

2006

# Florida A&M University College of Law Annual Report 2005-2006

FAMU College of Law

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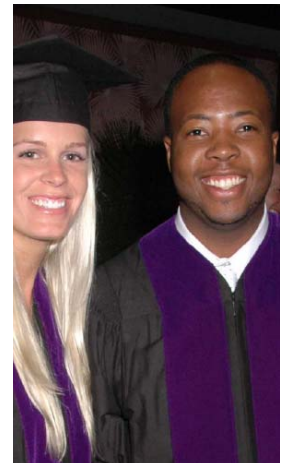
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...excellence with caring

The College of Law has committed to the following mission: To provide a law program with high academic standards that produces excellent legal professionals who demonstrate professionalism, provide public service, enhance justice and promote scholarship to provide a program that offers both full-time and part-time learning opportunities to students; and, consistent with the enabling legislation, to increase representation of minorities within the legal profession.

FAMU will continue its mission of meeting the educational needs of African-Americans and of other ethnic minorities while maintaining its leadership in racial diversity. At the same time, the University seeks students from all racial, ethnic, religious and national groups, without regard to age, sex or disability, who have the potential to benefit from a sound education. The University provides for all an atmosphere where excellent teaching and lifelong learning are hallmarks.

FAMU reaffirms its historical responsibilities to its students to provide important opportunities for service to the diverse communities in Florida, the nation and the world. FAMU strives to set, maintain and reward high standards for faculty, staff and students through continual evolution and pedagogy, curricula, research and public service demands. The College of Law's role is to promote the development of legal professionals as community leaders who are sensitive to the needs of all people.

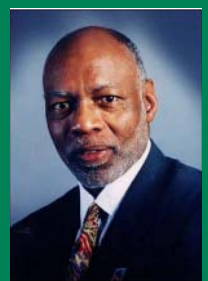
#### A Message From the Dean....

This special edition of *The Lawyer* includes highlights of the many success stories woven at the Florida A&M University College of Law during the 2005-2006 academic year. Our students were recognized for outstanding academic accomplishments. Our faculty was honored for scholarly achievements. Our staff was credited with major administrative milestones. Many of these feats are not only celebrated in *The Lawyer*, but they are also noted in the 2007 College of Law Wall Calendar, which is now available in limited quantities.

Also of note is the release of the inaugural issue of our Law Review. This historic publication features an article written by Rep. Arthenia Joyner of the Florida House of Representatives (a 1968 graduate of the FAMU College of Law) as well as articles from several other high-profile legal scholars. The release of this publication marks the culmination of many hours of hard work and dedication by the law review members of 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, and their advisor, Professor Lundy Langston. To purchase a copy of this commemorative edition of the Law Review, contact Ms. Eurilynne Williams, Business Managing Editor, at [eaw2famulaw@hotmail.com](mailto:eaw2famulaw@hotmail.com), or call 407-254-3268. The journals are \$20 per copy.

Join us as we reflect on last year's activities and make plans for a dynamic new year!

James M. Douglas  
Interim Dean



Interim Dean James M. Douglas

## Student Accomplishments and Awards

Student Bar Association sold raffle tickets for Hurricane Katrina Relief efforts sending the first \$1000 collected to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina relief fund. Proceeds above the amount were sent to Student Bar Associations at law schools in the southern Louisiana area.

For the second straight year the Sub-Region IV Black Law Students Association Academic Retreat was held at the College of Law in September. The retreat was open to students from Florida's 10 law schools.

**Michael Lwin** (2L) served as sub-regional director for the Sub-Region Black Law Students Association for 2005-2006.

The FAMU Black Law Students Association Chapter was awarded Chapter of The Year First Runner-up during the Southern Regional BLSA Convention in Durham, North Carolina in February.

**Alvin Benton** (2L) was elected Attorney General on the Southern Regional Executive Board for the Black Law Students Association Southern Region.

Florida Academy of Professional Mediators recognized the College of Law Mediation Clinic with its 2005 Community Involvement Award.

The Cherry Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity, International received the Chapter Merit Award for the 2004-2005 school year. The award was only given to 10 law schools out of 190.

The Housing clinic filed its first court papers during the week of September 12 since being recognized as a legal-aid organization by the Florida Supreme Court.

