Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FAMU President appoints Dr. K. Ken Redda as Acting Vice President for Research**

*National Search Begins*

**FAMU Division of Research (DoR), Tallahassee, FL**—FAMU’s President, James H. Ammons, Ph.D. has appointed Kinfe Ken Redda, Ph.D., Professor, FAMU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CoPPS) as Acting Vice President for Research. In officially presenting Dr. Redda to the DoR staff on Wednesday, May 12th, President Ammons indicated his confidence in the appointment during this transition period. A national search for the position ensues; President Ammons also noted that Dr. Redda may apply should he so desire. Dr. Redda’s FAMU employment began on January 1, 1985 as an Associate Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in the CoPPS. During his tenure at FAMU, Dr. Redda has generated more than $30.1 million from research and training grant awards.

On administrative leave as a professor and funded principal investigator from the FAMU CoPPS, Dr. Redda (pictured left) also serves as an Activity Leader in the Drug Discovery Core Facility (DDCF), a component of the Research Center in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program. A prolific grantsman, Dr. Redda graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Alberta (Canada) with a Ph.D. degree in Medicinal Chemistry in 1978. He completed a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship in “synthetic medicinal chemistry” at Dalhousie University, Canada. He served as an Assistant Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at the College of Pharmacy, University of Puerto Rico in San Juan (1980-1984).

Dr. Redda was fully and actively engaged in teaching, research, university and national service, grant administration, as well as other scholarly activities during this time, while receiving excellent research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Former FAMU President Frederick S. Humphries appointed Dr. Redda to serve as the Director of the NIH funded Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) Program at FAMU in 1988. He was promoted to a Full Professor level in 1989. Dr Redda excelled in expanding and strengthening biomedical research on campus and generated millions of dollars for FAMU from NIH during his tenure as the MBRS Director for 17 years. Dr. Redda was also the PI and Program Director of the highly successful NASA funded and FAMU administered Space Life Sciences Training Program (SLSTP), a summer program for about 40 college students that were recruited nationally (1987-1995). The training of these high achieving students, who had passion for space life sciences, was held at the Kennedy Space Center.

Among numerous achievement awards, Dr. Redda was the recipient of both the prestigious Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Award for outstanding teaching and research contribution in 1996 and the Professorial Excellence Program (PEP) Award for longevity of service to the University and demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and service in 1999. Both carry substantial cash awards (each award entitles $5,000 added to base salary) and were specifically funded and authorized by acts of the Florida Legislature. For this reason he was the recipient of a “Special Recognition Award,” a plaque for “Exceptional Contribution in the Area of Grantsmanship,” presented by then FAMU President Fred...
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Gainous at his residence on September 12, 2002. He also was the recipient of the FAMU-wide 2008 “Teacher of the Year” Award from President James Ammons, the highest teaching award on campus. Dr. Redda was selected to serve as an Associate Vice President for Research at FAMU during 2004-2005.

Dr. Redda has an active and productive research team of research associates, postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students in his laboratory. His research involves the design and synthesis of nitrogen heterocycles as anti-inflammatory and anticancer agents. Many of his former research students have successfully completed their M.S., Pharm.D., M.D. and Ph.D. degrees and pursued professional and/or biomedical research careers.

Dr. Redda published one book entitled, “Cocaine, Marijuana, Designer Drugs: Chemistry, Pharmacology and Behavior”, CRC, Press Inc., 1989. He has also authored about 50 scientific peer-reviewed and indexed papers and his application for two FAMU patents is in process: (Flavonoid Derivatives as 1) Anticancer Agents (60/877,623) and 2) Anti-HIV Agents (60/872,624). His research findings were presented in more than 80 national and international scientific meetings, including all over USA, Africa, Canada, Switzerland, United Kingdom, China, Germany, Russia, Austria, Italy, and Dubai (UAE). Dr. Redda is a member of numerous state and national professional and scientific associations. In this capacity, he is a regular manuscript reviewer of articles submitted for publication to major scientific journals. He also served in several regular and ad hoc NIH review panels over the past 20 years. Dr. Redda may be reached at kinfe.redda@famu.edu or (850)-412-5102.

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FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY (FAMU) is one of the nation’s largest, single-campus Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Located in Tallahassee, Florida, it was established in 1887 as a land-grant institution. Today, FAMU has an enrollment of approximately 12,000 students who are matriculating in one of the 13 schools, colleges and one institute. FAMU is the top producer of African-American educators, pharmacists and Ph.D. physicists in the nation. For more information, please visit www.famu.edu (click on RESEARCH link).