



Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-3100

JAMES H. AMMONS, Ph.D., PRESIDENT

Excelsior With Care

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September 17, 2007

Dear FAMU Friends and Supporters:

From the highest of seven hills, I bring you warm greetings from your beloved Florida A&M University. This is a challenging, but exciting time for all Rattlers as the University celebrates its 120th Anniversary (1887-2007). This benchmark is especially significant in that we are also welcoming our new commander-in-chief, Dr. James H. Ammons, the tenth president of our University.

As a part of this momentous occasion, the University is hosting its Annual Homecoming Gala on Friday, November 2 at the Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center. This year we will pay tribute to one of FAMU's many distinguished alumni, the Honorable Alfred "Al" Lawson, Jr., a state senator who has served for nearly 10 years.

He was recently designated as the leader of the 2008-2010 Senate Democratic Caucus. And has served as a member of the Florida House of Representatives for nearly two decades. He continues to fight diligently to secure millions in state appropriations for his alma mater. His most recent political actions and lobbying resulted in FAMU receiving:

- \$14,474,914 for Tucker Hall remodeling;
- \$ 8.5 million for a Multi-Purpose Teaching Gymnasium;
- \$ 8,301,666 for Gore Education Complex remodeling;
- \$ 7.5 million for Pharmacy Building Phase II;
- \$ 5 million for Campus Electric Upgrades, Technology, Infrastructure;
- \$ 2.5 million for FAMU Developmental Research School;
- \$ 1,769,020 for Student Financial Assistance;
- \$ 1,212,500 for University Commons Renovation;
- \$ 1 million for Board of Governors Oversight; and
- \$ 721,576 for Challenge Grants.

Senator Lawson also played a major role in the restoration of the FAMU Law School and the recent naming of four facilities on campus: The Walter L. Smith Architecture Building, the Margaret Lewis-Jacqueline Beck Allied Health Building; the Sybil C. Mobley Business Building; and the Carrie Meek-James N. Eaton, Sr. Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center and Museum.

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This is an opportunity for us to salute a loyal Rattler who has clearly contributed to FAMU's advancement. Please mark your calendars for the 2007 FAMU Homecoming Gala. Plan now to purchase tickets and rally other Rattlers to do the same. This is an opportunity to demonstrate that FAMU is viable, dearly-loved and financially supported by thousands of alumni. In order to re-gain its rightful status and glory of yesteryear, and to realize its fullest potential as a modern-day academic institution, we need the support of all our alumni. In closing, remember the spirit and words of a great Rattler, Coach Hansel Tookes, "FAMCEE Yesterday, FAMU Today and FAMU Forever!" See you in November.

Sincerely,
James H. Ammons
James H. Ammons
President

FAMU 1887-2007
Born by Legislation, Nurtured by Scholarship, Sustained by Faith
Honoring a Distinguished Alumnus
State Senator Alfred "Al" Lawson
Homecoming Gala
Friday, November 2, 2007
Tallahassee—Leon Civic Center
6 p.m. Reception and 7 p.m. Gala

Name _____
Address _____ Telephone Number _____
City/State/Zip _____

I plan to attend I do not plan to attend I am making a tax-deductible contribution

Enclosed please find my check payable to the FAMU Foundation in the amount of _____ for _____ seats @ \$125 per seat or _____ table(s) of eight seats @ \$1,000 per table. Enclosed is my contribution in support of the Gala is the amount of _____.

Mail to Ms. Audrey Simmons – FAMU Foundation, Inc., Post Office Box 6562- Tallahassee, FL 32314.