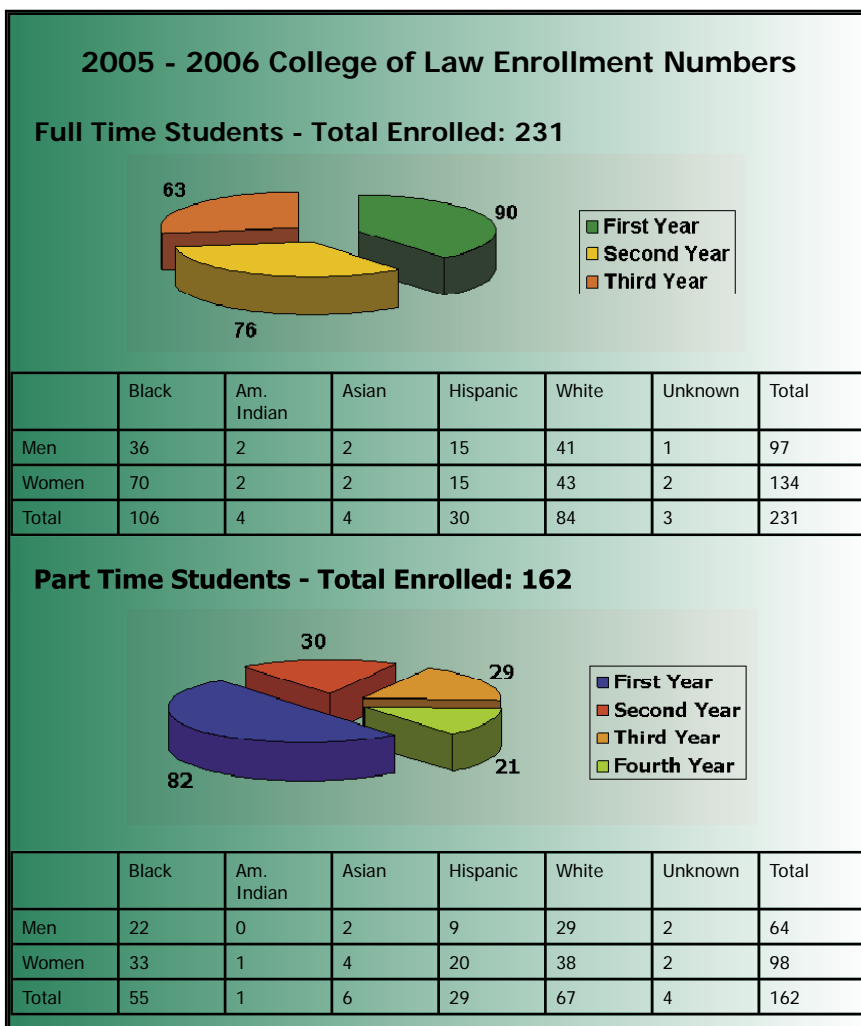
The Homelessness Clinic received approval from the Florida Supreme Court, becoming the third in-house clinic to be recognized as legal-aid organizations, joining Guardian ad Litem Clinic and Housing Clinic. Students began meeting with clients on October 4.

Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity, the world's largest legal fraternity whose membership is restricted to

students and practitioners of the law held its first organizational meeting to establish a chapter at FAMU College of Law in November.

**Diane Davidson** (3L) of the Housing Clinic won a summary judgment against a landlord who had turned off her client's electricity in violation of Florida Law.

**John Rasmussen** (4L) of the Homelessness and Legal Advocacy Clinic won a court ruling that set aside erroneous garnishment of \$120 for each of his client's paychecks for the support of a child who is living with her.



## Faculty Accomplishments



**Patricia Broussard, Rhoda Cato, Virginia Dawson and Rhonda Reaves** were new members of the faculty.

Professor **Lundy Langston's** essay, "Why Hurricane Katrina's So-Called Looters Were Not Lawless: They Are Entitled to the Well-Established Defense of Necessity," was published on FindLaw in September.

Professor **Barbara Bernier's** essay, "The Terry McMillan Divorce Case: Will She Get an Annulment? Will He Split Her Book and Film Money?" was published on FindLaw in August.

Professor **Karin Moore** presented a paper at the Florida Public Defender's Association "Life Over Death" death penalty conference. Her topic was challenging DNA evidence in Florida courts.

Professor **Barbara Bernier's** essay, "Including African Americans in the Rebuilding of New Orleans," was published by FindLaw in September.

Professor **Karin Moore** was appointed to The Florida Bar's Committee on Professionalism.

Professor **Joan Bullock** presented "Ethics and the Inside Council" to the Marriott Legal Staff in October.

Professor **Patricia Broussard's** essay, "The True Legacy of Rosa Parks: Beyond the Civil Rights Movement," was published in FindLaw's commentary section in November.

Professor **Nathaniel Friends** was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in December.

Professor **Reginald Mombrun** initiated the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA) to assist the community with tax preparation. Clients could not make above \$37k annually, and a total of \$41,239 was recovered by the FAMU VITA program.

Professor **Joan Bullock** presented "Ten Steps to a New You: Creating and Maintaining the Balance" to the Caribbean Bar Association's Central Florida Chapter in February.

