



Alumni Spotlight: Carlos Woody

Carlos Woody is a native Floridian who hails from the Daytona Beach area. He earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting in 1984 from the University of South Florida (USF) where he was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Mr. Woody went to work as a special agent for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Criminal Investigation Division in Orlando, upon graduation from USF, where he investigated complex white-collar fraud schemes, tax evasion, money laundering, narcotics trafficking and violations of the Bank Secrecy Act (the predecessor to the modern-day money laundering statutes).

His tenure with the IRS spanned 15 years, during which he was one of the youngest individuals promoted to the level of Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge. Prior to achieving that level, he served the IRS in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Atlanta, and finally Miami where in 1997 he received the promotion. Duties at the Miami Field Office included coordinating the work of five groups of criminal investigative units and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force. In addition, he

oversaw a long-term undercover storefront targeting Columbian drug cartel money laundering.

After an exemplary 15-year career in federal law enforcement, Mr. Woody left government service in 1998 to succeed his father as president of their family business. He expanded the business and later sold it to a multi-national corporation in 2003.

Mr. Woody enrolled in the inaugural class of the re-established FAMU College of Law in the Fall of 2002. During law school, he was elected to serve as the first president of the FAMU Student Bar Association (SBA) and reelected for a second term, which he served until his graduation. He received the Dean Percy R. Luney Spirit of Service Award from the Black Law Students Association for the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 academic years in recognition of his outstanding service to students at the College of Law. He was also nominated for the American Bar Association (ABA) SBA President of the Year Award in 2005.

He graduated cum laude from the FAMU College of Law as a member of the inaugu-

ral class in April 2005. Upon graduation, he accepted a position as a staff attorney for the Orlando Utilities Commission where he practices corporate, local government and public utility law.

Mr. Woody currently resides in Ormond Beach, Florida. He has been married to his high school sweetheart, Debra, for 21 years and they have three daughters: Jennifer, 13; Lauren, 11; and Kristen, 9. He is a deacon at Westside Church of Christ and is a member of the Orange County Bar Association.



College of Law Student and Alumni Career Updates

Graduates of Inaugural Class Open Law Practice

The Law Offices of Newman, Anderson & Maloy Attorneys at Law recently opened its doors in Sanford, Florida. Attorneys Dr. Willie Newman, Victoria Anderson and Mandy Maloy are all graduates of the inaugural class at Florida A&M University College of Law.

Dr. Newman, a Sanford native, has served the Seminole County community as an OB/GYN for over 25 years delivering over 10,000 babies.



Attorneys Mandy Maloy (l-r), Dr. Willie Newman and Victoria Anderson were graduates of the inaugural class at FAMU College of Law

Anderson, also a Sanford native, has extensive experience in the Dependency and Family Law related areas and will focus primarily in those areas.

Maloy has lived in Central Florida for over 10 years and is originally from the South Florida area. She has a passion for serving the immigrants in Seminole County and has a certification in Immigration and Nationality Law.

He is currently the OB/GYN Medical Director at South Seminole Hospital in Longwood.

FAMU Law Student Receives Florida Bar Summer Fellowship

Stephen Christian (2L) was among 26 students selected from across the state of Florida and the country to participate in a Florida Bar Foundation summer internship. The Legal Services Summer Fellowship provides paid internships for first- and second-year law students, and allows students to work on real cases at Foundation-funded legal aid organizations.



Mr. Christian will be working for Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association.

More than 250 students have been selected for the competitive fellowships since 1995. The fellowships allow students to work on issues which range from representing homeless immigrants at administrative hearings to developing educational curriculum for fifth graders on financial literacy, and predatory lending. First-year students receive \$4,500, and second-year law students are paid \$5,500.

Student Selected as NAACP/Kellogg Law Fellow

Jessica King (2L) was selected to participate in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)/Kellogg's 2006 Law Fellow Program. The duration of the program is from May 25 through August 11, 2006.

Ms. King will work on various civil rights issues and spend at least one week working on legislative matters in the NAACP Washington Bureau. She will also serve as a panel moderator during the NAACP Twenty-Second Continuing Legal Education Seminar in Washington, DC.

Former Law Student Joins Law Practice

Christopher Hunt is listed as an Associate with Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue & McLain, P.A. located at 201 East Pine Street in Downtown Orlando. Hunt was a member of the inaugural evening class, and received his JD in 2006 from FAMU College of Law. His practice areas include Commercial Litigation and Insurance Defense.

