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**Office of CESTA Communications**

FAMU Teleconference Center

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: February 21, 2007

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**FAMU Electronics Engineering Technology  
(EET) Program reaccredited by ABET**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – In February, 2007, the Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) program in the Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA) was recently reaccredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET). This achievement culminates a three-year comprehensive effort of the FAMU faculty, staff, students, Industry Advisory Council and employers who worked together to continue the 33-year old accreditation legacy of the EET program, which is now accredited by both ABET and the Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC).

G. Thomas Bellarmine, Ph.D., EET program leader, responded to this noted accomplishment by saying, “We will continue to work together to improve our program and retain its reputation for providing “work ready” graduates who are prepared to add value to companies and agencies, and be well-educated members of society. We thank everyone for their support and assistance! Further, we are dedicated to continuing our traditions of excellence with caring.” Bellarmine explained that FAMU students benefit from studying in an nationally accredited academic program because upon graduation their employability potential is positively impacted. About 50 students are currently enrolled in the program.

FAMU-EET students are trained to work electronic communications, digital systems and computing, automatic control systems and robotics, audio and video systems, and electronic circuits. The EET program is one of 4 programs in the Division of Engineering Technology which are offered by CESTA, which is historically known as the land-grant arm of Florida A&M University.

In the United States, accreditation is used to assure quality in educational institutions and programs. Accreditation is a voluntary, non-governmental process of peer review. It requires an educational institution or program to meet certain, defined standards or criteria. Completing the accreditation process is a signal to a diverse group of persons. First, prospective students and parents are confident that the program’s course of study meets the expected minimum standards. Faculty and administrators have an assessment of a programs strengths and weaknesses to plan for improvement in the future, and employers know that a schools’ graduates are adequately prepared to begin professional practice. Finally, taxpayers are assured that their taxes are spent appropriately. More information on ABET and accreditation can be found on the ABET website at <http://www.abet.org>.

For more information about the FAMU-EET program, please contact: Dr. G. Thomas Bellarmine Ph.D., Program Area Coordinator, Benjamin Banneker Technical Building, Unit B, Room 202, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL 32307. Telephone: 850-599-8638(O) \ 850-561-2739 (fax); Email: [thomas.bellarmino@famu.edu](mailto:thomas.bellarmino@famu.edu).

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