Professor **Lundy Langston** presented a panel discussion on Lionel Tate (Minors and Plea Bargaining) in March, with Professors Joan Bullock, Hastings Jones and attorney's from both the State Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office on the panel.

Associate Dean **Nathaniel Friends** participated in a panel discussion at the Orange County Inns of Court meeting on the Supreme Court eminent domain decision, *Kelo v New London Connecticut*.

Professor **James Smith, III** participated in a panel discussion at the University of Idaho College of Law's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual International Law Symposium's "Indigenous People and International Law: Lands, Liberties and Legacies".

Professors **Barbara Bernier, Patricia Broussard and Lundy Langston** were featured in the cover story "Female Legal Minds" of the magazine *Flavour – Black Florida Life & Style*. The magazine provided a biographical sketch of each professor and their individual articles, "The post-Katrina looting: Acceptable? Yes", by Langston; Broussard's "The True Legacy of Rosa Parks"; and "Stella's Groove: What's Love Got to Do with It?" by Bernier.

Professor **Robert Abrams** published seven short articles in 2005-2006 including "Can States Regulate Hydropower Dams as Dischargers Pursuant to their Clean Water Act



## Faculty and Law Library Accomplishments



Certification Authority?" in the 2005-06 Preview of Supreme Court Cases 251. The other six articles were published in the Eastern Water Law and Policy Reporter addressing various issues related to water, lake and environmental observation, including desalination, saltwater and back pumping.

Professor **Robert Abrams** presented at the "National Water Crisis" conference at the University Of Toledo College of Law Institute of the Great Lakes and presented "Not Just a Walk on the Beach." He also attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Water Law Conference "19<sup>th</sup> Century Rules for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" in San Diego and presented "Linking Land Development to Assured Water Supply" with the American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy and Resources.

Associate Professor **Reginald Mombrun** visited Lake Howell High School and conducted a mock trial classroom and addressed issues raised in *Rumsfield v Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, Inc.*, (FAIR) 547 U.S. \_\_\_\_ (2006) –

a first amendments rights case, and introduced students to the Socratic Method.

Professor **Barbara Bernier** was quoted in the April 6 edition of the *Tallahassee Democrat* citing her expertise in constitutional law.

Law Library Director **Grace Mills**

who is widely recognized for her involvement in the Orlando community, was featured in First Monday, a magazine published by the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce and Knight Images. She was highlighted for her work with Leadership Orlando, the Downtown Arts District Board, the Downtown Visual Artists League (OVAL), and the Citrus Council for the Girl Scouts Board.

The Law Library constructed a display to honor the Late Rosa Parks who passed in October. The Display was developed by **Phyllis Allen**, library technical assistant.

The Law Library moved into its permanent space at the end of 2005 and officially opened for business Monday, January 9, 2006. The Law Library inhabits over 42,000 square feet of space highlighting the collections of Judge Joseph Hatchett, the original law collection, materials from the Orange County Bar Association and State of Florida legal material. The Library has eight study rooms, a special collections room, a computer lab, a grand reading room and two reading lounges.

After thirty-eight years the law books removed from the law library were returned to the University. Over nine thousand volumes of the original law library collection from FAMU College of Law in Tallahassee, Florida were received by the College of Law's Law Library in Orlando, Florida. These volumes have been placed in our permanent facility on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Law Library.

The Law Library has acquired 22,000 volumes of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century British and American legal treatises. "The Making of Modern Law," as the database series is known, is a digitization of these volumes: researchers and scholars are able to search this database in a variety of ways. The Law Library has purchased this database and it is viewable by all members of the University having a valid Rattler Library ID.



## Law School and Departmental Accomplishments

### Gift Highlights:

- \$2000 from 100 Black Men of Orlando as part of a \$10,000 commitment to the General Scholarship Fund
- \$10,000 from the University Club Foundation for scholarships
- \$14,500 from Central Florida Quettes for scholarships
- \$18,000 grant from the Florida Bar Foundation for student fellowships in the Legal Clinical Program
- \$25,000 grant from the Florida Bar Foundation to partially fund a staff attorney position in the Legal Clinical Program
- \$50,000 from Walt Disney World, Co., as part of a \$250,000 gift for the Family and Children's Clinical Program

- \$750,000 gift from a settlement disbursement to support Moot Court

The Development Office launched the first annual Giving Campaign to raise unrestricted funds for student and faculty programs. Targeting alumni and friends, the campaign raised \$4000 by year-end, on pace to reach their \$20,000 goal by December 2006.

The Henry Latimer Scholarship Fund was officially established with more than \$38,000 to honor the South Florida judge who passed away in January 2005. The Florida Bar made a \$25,000 gift to the fund, adding to the more than \$11,000 donated by more than 40 members of the American College of Trial Lawyers at the end of the previous year.