College of Law Placements and Internships

FAMU College of Law second- and third-year law students have been placed in both paid and unpaid internships throughout the state. The following list details some of their career moves:

Private and Corporate

Torri Tippet, Planet Hollywood International; Aziza Bowser, Schering-Plough Corporation Global Law Kenilworth, NJ; LaDray Gilbert, Law office of Parks & Crump; Oreon W. Pinkston, Law Office of H.T. Smith, P.A., Miami; Shannon J. Mulkey, J. Warren Bullard, P.A.; Latoya Newell, Darden Corporation; Nicolette Tsambis, Law Offices of Paula E. Pratt, P.A.; Anthony Atala, Lynum & Sanchez, P.A.; Louis Gonzalez, Darden Restaurants, Inc.; Eurilynne Williams, Darden Restaurants, Inc; Tamisis Cruz, The Pendas Law Firm; Leyla Ramos, The Pendas Law Firm; Trizia DiCanio, Romagaura, Baker, Dawson & Bringardner, P.A.; Brigitta Hawkins, Frese Hansen P.A.; Carinne Davis, Law Office of Patricia A. Cashman & C Chad Crunan; Erin Duncan, Diana M. Ennis, P.A.; Alvin Benton, Holland & Knight LLP & Public Defender 9th Judicial Circuit; Elizabeth Gomez-Mayo, Greenburg Traurig; Jaya, Balani, The Law Offices of Nejamae, LeFay, Barker & Tumarkin; Anthony Atala, Lynum & Sanchez, P.A.; Shannon Mulkey, J. Warren Bullard, P.A.; Anne deArmas, Law Offices of Cramer, Price & deArmas; Fred

Scenes from the College of Law Ribbon Cutting



FAMU Interim President Castell Vaughn Bryant addresses the Orlando community on the steps of the FAMU College of Law.



Alumni from the original College of Law -- Isiah Williams (l-r), Edward Duffee, Benjamin Lampkin and John Due -- help mark the special occasion.



State Representative Arthenia Joyner (l-r), Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and State Representative David Simmons take part in the FAMU Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.



Immediately following the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the FAMU Board of Trustees hold their meeting in the College of Law's Ceremonial Moot Court Room.

Photos by Isaiah C. Charlton, III

College of Law Student Placement and Internships continued

Pressley, Fowler White Boggs Banker; Betty Joseph, Thorne & Storey, P.A.; Christine Oweis, Wean & Malchow, P.A.; Jessica Trapasso, Ford & Harrison, LLP; Cara Henri, Hill, Adams, Hall 7 Schieffelin, P.A.; John James, Parks & Crump, LLC Tallahassee, FL; Anthony Thomas, Parks & Crump, LLC Tallahassee, FL; Lateefah Muhamed, Parks & Crump, LLC Tallahassee, FL; Dianne Pantan, Holman Hurley Charvatr Peacock Architects, Inc.; Ruth Singer, Lucille M. Espey Francis, Esquire; Shannon A. Ligon, Law Office of Dyril Flanigan and Boys & Girls Club of the Suncoast; Lateefah A. Muhammad, Law office of Wicker-Smith, P.A., Law office of Parks & Crump, LLC, Law office of Benjamin & Lomax, P.A.

Judicial, State and Government

Julie Wilcox, Office of Public Defender, Intern; Lloyd Osman, 18th Circuit of Florida, Office of the Public Defender, Seminole County; Chmari Anderson, Judge Faye Allen; Shandra Herrod, Office of the Public Defender, Osceola Division; Laura Hargrove, Office of the State Attorney, 9th Judicial Circuit; Camara Williams, Public Defender 9th Judicial Circuit; Nadya Vila', Puerto Rico's Governor's Executive Mansion; Laura Hargrove, Judge Komanski, 9th Judicial Circuit; Alicia Peyton, 9th Judicial Circuit Family Court Services; Lori MacIntyre, 18th Judicial Circuit; April Larrabee, Palm Beach County Public Defender's Office;

Laura Moody, U.S. Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review; Laura Klossner 9th Judicial Circuit, Public Defenders Office; Willie Huntley, Senator Jeff Sessions Senate Office Washington D.C.; Patrice Featherstone, The Crow Law Firm Union County Chief District Court Judge Christopher Bragg; Jason Drucker, 9th Judicial Circuit Public Defender Office; Jami Coleman, Seminole County Government; Ericka Garcia, Orange County Government (Legal Department); Billie J. Hopwood-Avilla, 9th Judicial Circuit Public Defenders Office; Sonya Pridgen, The Law Offices of Julianne M. Holt, Public Defender, Thirteenth Judicial; Willie Huntley, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida- Juvenile Division

VITA Program Receives Recognition from City of Orlando

The FAMU College of Law Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA) assisted individuals with filing taxes in an effort to eliminate the miscellaneous filing fees they would incur through traditional filing agencies. To qualify, potential clients had to have an income of \$37,000 or less, without offshore accounts, capital gains requiring Schedule D, or other related complications. Exceptions were made for incomes that slightly exceeded the \$37,000 maximum.

VITA operations began in February under the coordination of Assistant Professor Reginald Mombrun and a team of student volunteers. "The



College of Law students and faculty members pose on the steps of the law school with a symbolic check for \$41,239 to Orlando residents who used the VITA program.

VITA Program, along with other law school programs such as the clinical programs, strives to improve the lives of the poor in the community," suggested Mombrun. "I strongly believe that as we mature, the community will become more aware of our existence and rely on us for the help that we can provide." The program concluded in April.

Through their diligence and efforts, \$41,239 in returns was recovered for a number of clients. In June, the City of Orlando Volunteer Program held a formal reception to honor area companies who participated in this great community benefit.

Black Law Students Association Presents Annual Awards

The Florida A&M University College of Law Black Students Association (BLSA) held the Fourth Annual Percy R. Luney, Jr. Spirit of Service Awards at the Florida Citrus Sports Varsity Club in April. The awards were distributed to FAMU College of Law faculty, students and staff who exhibited exceptional service to the law school throughout the year.

The recipients were Wendi Owens, Staff/Administration; Visiting Associate Professor Patricia Broussard, New Faculty; Professor James Smith, Returning Faculty; Audrey Hicks, 1L Day Student; Taniya Hall, 1L Evening Student; Nieci Williams, 2L Day Student; Jeannette Estes, 2L Evening Student; Janice Merilus, 3L Day Stu-

dent; Norman Briceno, 3L Evening Student; and Conchita Yant, Special Service to BLSA.

The group also presented a Distinguished Alumnus Award to Isiah Williams, class of 1968.

New Student Bar Association Officers

The 2006-2007 officers of the Student Bar Association (SBA) were announced in April. Leading the group in its fourth full year will be Alvin Benton (3L), President; Taniya Hall (2L), Vice President; Antonio Martin (2L), Secretary; Shandra Herrod (2L), Treasurer; Fred Pressley (3L), ABA Representative; Cynthia Conlin (3L) and John A. James (3L), 3L Day Representatives; Chmari Anderson (2L) and Jason Drucker (2L), 2L Day Representatives.

Law Library Director Featured in Magazine

Grace Mills, Law Library Director and member of the founding faculty for the Florida A&M University College of Law, was recently featured in *First Monday*, a publication by the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce and Knight Images.

The article highlights Mills' involvement in the Orlando community through Leadership Orlando, the Downtown Arts District Board, the Orlando Visual Artists League (OVAL), and on the incoming Board of Citrus Council for the Girl Scouts.

She also encourages other FAMU staff to get involved in community outreach.

U.S. Court of Appeals for Armed Forces Visits Law School

The Florida A&M University College of Law hosted the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces in February as part of the Court's "Project Outreach" in the FAMU College of Law Ceremonial Moot Court Room. The Court convened before a full courtroom. The Court is comprised of five civilian judges appointed for 15-year terms by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate,

and exercises worldwide appellate jurisdiction over members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The panel of judges heard oral argument in the case of *United States v. Allison*. In this case, Mess Management Seaman Reginald Allison had been tried before a general court-martial and convicted of sexual assault

and burglary with intent to commit sexual assault. The Court granted review of Allison's petition regarding evidentiary issues raised at trial. Derrien Bonney, a recent graduate of FAMU College of Law, submitted an amicus brief as a third-year law student in support of Allison's petition, and presented oral argument during the special session.

College of Law Launches First Annual Fund Campaign

The Florida A&M University College of Law kicked off its first Annual Fund campaign during the Spring semester. Seeking support from recent graduates, original graduates, FAMU alumni who are attorneys, and friends, the College of Law has set a goal of \$20,000 for the annual giving campaign that will wrap up in the fall.

Contributions to the Annual Fund will enable the College of Law to provide students with one of the most rewarding legal education experiences in the nation by funding such activities and services as student competitions, scholarships, student organizations, publications, guest lectures, symposiums, conferences, faculty teaching and research, and student and alumni events.

By reaching out to current and prospective supporters, the law school hopes to attract gifts of all sizes that

will be renewed each year. Annual Fund donors will be recognized in Spring 2007.