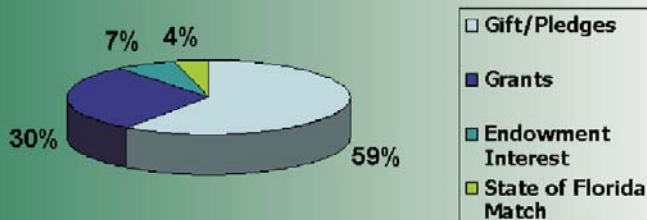
FAMU College of Law Faculty and Staff participated in the university's Faculty and



Staff Scholarship Endowment Campaign which provides financial support to students and increases the scholarship endowment. The goal was \$11,000 with 25 donors; College of Law had raised over \$14,000 with 40 donors.

The Security Department started the process of updating all safety and security policies to conform with the new facility. The proximity access card was introduced in the new facility to replace the older technology of the swipe type access card that was used previously. The proximity card offers many multi use capabilities that were not possible with the swipe card. This proximity card will also eventually replace the current Rattler I.D. Card. The FAMU Police Department also started the process of hiring FAMU Police Officers to be assigned to the College of Law. They will provide full time law enforcement coverage for the College of Law campus, and escorts to the parking garages.

### 2005 - 2006 College of Law Gift Summary



Total Endowment Amount - \$3,175,525  
 Total Gifts/Pledges Received - \$895,381  
 Total Number of Gifts - **65**  
 Grants Received - \$443,000  
 Interest Income from Endowments - \$105,628  
 State of Florida Match - \$56,405  
 Scholarships/Grants Awarded - \$217,930  
 Number of Scholarship Recipients - **73**

## Community Involvement

Nearly 100 students attended the FAMU College of Law Financial Aid meeting in March discussing federal updates, university changes, loan consolidation and exit counseling.

The Hatchett Pre-Law Society visited the FAMU College of Law for the 4<sup>th</sup> time on February 21. The Society consists of FAMU undergraduate students interested in attending law school.

The formal Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the permanent law school campus was held at the law school in March with nearly 200 people attending. Notable attendees included FAMU Interim President **Castell Vaughn Bryant**, FAMU Board of Trustees, State Representative **Arthenia Joyner** ('69), Orlando Mayor **Buddy Dyer**, Orange County Mayor **Richard Crotty**, Orlando

City Commissioner **Daisy Lynum**, Florida Bar Association President **Alan Bookman** and College of Law Interim Dean **James Douglas**. Other members of the original College of Law was also in attendance.

Professor **Jennifer Smith** spoke to at-risk students in the School to Work program at the Winter Park Educational Center in September with **Michelle Valezquez** (3L) and **Zaida King** (3L), students in the Real Estate Commission Law Clinic.

Students from the Homelessness and Legal Advocacy Clinic collected money to pay for and serve nearly 60 families at the Women's Residential and Counseling Center.



The Cherry Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International sponsored a Thanksgiving food drive.

The FAMU Law faculty sponsored the Thanksgiving meal service at the Women's Residential Counseling Center of the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida.

The Hispanic American Law Students Association sponsored a blood drive on April 3 with a mobile unit stationed at the College of Law.

## Remembering Benjamin F. Lampkin, Jr.



*Benjamin Lampkin (far left) on a tour of the College of Law in March 2006.*

The FAMU College of Law Family mourns the lost of one of its most ardent supporters and charismatic alumnus of the original College of Law.

Benjamin F. Lampkin, Jr. was a native of Winter Park, Florida, who aspired to enter the legal field after successful years as a high school and collegiate football star.

He played for Hungerford High School and Florida A&M University and graduated with a degree in political science. He was offered a scholarship to study at the College of Law.

Through various challenges, Lampkin graduated in 1964 and passed the Bar in November of 1969. He credits Attorney George Allen with giving him his first job in the legal profession.

Lampkin, who was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., was the first state-wide Black assistant public defender. He lived in Ft. Lauderdale and had a private practice. He had handled civil rights cases in addition to work as a public defender.



www.famu.edu/law

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



The Florida A&M University College of Law is releasing its first wall calendar featuring photos of the interior and exterior of the law school, its people and environment, along with FAMU holidays and College of Law academic dates.

The 2007 College of Law Calendar is being produced in limited quantity, and is available at a cost of **\$12.60** (sales tax included) per calendar. Please order your copy by completing the adjacent form and mailing to:

Florida A&M University  
College of Law  
201 Beggs Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32801  
407.254.FAMU  
407.254.3213 FAX  
www.famu.edu/law

**Please make all checks and money orders payable to Florida A&M University.**



## FAMU College of Law 2007 Calendar Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Calendars \_\_\_\_\_

@\$12.60 ea

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks and money orders payable to Florida A&M University