“As our enrollment swells, we will require more unrestricted dollars to support intramural and intercollegiate academic programs not covered by other sources of funding,” said James M. Douglas, interim dean. “The Annual Fund is the first step toward building

a foundation for a comprehensive fundraising program that meets the increasing extracurricular and co-curricular needs of our students and faculty.”

To contribute to the Annual Fund, gifts should be made payable to the Florida A&M University Foundation, c/o College of Law Annual Fund, and mailed to FAMU College of Law, Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, 201 Beggs Avenue, Orlando, FL, 32801.

Gifts may be made via check, MasterCard or Visa. Matching contributions are accepted and gifts are tax deductible. Donors also may give to the College of Law’s Annual Fund online through the University’s Annual Fund drive, by visiting www.famu.edu/development/annualfund. For questions, please call 407-254-3206.

Florida Bar Foundation Grants to Support Legal Clinic

The Florida Bar Foundation has awarded the legal clinical programs at the Florida A&M University College of Law a \$25,000 Law School Civil Grant and an \$18,000 Public Service Fellows Grant. The Civil Clinic Grant will support the Housing Clinic and the Homelessness and Legal

Advocacy Clinic. The Public Service Fellows Grant will support four Fellows that will serve the Children’s Clinical Program.

FAMU College of Law has several clinical programs in place which provides free legal assistance for

indigent citizens. The clinics include: Civil (Guardian Ad Litem, Judicial), Criminal, Mediation, Prosecution and Housing (Homelessness and Legal Advocacy).

Alumni Organization to be Formed at College of Law

Following the recent graduation of its second class, the Florida A&M University College of Law is organizing an alumni group. Open to the 140 recent graduates, the two dozen surviving original graduates, and the hundreds of FAMU alumni who are attorneys, the organization will seek to unite the broad base of support for the law school and its current and former students.

The organization will be formalized under the umbrella Florida A&M University National Alumni Association but will begin this fall as an informal group to share information. Through the organization, alumni will learn about College of Law activities and special events, the law



school’s participation in Bar and legal programs, the availability of alumni merchandise, and news regarding members’ professional achievements.

“Ultimately, the alumni of the

College of Law will lead this group, just as they do at other more established law schools. The administration’s goal is to complete the preliminary steps necessary to ensure that the group is viable, and then work with alumni to grow the organization into a strong source of support,” said Interim Dean James M. Douglas.

All College of Law alumni are encouraged to contact the law school as soon as possible to ensure that their contact information is correct in the database. To check information and learn more about the College of Law alumni organization, please call 407-254-3266.

www.famnu.edu/law

Florida A&M University College of Law
201 Beggs Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801



Photos by Robin Holmes

The Florida A&M University College of Law's permanent campus opened in Spring 2006 in Orlando's historic Parramore community. These images highlight some of the facility's more striking features: (above then

clockwise) the exterior view of the front entrance and southern wing of the building; signage which faces Interstate 4; and an interior view of the multistory atrium.



Florida A&M University College of Law Annual Hooding Ceremony - Spring 2006

Saturday, May 6, 2006

The Florida A&M University College of Law held its annual hooding ceremony on Saturday, May 6, 2006 at the Orlando Marriott Downtown. It was the first ceremony held since the law school moved to its permanent location in downtown Orlando.

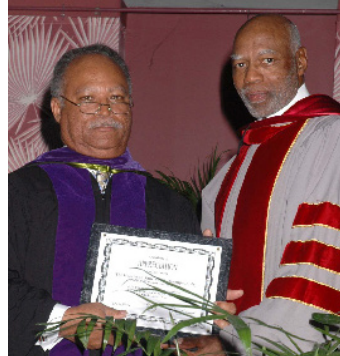
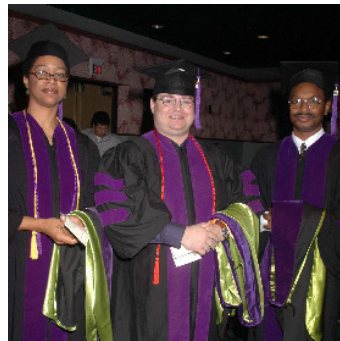
The hooding ceremony recognized 81 law school graduates in a prestigious setting with family, friends and special guests. The graduates were initially conferred for the Juris Doctor degree in Tallahassee at the University's Commencement Ceremony on April 30, 2006.

Among the graduates were 18 members of the inaugural evening class. This group included students who attended law school part-time, while holding full-time employment.

Judge Emerson R. Thompson of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal delivered the keynote address.



**Annual
Hooding
Ceremony
Spring 2006**



Images provided by Bob Knight Photo



Florida A&M University College of Law

